

May - 22

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Government of India implemented the recommendations made by the Shekatkar Committee to create border infrastructure.
 - The Shekatkar Committee was formed in 2018.
- ❖ The National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) released Rs 20,500 crores.
 - The funds will act as front-loading resources to the cooperative banks and the Regional Rural Development Banks (RRBs).
- ❖ Afghanistan's President Ashraf Ghani and his rival Abdullah Abdullah have signed a power-sharing deal, ending months of political uncertainty.
- ❖ Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami on May 18th laid the foundation Tiruppur Medical College Hospital from Chennai through Video Conference.
- ❖ The Moderna Coronavirus Vaccine becomes the first in the world to show positive results by generating immune response against the SARS-CoV-2 Virus (COVID-19).
 - The 'mRNA-1273' vaccine has been developed by US-based Biotechnology firm Moderna Inc in collaboration with the National Institutes of Health (NIH).
- ❖ The Hanko is a personal stamp of Japan.
 - Under the age old Hanko tradition in Japan, the employees have to go to the office premises for security reasons.
- ❖ Recently, a rare palm, *Pinanga andamanensis*, has been successfully cultivated at Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (JNTBGRI), Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala).
 - *Pinanga andamanensis* is a rare palm endemic to South Andaman Island's Mount Harriet National Park.
- ❖ The Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan of India is to take charge as the Chairman of the World Health Organization (WHO) Executive Board for three years.
 - Harsh Vardhan is to succeed Japan's Dr. Hiroki Nakatani, who is the current Chairman of the 34-member board.

NATIONAL

Star rating of garbage free cities

- ❖ The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs released star rating of garbage free cities for the year 2019-20.
- ❖ Around 5 cities were given 5-star rating.
- ❖ This includes Ambikapur, Surat, Rajkot, Mysuru, Indore and Navi Mumbai.

Star Rating				
Garbage Free Cities				
5 Star★★★★★	Chhindwara	Narkhed	Badnawar	Nashik
Ambikapur	Kanthaphod	Panchgani	Gwalior	Paithan
Rajkot	Katni	Panhala	Hathod	Panvel
Surat	Khargone	Rajapur	Khandwa	Pen
Mysore	Omkarshwar	Ratnagiri	Maheshwar	Phulambri
Indore	Pithampur	Sasvad	Sardarpur	Rajura
Navi Mumbai	Singrauli	Shirdi	Shahganj	Ramtek
3 Star★★★	Ujjain	Tasgaon	Ahmednagar	Raver
Tirupati	Ambar Nath	Thane	Akola	Sailu
Vijayawada	Bhiwandi Nizampur	Vadgaon	Anjangaon Surji	Sangamner
Chandigarh	Brahmapuri	Vengurla	Ashta MH	Shahada
Bhilai Nagar	Chandrapur_M	Vita	Ballarpur	Shendurjanaghat
Jashpur Nagar (M)	Deolali Pravara	Nawanshahr	Barshi	Shirpur-Warwade
Narharpur (NP)	Dhule	1 Star★	Bhagur	Uran Islampur
Patan (NP)	Gadhinglaj	Chirala	Daund	Vaijapur
Raigarh	Indapur	GVMC Visakhapatnam	Georai	Varangaon
Rajnandgaon	Jalgaon	Palamaneru	Jamner	Vasai Virar
Bilaspur	Jalna	Sattenapalli	Jawhar	Waduj
Saragaon (NP)	Jejuri	Baramkela (NP)	Kalyan Dombivali	Aligarh
Barsur(NP)	Junnar	Berla (NP)	Khanapur_M	Gajraula (NPP)
New Delhi	Kagal	Chikhalakasa (NP)	Khapa	Ghaziabad
Ahmedabad	Karhad	Katghora (NP)	Khopoli	Jhansi
Bagasra	Khed	Pakhanjur (NP)	Kulgaon-Badlapur	Lucknow
Gandhinagar	Lonavala	Delhi Cantt.	Kurundvad	Noida
Jamnagar	Mahabaleshwar	Bhavnagar	Mahad	
Talala	Malkapur_S	Tarsadi	Mahadula	
Karnal	Matheran	Vadodara	Malkapur_K	
Jamshedpur	Mauda CT	Visavadar	Mangalvedhe	
Bhopal	Mira-Bhayandar	Vyara	Murbad	
Burhanpur	Murgud	Rohtak	Nagbhid	

Super cyclonic storm - Amphan

- ❖ Amphan turned into a super cyclonic storm.
- ❖ This is the second super cyclonic storm faced by India since Fani in 1999.
- ❖ The Super Cyclonic storm will hit the coast of Odisha and West Bengal according to the Indian Meteorological Department.
- ❖ The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) under the Ministry of Home Affairs is preparing evacuation plan and response preparedness.

- ❖ The warnings about a cyclone are given by the Indian Meteorological Department.
- ❖ Arabian Sea is comparatively less prone to cyclonic storms than Bay of Bengal.

INTERNATIONAL

Kalapani issue

- ❖ Nepal approved a new map that included the territories of Kalapani, Lipuleh and Limpiadhura.
- ❖ However, the territories have been claimed by India as well.
- ❖ India claims Kalapani as part of Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand's and Nepal claims it as a part of its Dharchula district.
- ❖ Lipulekh pass is located in Uttarakhand atop the Kalapani at a tri-junction between India, China and Nepal.



73rd World Health Assembly Meeting

- ❖ The Coalition of 120 nations including India has provided their support to Australia's push in the World Health Organization (WHO).
- ❖ They supported the resolution called 'Resolution on COVID 19 Response' to conduct investigation on China over the origin of COVID-19.
- ❖ It was for an independent inquiry into the origin of the COVID-19 virus.
- ❖ China and US are not the part of this resolution.
- ❖ Moreover China also opposed the investigation.

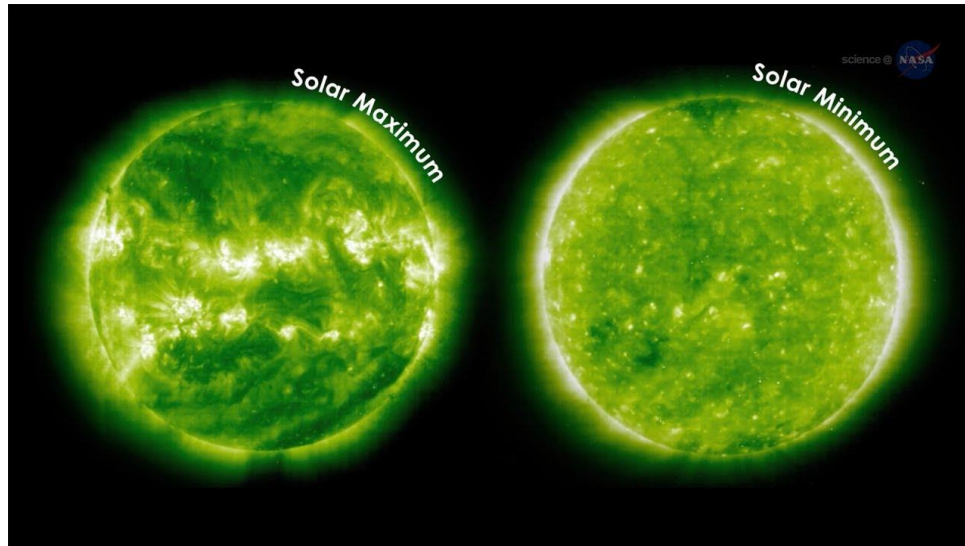


- ❖ Currently, the available information reveals that the coronavirus is a zoonotic disease
- ❖ The Zoonotic sources are animals from which the diseases can transmit to humans.
- ❖ The World Organization for Animal Health will conduct field missions to identify the zoonotic source of the virus.
- ❖ The World Health Assembly is WHO's decision-making body.
- ❖ The members of the assembly meet every year in Geneva in Switzerland during the month of May.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Sunshine recession

- ❖ The sun is to enter into the deepest period of 'sunshine recession'.
- ❖ The sun has reached into a state of 'solar minimum'.
- ❖ It simply means that the sun is changing its forms.
- ❖ It has been more than 100 days this year since sun has shown zero sunspots.
- ❖ The cycle of the sun lasts for 11 years.
- ❖ This is called Solar Cycle as well as Solar Magnetic Activity Cycle.
- ❖ Under Solar Cycle, the solar maximum and solar minimum refers to the periods of maximum and minimum sunspots respectively.
- ❖ The sun spots fade away every 11 years.
- ❖ The sun spots are magnetic in nature.
- ❖ Sunspots were observed in the early 17th century.
- ❖ It was first observed by Galileo Galilei.



12000 HP electric locomotive

- ❖ The Indian Railways operationalized the first 12,000 HP electric locomotives.
- ❖ The locomotive was built by the French Alstom Company under the Make in India initiative.
- ❖ The locomotive was manufactured at the Madhepura Electric Locomotive in Bihar.
- ❖ With this, India has become the sixth country in the world to produce high horse power locomotive.



SPORTS

Ban on saliva

- ❖ The former Indian Cricket player Anil Kumble led ICC (International Cricket Committee) Cricket Committee banned the use of saliva to shine the ball.
- ❖ The practice meant for swing bowling is now primarily held as health risk due to the threats of COVID-19.
- ❖ However, the ICC Cricket Committee saw no harm in use of sweat to shine the ball.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Bee Day - May 20

- ❖ It is celebrated by the United Nations.
- ❖ It was officially started in 2018.
- ❖ Theme of this year is Save the Bees.
- ❖ It is celebrated to commemorate the birthday of Slovenian apiculture pioneer Anton Jansa.



World Meteorology Day - May 20

- ❖ The day is the celebration of the signature of the Metre Convention on May 20, 1875.
- ❖ The International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM) was created under that convention.
- ❖ The theme for the year 2020 is Measurements for Global Trade.



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