

May - 23

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Preeti Shenoy is set to publish a new novel titled “A Place Called Home”.
  - The new novel is about secrets, family, and finding yourself.
- ❖ The Union Cabinet Minister of Electronics & Information Technology, Ashwini Vaishnaw has inaugurated the National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) Centre in Leh, Ladakh.
- ❖ Bharti Airtel board has reappointed Gopal Vittal as Managing Director & CEO for a further period of five years.
- ❖ The Delhi Lieutenant Governor, Anil Baijal has submitted his resignation to President Ram Nath Kovind citing personal reasons.
- ❖ Ruchi Soya, an edible oil company will acquire Patanjali Ayurved's food division.
- ❖ Jitendra Singh, Minister of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions released the e-book ‘Civil List – 2022 of IAS officers.
- ❖ India's Nikhat Zareen has won the Women's World Boxing Championships in Turkey.
  - She became only the fifth Indian woman to be crowned world champion.

## TAMIL NADU

### Opening of Mettur dam



மேட்டூர் அணை நிறுவனம்	
அணை கட்டித் துவங்கிய நாள்	: 20.7.1925
அணை கட்டியுடித்த நாள்	: 21.8.1934
அணை கட்டுவதற்கு ஆன செலவு	: ரூ. 4,80 கோடி
அணை நீளம்	: 5,300 அடி
அணை கொள்ளளவு	: 93.50 டி.எம்.சி
அணை அதிகப்பட்ச உயரம்	: 214 அடி
அணை அதிகப்பட்ச அகலம்	: 171 அடி
அணை சேமிப்பு உயரம்	: 120 அடி
அணை நீர்ப்பிடிப்பு பரப்பு	: 59.25 ச.மைல்

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister ordered to release water from the Mettur dam on May 24.
- ❖ The level of water in the dam stood at 115.35 feet against a full reservoir level of 120 feet.
- ❖ This is the first time since Independence the Mettur dam will be opened in the month of May.

### **12,000<sup>th</sup> LHB**

- ❖ The Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw launched the 12,000th Link Hadimani Busch (LHB) coach at the Integral Coach Factory (ICF) in Chennai.
- ❖ ICF is the first production unit of Indian Railways to achieve such a benchmark in the production of LHB coaches.
- ❖ Also, the Vande Bharat express coaches are being produced at the LHB shed of Furnishing Factory.



### **124<sup>th</sup> Ooty flower show**



- ❖ Tamilnadu Chief Minister inaugurated 124<sup>th</sup> flower show at Government Botanical Garden (GBG) in Ooty.
- ❖ Ooty 200, a logo created to mark 200 years of discovery of the Nilgiris.
- ❖ In 1995, late CM J Jayalalithaa inaugurated the 100<sup>th</sup> edition of the flower show and the Government Rose Garden.
- ❖ After 22 years, the former CM Edappadi K Palanisamy inaugurated the shows in 2017 and 2018.

## NATIONAL

### GST council recommendations

- ❖ The Supreme Court held that the recommendations of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council are not binding on the Union and state governments.
- ❖ The bench stated that Article 279A of the Constitution does not begin with a non-obstante clause.
- ❖ It also stated that Article 246A does not envisage a repugnancy provision.

### Ethanol Blended Petrol



**Aiming for an eco boost**  
Oil industry experts have allayed fears over mixing ethanol with petrol and say it cannot damage engines

- Ethanol is a bio-fuel obtained primarily from sugarcane. Blending of ethanol with petrol reduces dependence on fossil fuel and helps the environment
- The government had set a target of 10% of ethanol per litre of petrol
- Ethanol is blended through a separate pumping and metering mechanism
- Once blended, ethanol cannot be separated from petrol

Since ethanol can absorb moisture from the atmosphere, dealers say it can cause issues with vehicle engines

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved amendments to the National Policy on Biofuels of 2018.
- ❖ It aims to advance the date by which fuel companies have to increase the percentage of ethanol in petrol to 20%, from 2030 to 2025.

- ❖ The policy to introduce 20% ethanol in petrol will take effect from April 1, 2023.
- ❖ India achieved 9.45% ethanol blending as on March 13, 2022, according to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- ❖ The Centre projects that this will reach 10% by the end of financial year 2022.

### **BHARAT TAP project**

- ❖ Plumbex India Exhibition ceremony of was started by Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs, Sh. Hardeep Singh Puri.
- ❖ He also announced the Bharat Tap project, a campaign to produce low-flow fixtures and sanitaryware to help India enter a new era of water conservation and sustainable development.
- ❖ Plumbex India is a three-day event that will take place in the Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.
- ❖ It is the country's largest solo exhibition on plumbing, water, and sanitation products.



## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **NDB at India**

- ❖ The New Development Bank (NDB) of the BRICS countries plans to open its regional office of India at the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City).
- ❖ It aims to cater to infrastructure and sustainable development needs of the country.
- ❖ The NDB was established by BRICS nations Headquartered in Shanghai.



- ❖ The New Development Bank formally opened in July 2015.

## ECONOMY

### FDI inflow hits all-time high

- ❖ India recorded the "highest ever" annual foreign direct investment of \$83.57 billion in 2021-22.
- ❖ In 2020-21, the inflows were \$81.97 billion.
- ❖ The FDI equity inflows in manufacturing rose 76% in FY22.
- ❖ The FDI increased by around 22% post-Covid from March 2020 to March 2022 at \$171.84 billion.
- ❖ The inflows of \$141.10 billion reported pre-Covid from February 2018 to February 2020.



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### World's First Habitable Planet search



- ❖ Chinese scientists have proposed a space project to survey the sky through a space-borne telescope.



- ❖ It aims to hunt for habitable Earth-like planets outside the solar system, about 32 light-years from Earth.
- ❖ The project, named Closeby Habitable Exoplanet Survey (CHES).
- ❖ It would be the first space mission specially designed to search for habitable terrestrial planets around nearby Sun-like stars.

## **PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS**

### **Lifetime Achievement Award**

- ❖ A.R. Venkatachalapathy, has been selected for the Lifetime Achievement Award (Iyal Award), of the Canada-based Tamil Literary Garden, for 2021.
- ❖ He is the Historian and professor of the Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS).
- ❖ He played a major role in taking Tamil literature and Tamil culture to people in foreign countries.
- ❖ He has been writing on history, language, culture, society and politics for the last 40 years and has written over 60 books and articles.
- ❖ Justice Chandru also selected for Iyal award for his 'Nanum Neethipathiyanen' book.

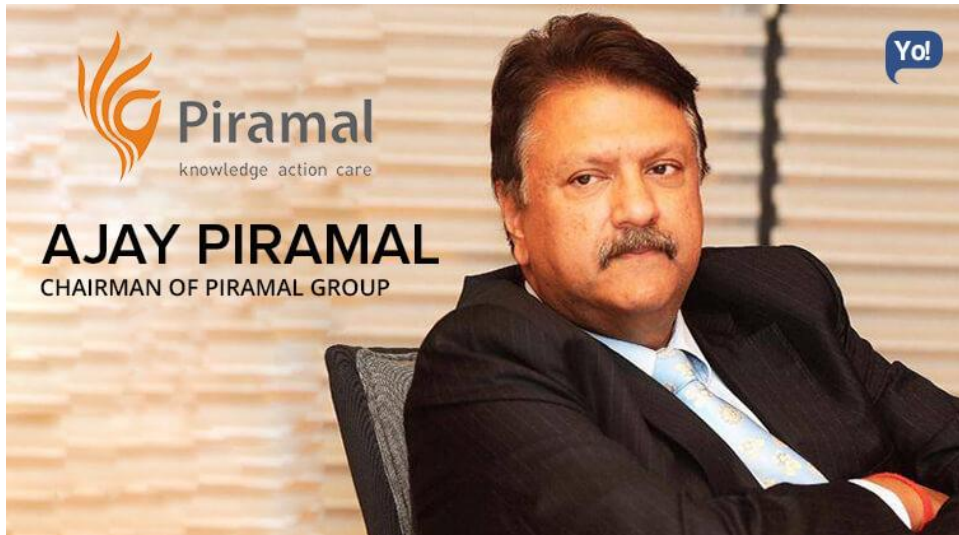


### **Commander of the Order of the British Empire**

- ❖ Chairman of the Piramal Group, Ajay Piramal has received an honorary Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) by Her Majesty the Queen.
- ❖ He received the award for services to the UK-India trade relationship as India Co-Chair of the UK-India CEO Forum.

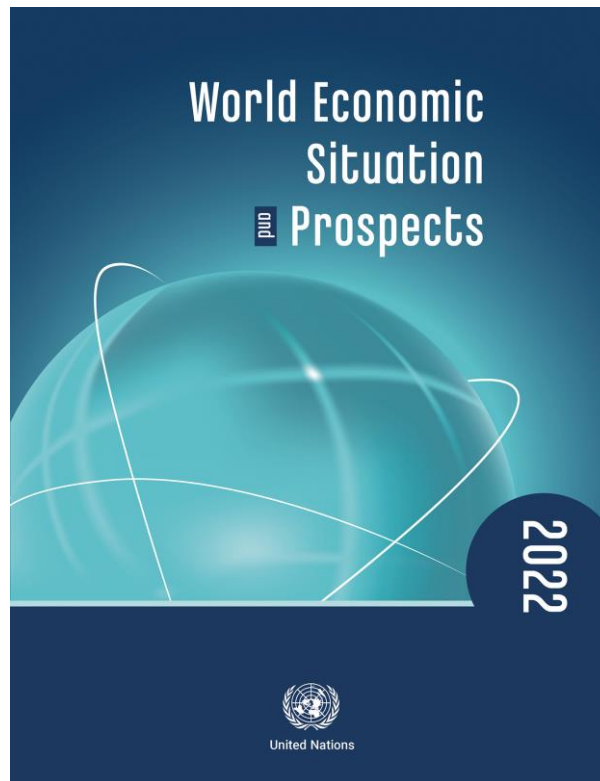


- ❖ The award was Instituted in 1917 by King George V.



## MISCELLANEOUS

### World Economic Situation and Prospects



- ❖ The World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP) report was released by the United Nations.

- ❖ This report has been published by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) of the UN.
- ❖ The global economy this year is expected to grow by only 3.1 per cent.
- ❖ The earlier prediction in January was 4.0 per cent.
- ❖ This report has highlighted that India is still the world's fastest-growing major economy even though the Russia-Ukraine conflict is impacting gross domestic product (GDP) across the globe.
- ❖ According to the report, in 2022, India has been projected to grow by 6.4 per cent.
- ❖ This is slower than 2021's 8.8 per cent.

