



May - 19

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ P Shyaam Nikhil from Tamil Nadu become the country's 85th Chess Grand master.
- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly has proclaimed 25th May as the World Football Day.
- ❖ Indian government's public service broadcaster, Prasar Bharati, will soon be launching its own over-the-top platform.
- ❖ Chandrakant Satija, CEO of Chandra Admission Consultants, wins the Global Excellence Award 2024 for being the "Most Trusted Admission Consultant in Vidarbha Region".
- ❖ SBI become the first trading-cum-clearing member at the India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX) – the country's first bullion exchange in GIFT City Gandhinagar.
- ❖ The International Day of Living Together in Peace is observed on May 16 every year across the globe.

NATIONAL

Severe Heat Waves in India 2024

WHAT MAKES FOR A HEATWAVE?

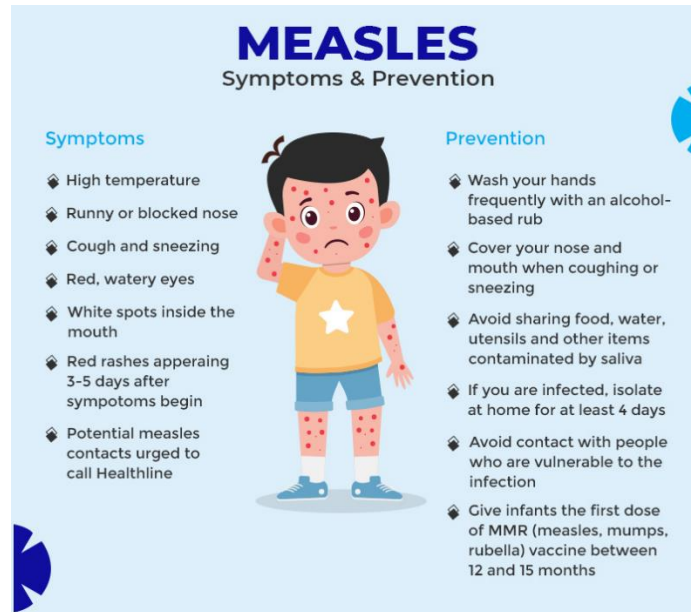
Places with normal maximum temperature	Heatwave if temperature higher by	Severe heatwave if temperature higher by
40 degree Celsius or less	5-6 degree Celsius	7 degree Celsius
More than 40 degree Celsius	3-4 degree Celsius	More than 5 degree Celsius
For any place	Maximum temperature remains above 45 degree Celsius for two consecutive days	

These criteria have to be met in at least two stations of a meteorological sub-division for at least two consecutive days. Source: Parliament question and IMD

- ❖ The extreme heat in parts of eastern and southern India this April has been attributed to climate change.
- ❖ A new study has said that the abnormally high temperatures were made about 45 times more likely by climate change.
- ❖ This is the third straight year that heatwaves in the early part of summer in India have been attributed to climate change.

- ❖ The same researchers had earlier shown that the excessive heat in March-April of 2022 and April of 2023 was also most likely caused by climate change.
- ❖ Heatwaves are not defined by high temperatures.
- ❖ They are defined by abnormalities in temperature.

Measles Vaccine in India



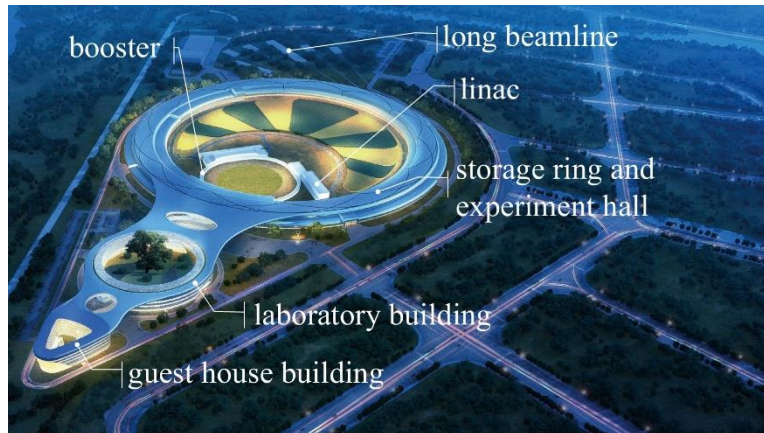
- ❖ Nearly 12 per cent of children in India who are eligible for measles vaccination have received none of the recommended double-dose.
- ❖ It is signalling a "concerning gap" in immunisation coverage.
- ❖ The team found that close to 30 per cent of the eligible children have received only one measles-containing vaccine (MCV1).
- ❖ About 60 per cent have been fully immunised (MCV2).
- ❖ The findings showed that zero-dose cases were high in the northeastern states, with Nagaland reporting the greatest share at 26 per cent.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu was found to report the lowest at 4.6 per cent.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

High Energy Photon Source

- ❖ China's High Energy Photon Source (HEPS) was successfully installed in the Huairou Science City in Beijing.

- ❖ The HEPS, after completion, will stand as one of the brightest synchrotron radiations (SR) sources in the world.
- ❖ It is also the first high-energy synchrotron radiation facility in China.
- ❖ The HEPS is designed to accelerate electrons up to energies of 6 gigaelectron volts within its 1.36-kilometer circumference storage ring.
- ❖ This process will produce high-energy X-rays that can penetrate deep into samples, revealing intricate details at the nano meter scale.



ENVIRONMENT

Venezuela's Humboldt glacier shrink



- ❖ Venezuela is thought to be the first nation in modern times to have completely lost all of its glaciers.
- ❖ The South American nation's only remaining glacier is the Humboldt, or La Corona, in the Andes.
- ❖ It had become "too small to be classed as a glacier".
- ❖ Hence, the glacier has been reclassified as an ice field.

- ❖ The country had been home to 6 glaciers in the Sierra Nevada de Mérida Mountain range.
- ❖ Five of the glaciers had disappeared by 2011, leaving just Humboldt.
- ❖ According to scientists, Indonesia, Mexico, and Slovenia are next in line to become glacier-free.

Armored sailfin catfish

- ❖ CCMB scientists have developed a technique to detect invasive fish that threaten ecosystems and lead to loss in fish catch.
- ❖ They have developed an eDNA-based quantitative PCR assay to map the presence and spread of the invasive armored sailfin catfish in the water bodies of Eastern Ghats.
- ❖ This is a fish, originating from South America that was once introduced for its unique appearance and its ability to clean algal growth in tanks and aquaria.
- ❖ But now it has spread to 60% of water bodies of the Eastern Ghats, specifically in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ It is also damaging fishing nets and the overall ecosystem.
- ❖ The catfish was first reported in the fresh waters of Puerto Rico in Venezuela.
- ❖ The exotic fish has gained notoriety in India as the 'Devil fish'.
- ❖ Its spread in the water bodies of the three states is posing a threat to over 150 species of freshwater fishes.

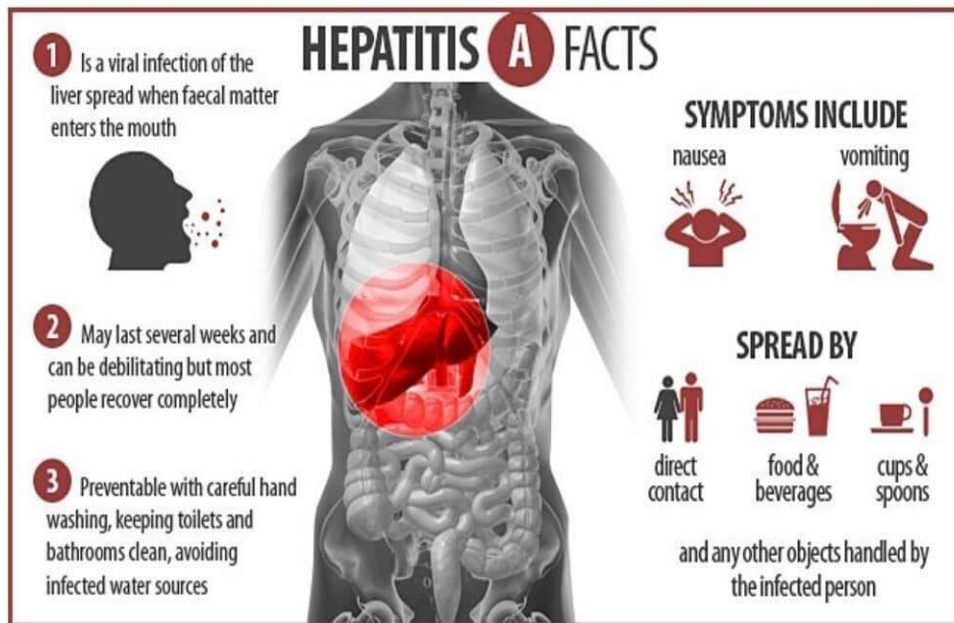


STATES

Hepatitis A - Outbreak

- ❖ There have been reports of a massive outbreak of Hepatitis A in Kerala's Malappuram district, with about 8,000 cases and 12 deaths.

- ❖ Hepatitis A is a liver infection caused by a highly contagious virus.
- ❖ In 99% of cases, the infection goes away on its own and does not damage the liver permanently.
- ❖ The main way the Hepatitis A virus gets from feces to mouth is through contaminated food or water.



IMPORTANT DAYS

World Telecommunication Day 2024 - May 17



- ❖ This day commemorates the foundation of the International Telecommunication Union and the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention in 1865.



- ❖ It aims to raise awareness about the benefits that the Internet and other information and communication technologies (ICTs) can offer to society and economies.
- ❖ This day is also known as World Information Society Day
- ❖ This year's theme is "Digital Innovation for Sustainable Development."

International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia 2024 - May 17

- ❖ This day marks a celebration of sexual and gender diversity.
- ❖ The meaning of homophobia is irrational fear of, aversion to, or discrimination against homosexuality or gay people.
- ❖ Biphobia is aversion toward bisexuality or people who are identified or perceived as being bisexual.
- ❖ Transphobia, in basic terms, refers to any expression of fear or hatred directed toward folks who are transgender.
- ❖ The theme of this year celebration is: "No one left behind: equality, freedom, and justice for all".



World Hypertension Day 2024 - May 17

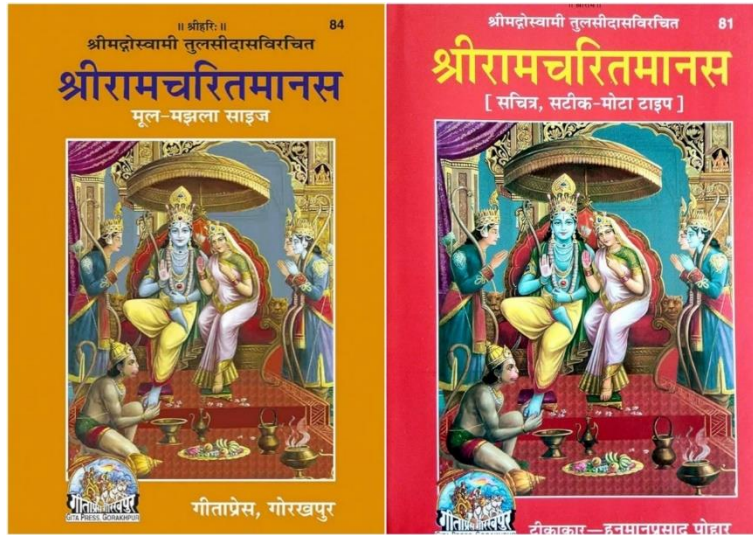
- ❖ It aims to raise awareness of the prevention, detection and treatment of high blood pressure.
- ❖ High blood pressure is the primary risk factor for developing cardiovascular disease.
- ❖ This day was launched on May 14, 2005, by the World Hypertension League (WHL).

- ❖ Since 2006, May 17 of every year has been dedicated as World Hypertension Day.
- ❖ The theme for this year is, "Measure Your Blood Pressure Accurately, Control It, Live Longer!".



MISCELLANEOUS

UNESCO's Memory of the World Regional Register



- ❖ Three Indian literary works, Ramcharitmanas, Panchatantra, and Sahṛdayaloka-Locana, were added to UNESCO's Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Regional Register.
- ❖ Ramcharitmanas, is an epic poem in the Awadhi language, composed by the 16th-century Indian bhakti poet Tulsidas.
- ❖ The 15th-century Sahṛdayaloka-Locana, by Kashmiri scholars Acharya Anandvardhan and Abhinavagupta, was chosen because of its aesthetics.



- ❖ UNESCO's MOW programme is an international cooperation strategy aimed at safeguarding, protecting, and facilitating access to and the use of documentary heritage, especially heritage that is rare and endangered.
- ❖ There are 494 inscriptions on the International MoW Register, as of May 2023, according to the UNESCO website.
- ❖ However, the MoW register operates on regional levels as well.

