



May - 28

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The official death count in India, due to COVID-19 and the deadly second wave of the pandemic, has crossed the 3 lakh mark.
 - With this count, India has become the 3rd country globally to cross this mark with the two other countries - the United States and Brazil.
- ❖ Microsoft recently announced that Internet Explorer 11 desktop browser will be retired on June 15, 2022, for some versions of Windows 10.
 - However, Internet Explorer-based websites and applications will continue to work on new Microsoft Edge (Internet Explorer) mode till 2029.
- ❖ United Nations is observing “International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories” from May 25 to 31, 2021.
 - According to the UN Charter, a Non-Self-Governing Territory is a Territory “where people have not attained a full measure of self-government.”
- ❖ A new type of coronavirus, named as CCoV-HuPn-2018 is believed to have originated in dogs, was detected among patients hospitalised with pneumonia in 2017-2018.
 - This may be the eighth unique coronavirus known to cause disease in humans if it is confirmed as a pathogen.
- ❖ Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar launched the 'Sanjeevani Pariyojana' scheme.
 - The initiative will allow people in the rural areas with mild to moderate symptoms to get access to quick medical care without having to leave their homes and travel to a hospital.
- ❖ The Billboard Music Awards 2021 concluded on May 23.
 - This year, BTS band was nominated for Top Duo/Group, Top Song Sales Artist, Top Social Artist, and Top Selling Song and the band won all four awards.

TAMIL NADU

Platyceps josephi

- ❖ An international team of researchers has discovered a new species of raver snake from Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu.

- ❖ The new species *Platyceps josephi* is named after late Herpetologist Naveen Joseph.
- ❖ The discovery of the new species is published in *Vertebrate Zoology*.
- ❖ The team stated that the new species should be considered a species in the 'vulnerable' category according to the IUCN criteria.
- ❖ The *Platyceps josephi* has distinct white bands on its body and irregular white spots on its head.
- ❖ It is a non-venomous terrestrial snake endemic to Tamil Nadu.



INTERNATIONAL

Mali's Military Action

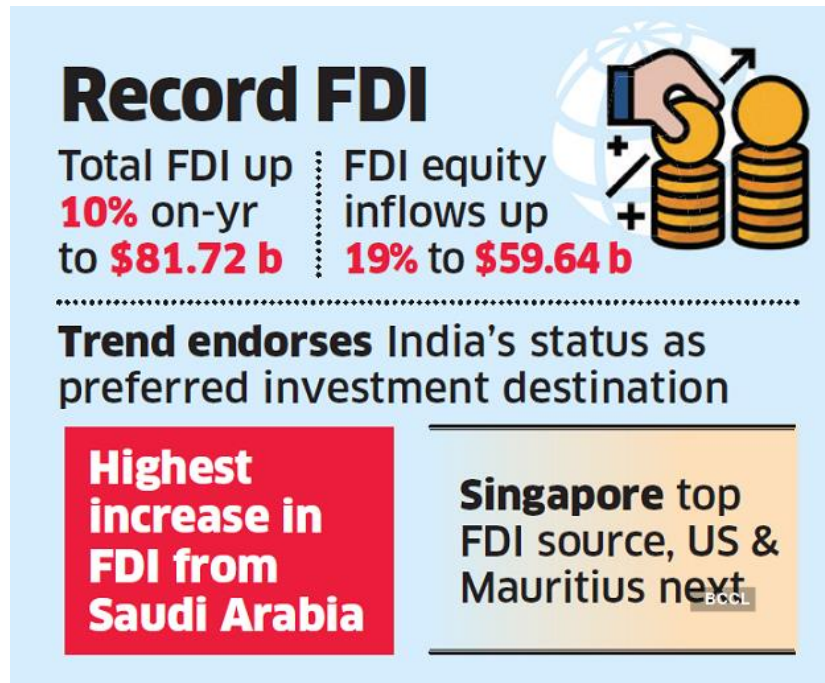
- ❖ Military officers in Mali arrested the President, Prime Minister, and Defence Minister of the country's interim government.
- ❖ Mali President Bah Ndaw, Prime Minister Moctar Ouane, and Defence Minister Souleymane Doucoure of the interim government were arrested in Kati outside the capital Bamako.
- ❖ They were arrested after two members of the military lost their place during a government reshuffle.

ECONOMY

FDI in 2020-21 in India

- ❖ India has attracted highest ever total FDI inflow of \$ 81.72 billion during the financial year 2020-21.

- ❖ It is 10% higher as compared to the last financial year 2019-20 (US\$ 74.39 billion).
- ❖ Gujarat is the top recipient state during the F.Y. 2020-21 with 37% share of the total FDI Equity inflows.
- ❖ It is followed by Maharashtra (27%) and Karnataka (13%).
- ❖ Majority of the equity inflow of Gujarat has been reported in the sectors,
 - `Computer Software & Hardware' (94%) and
 - `Construction (Infrastructure) Activities' (2%).



ENVIRONMENT

Protected Planet Report 2020

- ❖ The report, titled Protected Planet Report 2020, underlined the progress the world has made toward the ambitious goals agreed by countries in 2010 at the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity.
- ❖ The reports are released by the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) with support from the National Geographic Society, a global non-profit.
- ❖ These are biennial landmark publications that assess the state of protected and conserved areas around the world.

STATES

Reimbursement of GST components of Covid-19 related medical supplies

- ❖ Haryana and Gujarat have become the first few states to announce reimbursement of Goods and Services Tax (GST) components paid for Covid-19 related medical supplies.
- ❖ These medical supplies include oxygen concentrators, ventilators, medicines which would be donated free of cost to the state governments.
- ❖ Waiver from Haryana is till June 30, while that of Gujarat is valid till July 31.

Vatsalya Yojana

- ❖ Uttarakhand Chief Minister Tirath Singh Rawat has announced the Chief Minister Vatsalya Yojana.
- ❖ This is for orphaned children who have lost their parents due to Covid-19.
- ❖ Under the scheme, the State Government will make arrangements for their maintenance, education and training for employment up to the age of 21 years.
- ❖ The Chief Minister said that such orphaned children of the state will be given a maintenance allowance of 3000 rupees per month.

SPORTS

The Target Olympic Podium Scheme



- ❖ The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India reported that five athletes have been included in the core group of the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS).
- ❖ They are,
 - Tennis player Ankita Raina,
 - Wrestlers Sumit Malik & Seema Bisla, and
 - Rowers Arvind Singh & Arjun Lal Jat.
- ❖ The Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) was launched in 2014 under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS), Government of India.
- ❖ It is used to aid India's top athletes with financial assistance to win medals at the 2016 Rio and 2020 Tokyo Olympics and international sport events.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Thyroid Day - May 25

- ❖ World Thyroid Day is observed to create awareness of the importance of Thyroid and the prevention and treatment of thyroid diseases.
- ❖ This day is established in 2008.
- ❖ The thyroid is a butterfly-shaped gland in the throat that produces T3 (Thyroxine) and T4 (Triiodothyronine).
- ❖ It is maintained by the Thyroid-stimulating hormone (TSH).





Vesak Day - May 26

- ❖ Vesak Day 2021 is observed globally on 26 May.
- ❖ Vesak, the Day of Full Moon is the most sacred day to Buddhists all over the world.
- ❖ On this day, Lord Gautham Buddha attained enlightenment.
- ❖ The Day is commemorated by the United Nations every year since 2000.

MISCELLANEOUS

Yellow fungus

- ❖ After black and white fungus, the recent case of yellow fungus has become a cause for concern.
- ❖ Yellow fungus initially develops by the presence of moulds (a type of fungi) in the environment.
- ❖ It may be present with unnecessary fatigue, rashes, burning sensation on skin etc.
- ❖ It invades internal organs of the body and affects the entire functioning.

