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TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Infosys has received ISO 42001:2023 Certification for Artificial Intelligence Management System.
- ❖ WHO's Chief Scientist Dr Soumya Swaminathan, has been named among the 10 exceptional individuals who will receive honorary degrees from Canada's McGill University.
- ❖ N Chandrasekaran, Tata Sons chairman, will assume the role of chairman of Tata Electronics.
- ❖ The Eminent English author Ruskin Bond was awarded the prestigious Sahitya Akademi Fellowship.
- ❖ Richard "Rick" Slayman (62) of USA, who made history as the first person to undergo a pig kidney transplant, has passed away.
- ❖ Former Bihar Deputy Chief Minister, Sushil Kumar Modi, passed away.
 - He served as the Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar from 2005 to 2013 and again from 2017 to 2020.

TAMIL NADU

Green solution to prevent landslips



- ❖ The State highways department is undertaking the stabilisation of slopes around the Nilgiris' major roads at five locations by growing grasses to prevent soil erosion.



- ❖ The project is known as ‘slope stabilisation using soil nailing and Hydroseeding method.’
- ❖ Soil nailing is a geotechnical engineering technique that involves the insertion of reinforcing elements into the soil in a specified area to strengthen it.
- ❖ It is being undertaken in Ketti, Kattabettu, Perar, Kudah and Udhagamandalam.
- ❖ This method of preventing landslips will help in mitigating impact of linear infrastructure such as roads in the Nilgiris.

NATIONAL

Rules on contesting seats

Representation of the People's Act 1951		
PART V: Conduct of Elections		
Chapter I: Nomination of Candidates (Sec 30-39A)	Chapter II: Candidates & Their Agents (Sec 40-51)	Chapter III: General Procedure at Elections (Sec 52-55A)
Chapter IV: The Poll (Sec 56-63)	Chapter V: Counting of Votes (Sec 64-67A)	Chapter VI: Multiple Elections (Sec 68-70)
Chapter VII: Publication of Election Results & Nominations (Sec 71-74)	Chapter VIIA: Declaration of Assets & Liabilities (Sec 75A)	Chapter VIII: Election Expenses (Sec 76-78)

- ❖ According to the Representation of the People Act (RPA), 1951, a candidate is permitted to contest an election from up to two constituencies.
- ❖ But he or she can hold only one seat at a time if elected from both.
- ❖ A sub-section, 33 (7), of the RPA, allowing a candidate to contest from two seats, was introduced through an amendment in 1996.
- ❖ Prior to which there was no bar on the number of constituencies from which a candidate could contest.
- ❖ However, Section 70 of the same Act stipulates that a candidate can hold only one seat at a time, regardless of whether he or she has been elected from more than one seat.

- ❖ Thus, if a candidate wins from two seats, a byelection is necessary from the seat he or she vacates.
- ❖ Moreover, a person has to be a voter in a particular State to contest Assembly polls from there.
- ❖ But to contest in a Lok Sabha election, a person can be registered as a voter in any constituency of the country.
- ❖ If a person is a registered voter in any constituency, he or she can contest from any seat in India, except Assam, Lakshadweep and Sikkim.

Chabahar Port deal

- ❖ India signed an agreement with Iran to manage the southeastern Iranian port of Chabahar for the next 10 years.
- ❖ India has been developing a part of the port in Chabahar, which is located on Iran's southeastern coast along the Gulf of Oman.
- ❖ This move, taking place amidst a busy election season, is seen as a significant geopolitical outreach to Iran with major regional implications.
- ❖ This marks the first instance of India taking over the management of an overseas port.

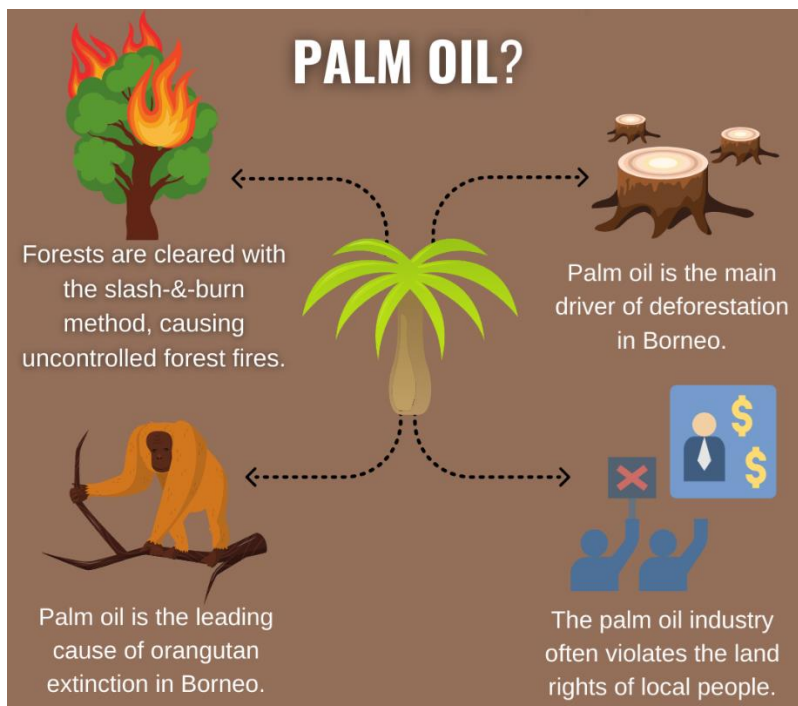


INTERNATIONAL

Orangutan Diplomacy

- ❖ Malaysia is considering gifting orangutans to foreign countries that buy its palm oil, a strategy dubbed as "orangutan diplomacy."

- ❖ The plan mirrors China's world-famous "panda diplomacy."
- ❖ The palm oil industry has been blamed for deforestation in Southeast Asia, destroying orangutan habitats.
- ❖ Malaysia has lost millions of hectares of forest cover in recent decades for palm oil production
- ❖ China's program involves loaning pandas to promote conservation efforts.
- ❖ But the orangutan diplomacy seems solely focused on public relations.
- ❖ There are three species of orangutans: Bornean, Sumatran and Tapanuli.
- ❖ Bornean orangutans are listed as endangered by the WWF.
- ❖ The Sumatran and Tapanuli species are listed as Critically Endangered.



ENVIRONMENT

UNFF-19

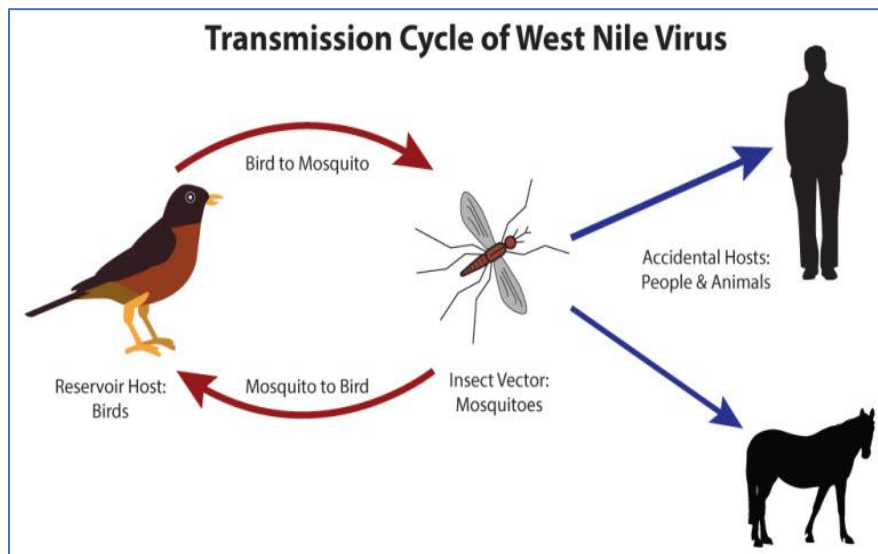
- ❖ The 19th edition of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF 19) was held in New York.
- ❖ It had focused on achieving global forest goals and increasing progress towards sustainable development by 2030.
- ❖ The UNFF is a body under the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

- ❖ It aims to support the goals of the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF) and advance other international forest-related instruments, processes, commitments, and objectives.
- ❖ Globally, India ranks third in the net gain, in average annual forest area, between 2010 and 2020.



STATES

West Nile Virus – Kerala



- ❖ The West Nile virus (WNV), a mosquito-borne arbovirus of the family Flaviviridae, has become a cause of concern across Kerala.
- ❖ West Nile virus is a single-stranded RNA virus transmitted mainly by mosquitoes.



- ❖ It shares similarities with viruses causing Japanese encephalitis and yellow fever.
- ❖ The virus gets transmitted from person to person through the biting of infected Culex mosquitoes.
- ❖ They acquire the virus from infected birds (mostly migratory).
- ❖ It also infects humans, horses and other mammals.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Nurse Day 2024 - May 12

- ❖ This day marks the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale who laid the foundation of modern nursing.
- ❖ International Nurses Day aims to highlight the importance of nurses in the healthcare sector.
- ❖ It also acts as an opportunity to thank nurses for their efforts and for taking care of patients around the clock.
- ❖ The theme for 2024 is “Our Nurses. Our Future. The economic power of care”.



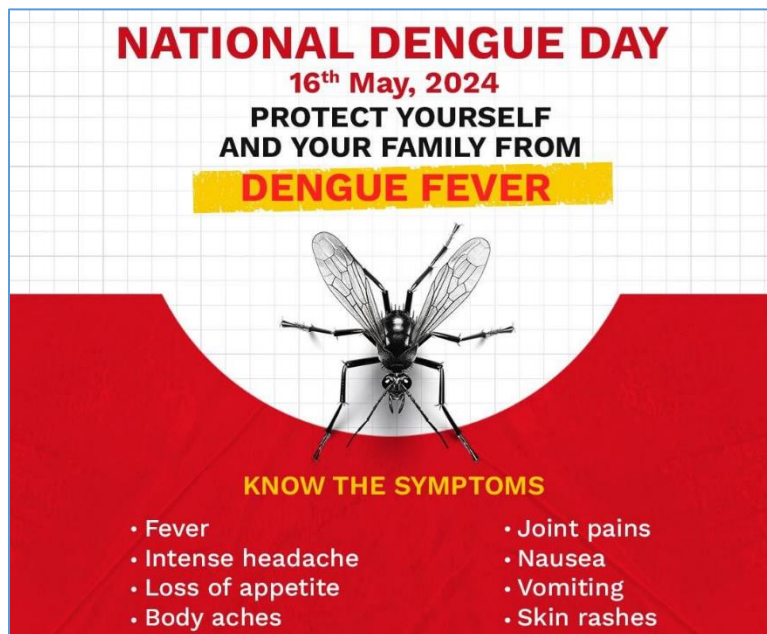
International Day of Families 2024 - May 15

- ❖ The day promotes family well-being and awareness about the social, economic, and demographic changes that impact families.
- ❖ UNGA established this day in 1993 to raise awareness of family-related issues.

- ❖ Theme for 2024 is “Families and Climate Change”.



National Dengue Day 2024 - May 16



- ❖ It aims to increase public awareness about the spread, prevention and treatment of the disease.
- ❖ Dengue (Den-gee) is a vector-borne viral disease transmitted to humans through the bite of infected female mosquitoes of Aedes Species (Aedes Aegypti).
- ❖ The dengue virus comprises four distinct serotypes (DEN-1, DEN-2, DEN-3 and DEN-4).

- ❖ In 2023, approximately ninety-four thousand cases were reported and ninety-one deaths were reported of dengue fever.
- ❖ The theme for this year is “Dengue Prevention: Our Responsibility for a Safer Tomorrow”.

International Day of Light 2024 - May 16

- ❖ It aims to recognise the significance of light and light-based technologies in revolutionising our society and various aspects of our daily lives.
- ❖ This day commemorates the first successful operation of the laser by physicist and engineer Theodore Maiman in 1960.
- ❖ This year’s theme is ‘Light in Our Lives’.

