

May - 25

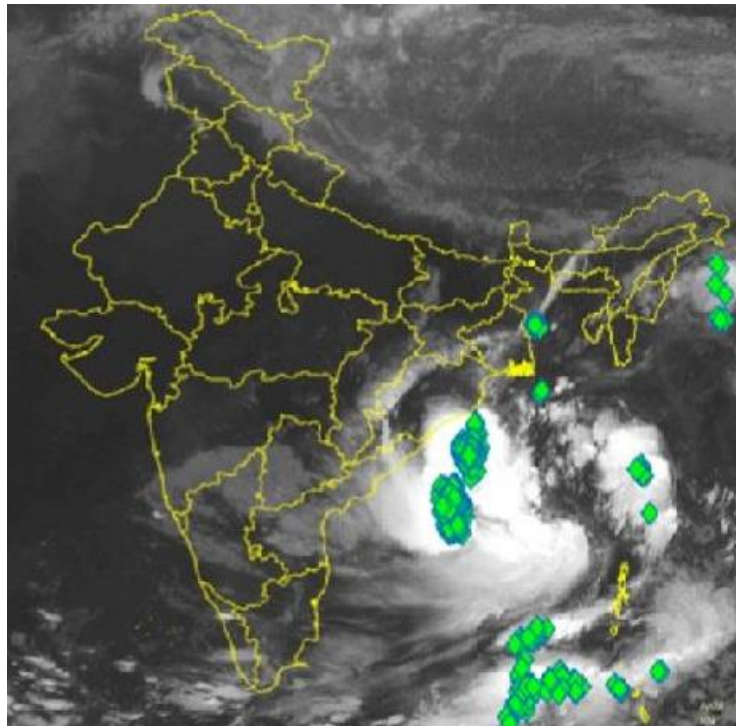
TNPSC BITS

- ❖ President of Nepal, Bidhya Devi Bhandari, dissolved the House of Representatives on May 22, 2021.
 - The decision was taken on the recommendations of cabinet headed by caretaker Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli and the fresh elections will be held in November 2021.
- ❖ Bihar government has launched 'HIT Covid App' to ensure regular monitoring and tracking of those Covid-19 patients, who are in home isolation across the state.
 - HIT stands for home isolation tracks.

NATIONAL

Cyclone Yaas

- ❖ India Meteorological Department has informed that, Cyclone Yaas is likely to intensify into a very severe cyclonic storm.
- ❖ Cyclone Yaas is likely to affect the coastal parts of Odisha and West Bengal.
- ❖ This name "Yaas" has been given by Oman.





INTERNATIONAL

2 billion doses of Covid - 19 vaccine to poor countries

- ❖ Pfizer and BioNTech have pledged to provide 2 billion doses of Covid-19 vaccine to poor countries in middle-income and low-income countries in next 18 months.
- ❖ This announcement was made at the global health summit hosted by Italy.
- ❖ Both the companies developed first vaccine which was authorised for use in United States and Europe.
- ❖ Pfizer Inc is an American multinational pharmaceutical corporation established in New York City.
- ❖ BioNTech SE is a German biotechnology company based in Mainz, Germany.

Italy hosts the Global G 20 Health Summit

- ❖ The Global G20 Health Summit was co-hosted by European Commission along with Italy as part of its G20 presidency.
- ❖ The summit adopted the agenda to overcome Covid-19 pandemic.
- ❖ It also decided to develop and endorse a Rome Declaration of principles.

50 billion global vaccination plan

- ❖ The IMF (International Monetary Fund) proposed a USD 50 billion global vaccination plan.
- ❖ This will cover about 40 percent of global population by the end of 2021.
- ❖ It also seeks to cover at least 60 percent of the population by first half of 2022.
- ❖ This plan was proposed on the line of work of the World Health Organisation (WHO), World Bank, Gavi and African Union.

Invasive species in Africa

- ❖ Recent study shows that, Invasive species are costing African agriculture about \$3.66 trillion per year.
- ❖ It equals to 1.5 times of the combined gross domestic product of all African countries.



- ❖ It was found that, a moth known as *Phthorimaea absoluta* caused most of the losses.
- ❖ This moth affects tomato plants and incur an estimated cost of \$11.4 billion each year.
- ❖ Other insects inflict about \$21.5 billion worth of crop losses per year to mango, maize, cassava and citrus crops.

ECONOMY

Rise in Currency with Public

- ❖ According to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) the currency with the public rose by Rs 35,464 crore to hit an all-time high of Rs 28.39 lakh crore.
- ❖ The currency with the public has been rising over the last 14-month period, since the pandemic broke out.
- ❖ Between March and June 2020, people withdrew cash heavily from banks in the wake of lockdown as dependence on cash transactions rose.
- ❖ Its pace slowed after July 2020, in one with decline of cases.
- ❖ However, it gathered momentum in February 2021 as the cases started rising.
- ❖ Since the government announced demonetisation on November 8, 2016, the currency with public has risen by 58 per cent.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Ultra-high-energy gamma rays

- ❖ Large High Altitude Air Shower Observatory (LHAASO) of China has recently detected dozen sources of ultra-high-energy gamma rays.
- ❖ LHAASO cosmic ray observatory has discovered 12 sources of ultrahigh-energy photons.
- ❖ It has also detected a photon with energy level of 1.4 peta-electron volt.
- ❖ They are the brightest Milky Way gamma ray sources discovered till date.
- ❖ LHAASO is a gamma-ray and cosmic-ray observatory located at Daocheng in Sichuan province of China.



VIPER Rover

- ❖ US space agency NASA has announced to send its first mobile robot to the Moon in 2023.
- ❖ Mobile robot will search ice and other resources on and below the surface of moon.
- ❖ This mission is an example showing “robotic science mission” and “human exploration” go hand in hand.
- ❖ Mobile robot is a part of Artemis programme.
- ❖ It will collect data from Volatiles Investigating Polar Exploration Rover (VIPER).
- ❖ It will help scientists in mapping the resources at South Pole of the lunar.

Amphotericin-B

- ❖ Several States and UTs have reported a shortage of Amphotericin-B drug that is used for treatment of the Mucormycosis or Black Fungus disease.
- ❖ Amphotericin B is an antifungal medication.
- ❖ It is used to treat serious fungal infections.
- ❖ It was isolated from *Streptomyces nodosus* in 1955 and came into medical use in 1958.
- ❖ It is typically given by injection into a vein.
- ❖ It slows down the growth of fungi that cause infection.
- ❖ It is listed in the World Health Organization’s (WHO’s) List of Essential Medicines, the safest and most effective medicines in a health system.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

2021 Templeton Prize

- ❖ The John Templeton Foundation has awarded the 2021 Templeton Prize to world-renowned ethologist and conservationist Jane Goodall.
- ❖ She is the first ethologist and the fourth woman to receive the prize since its inception in 1972.
- ❖ She receives this award for her ground breaking discoveries that have changed humanity's understanding of its role in the natural world.



SPORTS

2022 FIFA under-17 Women's World Cup

- ❖ India is all set to host “2022 FIFA under-17 Women’s World Cup” from October 11 to 30, 2022.
- ❖ It will be the second FIFA tournament to be hosted by India.
- ❖ Earlier, India had to organise 2021 Under-17 Women’s World Cup but it was cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic.
- ❖ India had also hosted FIFA under-17 World Cup in 2017.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Turtle Day - May 23



- ❖ World Turtle Day is observed to raise awareness among people about turtle & tortoise and their habitats.
- ❖ Celebration of the day is sponsored by a non-profit organisation “American Tortoise Rescue (ATR)” since 2000.
- ❖ Theme for 2021 is ‘Turtle Rocks!’.
- ❖ “World Turtle Day” term was trademarked by Susan Tellem.

International Day to End Obstetric Fistula - May 23

- ❖ United Nations International Day to End Obstetric Fistula is marked since 2013.
- ❖ It aims to promote action towards treating and preventing obstetric fistula.
- ❖ Obstetric fistula is a condition that affects many girls and women during childbirth in developing countries.
- ❖ The theme for 2021 is “Women’s rights are human rights! End fistula now!”

