

May - 22

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ International Tea Day is observed every year by UN on May 21 to promote the sustainable production, consumption, and trade of tea.
- ❖ India launched 'Operation Karuna' to assist Myanmar which has been devastated by Cyclone Mocha.
- ❖ India's value of defence production in the country crossed ₹1 lakh crore (1,06,800 crore) for the first time.
- ❖ Indian Army conducted a Joint Flood Relief 'Exercise Jal Rahat' to validate joint drills and coordinate preparedness by multi-agency flood relief columns.
- ❖ SBI reported an 83 per cent jump in net profit to a record high ₹16,694.51 crore for the fourth quarter of 2022-23.
- ❖ The government has appointed Ravneet Kaur as the Chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI).
- ❖ The Prime Minister inaugurated unveiled the stylised and contemporarised life-size version of a 5-feet tall toy in Channa Patna style inspired by the Bronze Dancing Girl of the Sindhu Saraswati Sabhyata which is the official mascot of the International Museum Expo 2023. Delhi.
- ❖ According to Morgan Stanley, India is expected to contribute 16 per cent of the global gross domestic product (GDP) growth over 2023-24.

NATIONAL

Ordinance for Delhi Administration

- ❖ The ordinance, promulgated by President, seeks to amend the Government of National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi Act, 1991.
- ❖ It is designating the Lieutenant Governor (L-G) as the administrator of Delhi.
- ❖ He will have the final say on the postings and transfer of all bureaucrats serving the Delhi government.
- ❖ It effectively negates the May 11 Supreme Court judgment that gave the power to government to make laws and wield control over bureaucrats deputed to the Delhi government.
- ❖ It provided also that in case of difference of opinion, the decision of the Lieutenant Governor shall be final.

- ❖ The ordinance seeks to establish for the first time the National Capital Civil Service Authority (NCCSA).
- ❖ It will be headed by the Chief Minister of Delhi, with the Chief Secretary and Principal Home Secretary of Delhi being the other two members.

Services row: Centre vs Delhi govt

The Centre has filed a review petition in the top court over the control of administrative services in Delhi

CENTRE'S ARGUMENT

Highlighting 68 "errors", the government in the 63-page petition said that the top court judgment upsets federalism by raising Delhi to the status of a full-fledged state and dilutes the LG's powers as administrator of the Capital

AFTER ORDINANCE

The petition came hours after the Centre brought an ordinance introducing provisions in the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) Act, 1991, reinstating the LG's authority in having the final word in matters of transfers and postings of bureaucrats

THE SUPREME COURT RULING

The Supreme Court on May 11 said that except for three entries — public order, land and police — the Delhi government will exercise legislative and executive control on all issues

AAP HITS BACK

"The Centre's ordinance on services matter is unconstitutional and against democracy. We will approach the Supreme Court against it."
— **ARVIND KEJRIWAL**, chief minister

Withdrawal of ₹2000 Banknotes

Turn in your ₹2,000 notes by Sept 30: RBI

So, are the ₹2,000 notes still legal tender?

Yes. People can still use the notes for transactions, but RBI said they are "encouraged to deposit and/or exchange" them on or before September 30, 2023.

What do you do with ₹2,000 notes with you?

You can deposit or exchange these notes in banks till Sept 30, 2023.

And is there a limit on deposit of these notes?

There is **no limit** on deposit of these notes into an account, as long as details such as PAN/Aadhaar are provided as needed. People can also **exchange up to ₹20,000** at a time at any branch, RBI said.

Less disruption is expected due to the decision this time as the share of ₹2,000 notes in circulation has been falling continuously. After the 2016 note ban, it was 50% of all currency in circulation, and has fell to 10% since.

Year	Percentage of ₹2,000 notes in circulation
2016-17	50.2
2017-18	37.3
2018-19	31.2
2019-20	22.6
2020-21	17.3
2021-22	13.8
2022-23	10.8

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to withdraw ₹2000 banknotes.
- ❖ ₹2000 banknote is the highest denomination currency available in India.
- ❖ The 2000 denomination banknote was introduced in November 2016 under Section 24(1) of RBI Act, 1934

- ❖ RBI stopped printing ₹2000 banknotes in 2018-19.
- ❖ The outstanding currency-in-circulation stood at ₹34,88,610 crore as of May 12, 2023.
- ❖ The banknotes in 2000 denomination will continue to be legal tender till September 30.

Implementation of RPwD Act 2016

MOVING TOWARDS INCLUSIVITY	
Under the Goa Rights of Persons With Disabilities Act, 2016	inclusion in society', as well as 'equality of opportunity', no new establishments will be issued a certificate of completion or permitted an occupation of a building unless it has adhered to the rules of accessibility
> All existing public buildings are expected to be made accessible within five years from date of notification of rules	
> Special courts in both districts will provide respite to persons with disability	
> Since the act speaks of 'non-discrimination' and 'full and effective participation and	
	> Contravention of provisions of the act or regulations is punishable with fine of up to ₹10,000 for the first offence and between ₹50,000 and ₹5 lakh for any subsequent contravention

- ❖ The Union Health Ministry has notified the standards of public and private healthcare institutions.
- ❖ It aims to ensure accessibility of healthcare facilities and services to the persons with disabilities (PwDs).
- ❖ The RPwD Act, 2016 mandates the Central government to formulate rules laying down standards of accessibility inter-alia for facilities and services provided to the public in urban and rural areas.
- ❖ The guidelines themed 'Accessibility Standards for Health Care' which aims at removing barriers including physical and architectural barriers, communication barriers, attitudinal barriers and social and economic barriers for people with disabilities.

INTERNATIONAL

G7 Hiroshima summit

- ❖ In 2023, as the G7 Presidency, Japan will host the G7 Summit in Hiroshima.
- ❖ The Group of Seven is an informal group of leading industrialized nations.

- ❖ It consists of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States.
- ❖ This year, the leaders of Australia, Brazil, Comoros, Cook Islands, India, Indonesia, South Korea and Vietnam are invited.
- ❖ The first summit was in 1975, when France hosted what was then a Group of Six.



REPORTS AND INDICES

UNEP report: Turning off the Tap



- ❖ The report is officially called: 'Turning off the Tap: How the world can end plastic pollution and create a circular economy'.
- ❖ This report has claimed that about 80% of plastic pollution across the globe can be minimised by 2040.

- ❖ It is proposed the first to reduce problematic and unnecessary plastics.
- ❖ Secondly, it needs to implement three main market shifts – Reuse, Recycle and Reorient/diversify these plastic products.
- ❖ Countries can promote the concept of reusing by providing options such as deposit-return schemes, bulk dispensers, packaging take-back schemes and refillable bottles.
- ❖ These methods alone could reduce the amount of plastic pollution by 30% before 2040.
- ❖ An additional 20% change can be achieved by making the process of recycling a more stable and profitable business option.

STATES

Welfare fund for MGNREGS workers



- ❖ Kerala is set to become the first State to have a welfare fund for Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) workers.
- ❖ The Ayyankali Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme workers will also be part of the welfare fund.



- ❖ The Welfare fund will provide the workers with pension, medical assistance, educational assistance for their children and other benefits.
- ❖ It has been formed as per the Kerala Employment Guarantee Workers' Welfare Fund Act, 2021.
- ❖ The benefits will be for workers who completed the age of 60 and paid contributions continuously.

25 years of Kudumbashree



- ❖ President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the silver jubilee celebrations of Kudumbashree, the largest self-help group network in the country.
- ❖ Kudumbashree was launched against the 1996 People's Plan Campaign of the then EK Nayanar-led Left Democratic Front in Kerala.
- ❖ It has been functioning under the local self-government department by accepting financial support from the union government and NABARD.
- ❖ It is currently undertaking consultancy work on women empowerment in 13 other states.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Metrology Day - May 20

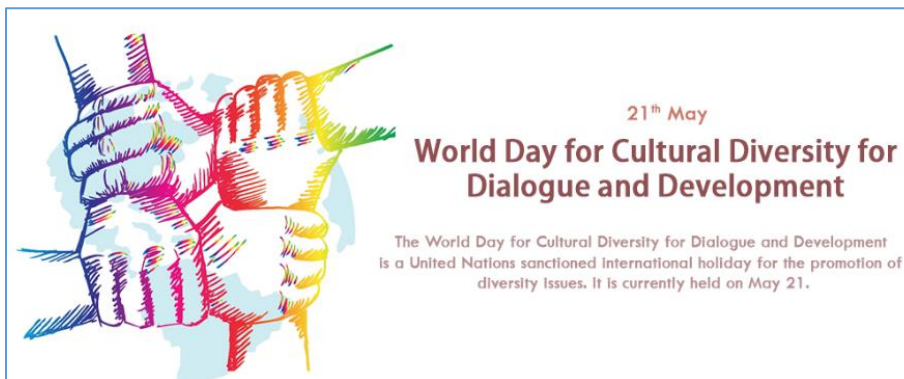
- ❖ This day commemorate the anniversary of the signing of the Metre Convention in 1875.

- ❖ Metre Convention was an international treaty signed in Paris.
- ❖ The theme for 2023 is "Measurements supporting the global food system."



World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development - May 21

- ❖ It highlights the importance of cultural diversity in fostering dialogue, understanding, and sustainable development on a global scale.
- ❖ UNESCO adopted this day After a terrorist attack in 2001 and destruction of Buddha statue of Bamiyan in Afghanistan.



MISCELLANEOUS

5,000-year-old 'Great Grandfather' trees

- ❖ In a forest in southern Chile, a giant tree has survived for thousands of years.
- ❖ The tree is Known as the "Great Grandfather."
- ❖ It is a *Fitzroya cupressoides*, a type of cypress tree that is endemic to the south of the continent.

- ❖ The trunk of this tree measuring four meters (13 feet) in diameter and 28 meters tall.
- ❖ The sample extracted and other dating methods suggest that the tree is up to 5,484 years old.
- ❖ The estimated age would beat the current record-holder-Methuselaha, a 4,853-year-old bristlecone pine tree in California of USA, by more than half a millennium.



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