

May - 25

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tata Group Chairman N. Chandrasekaran has been given France's highest civilian award Chevalier de la Legion d'honneur for his contributions to strengthen the trade relationship between India and France.
- ❖ Botanical Garden in Udthagamandalam celebrates its 125th annual flower show.
- ❖ Madhya Pradesh has become the first state to provide free air travel facilities to senior citizens for yatra (holy pilgrimage) under the Mukhya Mantri Teerth-Darshan Yojana.
- ❖ The Union government has set up the Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit (C-PACE).
 - It aims to ensure timely and process-bound deregistering of companies from records as well as provide more meaningful data to the stakeholders.
- ❖ Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry Parshottan Rupala launched the Sagar Parikrama Yatra Phase-V in Karanja in the Raigad district of Maharashtra.

TAMIL NADU

New shorter treatment regimen for TB preventive therapy



- ❖ Tamil Nadu Tuberculosis Summit held recently.
- ❖ In the Summit, Health Minister launched 3HP, a new shorter treatment regimen for TB Preventive Therapy.
- ❖ He also released the State Strategic Plan 2.0 and a TB awareness video.

- ❖ Tamil Nadu is the first State in the country to procure the medicines for providing to household contacts of patients with TB.

Excavation at Porpanai Kottai



- ❖ The State Archaeology Department began excavation at Porpanaikotttai.
- ❖ It is seeking to unearth an ancient fort in the village.
- ❖ This site is situated about 6.5 km to the east of Pudukkottai town.
- ❖ This is one of the new sites where the department has launched excavations this year.
- ❖ The earliest lithic evidence in the form of a memorial stone datable to 3rd - 4th century CE, on the palaeographical ground, found at this site.
- ❖ It looks contemporary to the Pulankurchi inscription.
- ❖ The memorial stone was raised for a hero Kanankumaran.
- ❖ He was a soldier of the close circuit, who died in a cattle raid carried on this village by Ponkongar Vinnakon.
- ❖ The ruined fort was probably built in the 13-14th century CE.

Job creation in Tamilnadu 2022-23

- ❖ As many as 14,05,171 jobs were created in Tamil Nadu's formal sector in Financial Year (FY) 2022-23.
- ❖ This is increased up by about 9.4% from 12,84,986 jobs in FY 2021-22.

- ❖ In Tamil Nadu, the maximum addition was seen in the age group of 18-21, where 3,76,872 jobs were created in 2022-23.
- ❖ In the 22-25 age group, 3,6,8981 jobs were added in 2022-23, followed by 2,44,891 jobs in the more than 35 age brackets.
- ❖ In March, the top five States for net member addition were Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Haryana and Gujarat.
- ❖ These States together constituted 58.68% of net member addition.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's share in the overall net addition declined from 10.5% in 2021-22 to 10.1% in 2022-23.

NATIONAL

STARS Program

**Strengthening
Teaching-Learning
And
Results for
States**



- ❖ The STARS Project was approved by the cabinet in October 2020.
- ❖ It was approved with an aim to improve student outcomes in the selected states and the governance of school education in India.
- ❖ STARS stands for Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States by the World Bank.
- ❖ It is implemented in six states including Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Kerala.

Sustainable Aviation Fuel blend

- ❖ The AIX Connect (formerly known as AirAsia India) successfully completed the first domestic fly by using India-produced sustainable aviation fuel (SAF).

- ❖ The aircraft blended fuel with 1 percent of SAF to reduce the emissions produced by the aircraft.
- ❖ If we target to blend 1% SAF blending in Jet fuel, India would require around 14 crore litres of SAF/annum.
- ❖ More ambitiously, if we target for 5% SAF blend, India requires around 70 crore litres of SAF/annum.



INTERNATIONAL

Jeddah Declaration



- ❖ The 32nd Arab League Summit concluded in the Saudi city of Jeddah.

- ❖ It adopted the Jeddah Declaration, which calls for Arab unity to solve regional issues.
- ❖ It reaffirmed the centrality of the Palestinian issue to Arab countries as one of the key factors of stability in the region.
- ❖ It called for stopping foreign interference in the domestic affairs of Arab countries.
- ❖ Also, categorically rejecting all support for the formation of armed groups and militias outside the scope of state institutions.

HIV-prevention drug CAB-LA



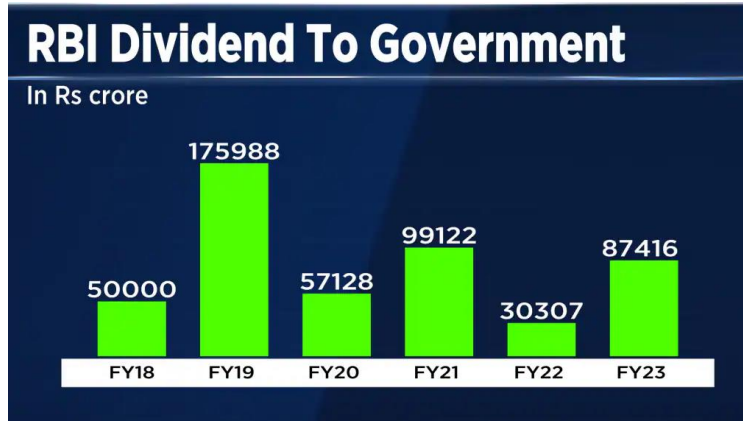
- ❖ The Indian drug company Cipla confirmed that a generic version of the prophylaxis, long-acting cabotegravir (CAB-LA), would be manufactured at its plants in Benoni, near Johannesburg, or Durban.
- ❖ An affordable version of a HIV-prevention drug will be made in South Africa for the first time.
- ❖ Cabotegravir blocks HIV from entering a person's cells.
- ❖ It reduces to almost zero an individual's chances of getting infected with the virus through sex.
- ❖ The developers of CAB-LA, ViiV Healthcare, and the UN-backed Medicines Patent Pool (MPP), had granted licences to three companies, including Cipla.
- ❖ The other two companies, Aurobindo and Viatrix, are also Indian corporations

ECONOMY

Surplus Transfer to Government

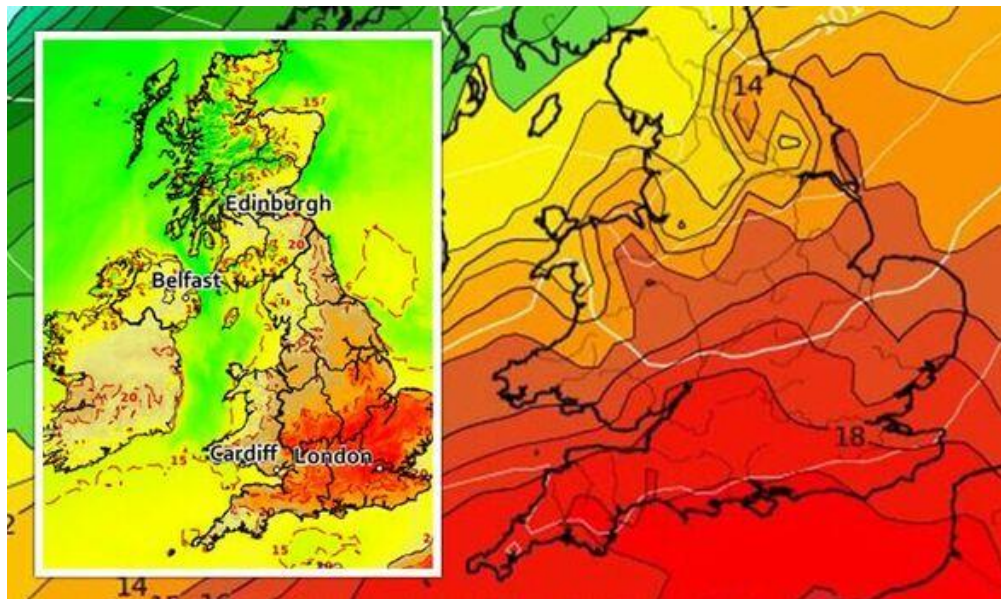
- ❖ RBI board approved surplus transfer of Rs 87,416 crore rupees to the central government for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2023.
- ❖ It is nearly triple of what it paid in the previous year.

- ❖ The dividend pay-out was Rs 30,307 crore for accounting year 2021-22.
- ❖ RBI deciding to keep the Contingency Risk Buffer at 6 per cent.
- ❖ RBI board also raised Contingency Risk Buffer to 6 per cent from 5.50 per cent.



ENVIRONMENT

African Plume Heatwave



- ❖ The United Kingdom is set to face unprecedented heat wave conditions as meteorologists predict the arrival of the African Plume.
- ❖ It would result in "record-breaking" temperatures.
- ❖ The high-pressure system will cause severe heat conditions within the UK by the end of May.
- ❖ Temperatures are set to reach as high as 35 degrees Celsius.

- ❖ This meteorological phenomenon is characterised by a mass of hot air moving from the Sahara Desert to Europe.
- ❖ It causes a lengthy period of exceptionally high temperatures which may last for days or weeks.
- ❖ The intensity can vary each year, depending on the atmospheric conditions,

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Abhilash Tomy - Golden Globe Race

- ❖ Abhilash Tomy finished second in the Golden Globe Race.
- ❖ He successfully completed the Golden Globe Race- a 30,000-mile solo, unassisted non-stop circumnavigation of the globe.
- ❖ He completed the task in 236 days and became the first Indian and first Asian to complete the Golden Globe race.
- ❖ Another Navyman Capt Dilip Dhond had earlier circumnavigated the earth unassisted but with stops.

