

May - 28

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Earthquake measuring 5.5 on the Richter Scale hit Manipur.
 - According to the National Center for Seismology (NCS), the earthquake's epicentre was 13 km south-west of Moirang in Manipur.
- ❖ Puntius sanctus is a new species of small freshwater fish recently discovered in Velankanni in Tamil Nadu.
 - These are known locally as 'Paral' in Kerala and 'Kende' in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh government has released its first skill map of migrant workers who returned to the State during the lockdown.
 - The government has said it will provide them employment in the State as per their skills and experience.

NATIONAL

CoAST India (Collaboration/Covid Action Support Group)

- ❖ It is a GIS-enabled dashboard that includes an India map reflecting the movement of migrants in real time on their long journeys.
- ❖ It has been developed by India Observatory in collaboration with Gujarat's district Anand-based Forest Ecological Security (FES) as its main nodal point.

Definition of domiciles at J&K

- ❖ The 2020 order defines domiciles as anyone “who has resided for a period of 15 years in the UT of J&K or has studied for a period of seven years and appeared in Class 10th/12th examination in an educational institution located in the UT of J&K or who is registered as a migrant by the Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (Migrants)”.
- ❖ It said that children of central government officials including the all India services, public sector units, autonomous body of Centre, Public Sector Banks, officials of statutory bodies, central universities and recognised research institutes of the Centre who have served in J&K for a “total period of 10 years” will be domiciles.
- ❖ The domicile status also applies to “children of such residents of J&K who reside outside J&K in connection with their employment or business or other



professional or vocational reasons but their parents should fulfil any of the conditions provided”.

NEW RULES

- **Domicile rights extended to all migrants who have been registered** by Relief and Rehab Commissioner in the erstwhile state
- Anyone who has **studied for a period of 7 years and appeared in Class 10th or 12th exams** in J&K is eligible for domicile certificate
- Change in rules, though **only for lower-end govt jobs**, is politically significant as state employment was previously in accordance with definition of permanent residents

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

WFIRST

- ❖ US Space agency has renamed its Wide-Field Infrared Survey Telescope (WFIRST) after its first chief astronomer Nancy Grace Roman.

- ❖ This next-generation space telescope will now be known as Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope and will be launched in 2025.
- ❖ Nancy Grace Roman is known as the mother of Hubble Space Telescope.



ENVIRONMENT

Locusts Attack in India

- ❖ Large swarms of Desert Locusts have entered India's Rajasthan through Pakistan.
- ❖ The locusts swarms began from Iran in 2019, migrating to Pakistan and now have entered India in Rajasthan, Punjab, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.



- ❖ The locust attack could further devastate India's agricultural economy and risk India's food security.
- ❖ The Locust Warning Organisation has suggested for the use of drones for sprinkling chemicals in Rajasthan to kill the locust.



Saleki Proposed Reserve Forest (PRF)

- ❖ The National Board of Wildlife (NBWL) recently discussed a proposal for transferring 98.59 hectares of land from the Saleki Proposed Reserve Forest (PRF) for an open-cast coal mining project.
- ❖ Saleki is a part of Dehing Patkai elephant reserve, for a coal-mining project in Upper Assam.
- ❖ The reserve is located in the Dibrugarh and Tinsukia Districts of Assam.
- ❖ The Dehing Patkai forms the largest stretch of tropical lowland rainforests in India.

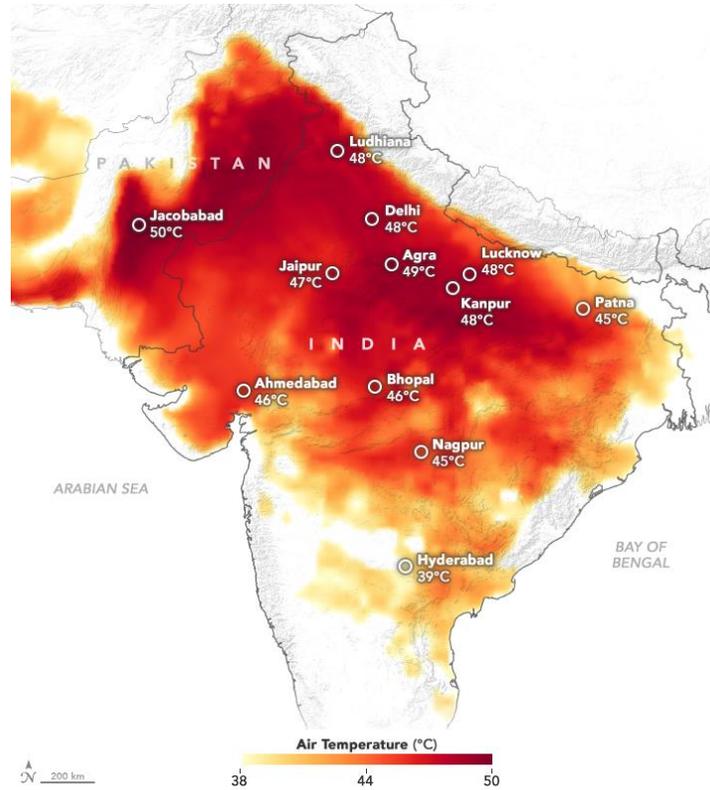
Stubble burning in Punjab

- ❖ Punjab has witnessed a spike in incidents of stubble burning in this year.
- ❖ The ban and action against the people burning the crop residue is regulated under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
- ❖ It is a common practice followed by farmers to prepare fields for sowing of wheat in November as there is little time left between the harvesting of paddy and sowing of wheat.
- ❖ Stubble burning results in emission of harmful gases such carbon dioxide, sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide along with particulate matter.
- ❖ Open stubble burning emits large amounts of toxic pollutants in the atmosphere which contain harmful gases like methane (CH₄), Carbon Monoxide (CO), Volatile organic compound (VOC) and carcinogenic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons.
- ❖ They may eventually cause smog.
- ❖ Burning husk on ground destroys the nutrients in the soil, making it less fertile.
- ❖ Heat generated by stubble burning penetrates into the soil, leading to the loss of moisture and useful microbes.
- ❖ An innovative experiment has been undertaken by the Chhattisgarh government by setting up gauthans.
- ❖ A gauthan is a dedicated five-acre plot, held in common by each village, where all the unused stubble is collected through people's donations.
- ❖ After that, it is converted into organic fertiliser by mixing with cow dung and few natural enzymes.



Heat Wave

- ❖ Several parts of north India are reeling under an intense heatwave with many districts in Rajasthan, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh posting temperatures over 45 degrees Celsius or five degrees above what is normal.
- ❖ A Heat Wave is a period of abnormally high temperatures, more than the normal maximum temperature that occurs during the summer season.
- ❖ The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has given the following criteria for Heat Waves
- ❖ Heat Wave need not be considered till the maximum temperature of a station reaches at least 40°C for Plains and at least 30°C for Hilly regions.
- ❖ When the actual maximum temperature remains 45°C or more irrespective of normal maximum temperature, heat waves should be declared.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Ramkinkar Bajj

- ❖ The Ministry of Culture's National Gallery of Modern Art organised virtual tour titled "Ramkinkar Bajj, Journey through silent transformation and expressions".
- ❖ It is to commemorate the 115th Birth Anniversary of Ramkinkar Bajj on 26th May 2020.
- ❖ Ramkinkar Bajj (1906-1980) was an iconic sculptor, painter and graphic artist.
- ❖ He was born in Bankura, West Bengal.
- ❖ Along with Nandalal Bose and Benodebehari Mukherjee, he played a pivotal role in making Santiniketan one of the most important centres for modern art in pre-Independent India.

