

May - 28

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The President of India appointed Justice S Vaidyanathan as the Acting Chief Justice of Madras High Court.
 - The appointment comes after the retirement of present Acting Chief Justice T Raja.
- ❖ At the Singapore Investors Conference, six memoranda of understanding (MoUs) were signed between Tamil Nadu government agencies and various organisations in Singapore.
- ❖ The President of India inaugurated the new Jharkhand High Court complex in Ranchi.
- ❖ India is set to introduce 18 new peta FLOP supercomputers dedicated to weather forecasting.
 - It is aiming to enhance the accuracy and resolution of weather predictions.
- ❖ Kerala has become India's first fully e-governed state with over 900 services available via a single window system, e-sevanam portal.

NATIONAL


Sapre Committee Report



- ❖ It was constituted by Supreme court on 2nd March 2023.

- ❖ It aims to investigate any violations of securities law by the Adani Group in the wake of the Hindenburg report.
- ❖ The Chairman of committee is the former Supreme Court judge Justice Abhay Manohar Sapre (Retd).
- ❖ The report states that the Adani group has disclosed all beneficial owners.
- ❖ There is no allegation that SEBI is rejecting the declaration of beneficial owners of Adani.
- ❖ Adani's retail stake has increased after the Hindenburg report.
- ❖ The report clearly states that prima facie no violation of existing rules or laws has been found.

Delhi-Dehradun Vande Bharat Express



Gift of Vande Bharat
For the People of Uttarakhand
Dehradun-Delhi (Anand Vihar)
VANDE BHARAT
EXPRESS

Train to *run on*
25.05.2023

Dehradun-Delhi
(Anand Vihar)
in about 4 hours 30 minutes

Eighteenth Service
Under the Series

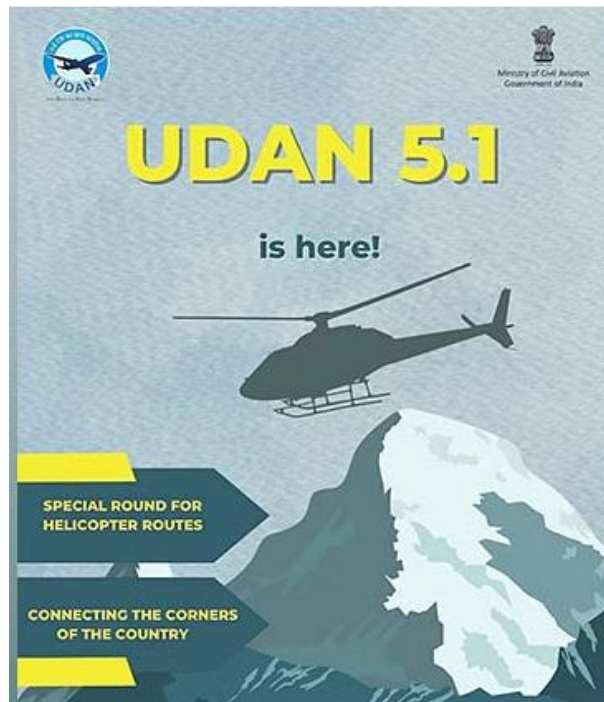
Dehradun
Anand Vihar
(New Delhi)

- ❖ Prime Minister flagged off the Vande Bharat Express between Dehradun to Delhi.
- ❖ This is the first 'Vande Bharat Express train' to start in Uttarakhand.
- ❖ This train will connect the Delhi with the Devbhoomi of Uttarakhand.

- ❖ The train is indigenous and equipped with advanced safety features including armour technology.

UDAN 5.1

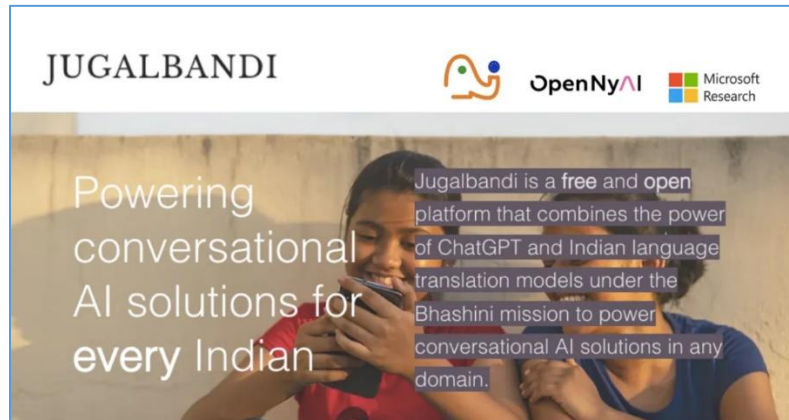
- ❖ The Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched UDAN 5.1.
- ❖ It is a new version of the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) specifically designed for helicopter routes.
- ❖ The scheme aims to democratize air travel and promote tourism, hospitality, and local economies.
- ❖ UDAN 5.1 is allowing routes where one of the origin or destination locations is in a priority area.
- ❖ It will be reducing airfare caps by up to 25% to make helicopter travel more affordable.



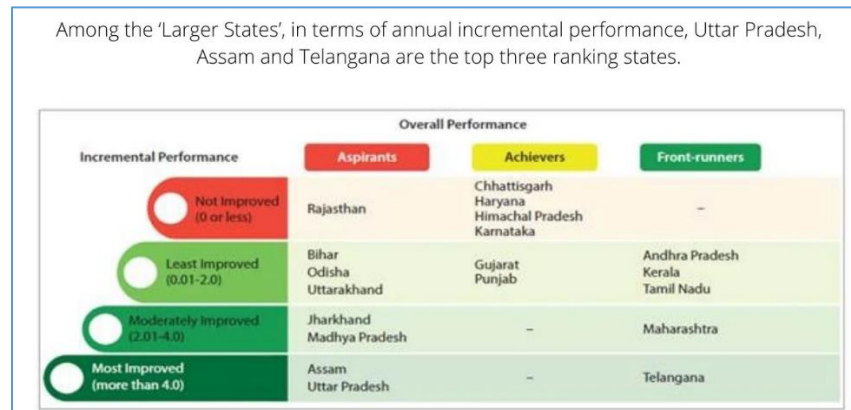
Jugalbandi Chat bot

- ❖ Microsoft launched Jugalbandi, a multilingual AI-chat bot for rural India.
- ❖ The chatbot has been developed by AI4Bharat in collaboration with IIT Madras.
- ❖ It is aimed at providing personalised assistance by understanding user queries in multiple languages, whether spoken or typed.

- ❖ The chatbot was launched in April.
- ❖ It has been tested in Biwan, a village near India's capital city of New Delhi.



State Health Index



- ❖ It is NITI Aayog's annual 'State Health Index' (5th edition) for the Covid year of 2020-21.
- ❖ It was launched by the NITI Aayog in 2017
- ❖ The Aayog brings out the index (annually) in collaboration with the Union Health Ministry and World Bank.
- ❖ The Top performers are Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana have secured the top three positions in larger states.
- ❖ The Worst performers are Bihar, UP and MP occupy the bottom three positions in larger states.
- ❖ Top three Incremental performance from 2019-20 to 2020-21: Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, and Odisha.

- ❖ The Top performers are Tripura, Sikkim and Goa. They have secured the top three positions in smaller states.
- ❖ The Worst performers are Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Manipur occupy the bottom three positions in smaller states.
- ❖ Among the UTs, Lakshadweep has secured the top position in terms of overall performance, while Delhi has been placed at the bottom.

INTERNATIONAL

Colorado River Conservation Deal

- ❖ Seven states, including Arizona, California, and Nevada, have achieved a deal on conserving water from the Colorado River.
- ❖ The agreement signifies a collective effort to address the challenges posed by ongoing drought conditions.
- ❖ It is necessary to manage water resources more efficiently.

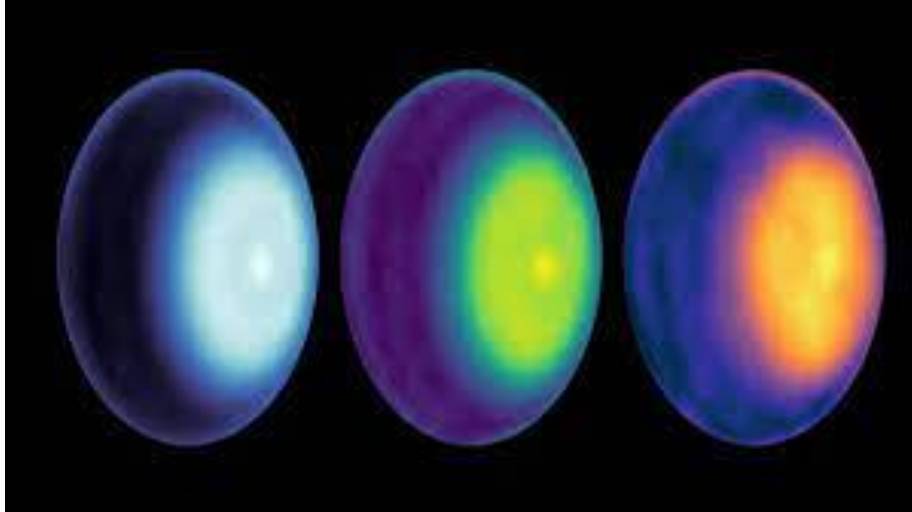


SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Polar cyclone

- ❖ A polar cyclone has been detected on the north pole of Uranus for the first time.
- ❖ NASA scientists discovered Uranus' polar cyclone by examining radio waves emitted from the planet.
- ❖ The data collected in 2015, 2021 and 2022, allowed scientists to look deeper into the planet's atmosphere.

- ❖ The findings confirm a broad truth about all planets with substantial atmospheres in our solar system.
- ❖ Whether the planets are composed mainly of rock or gas, their atmospheres show signs of a swirling vortex at the poles.



ENVIRNOMENT

New Species found in Pakkamalai hills

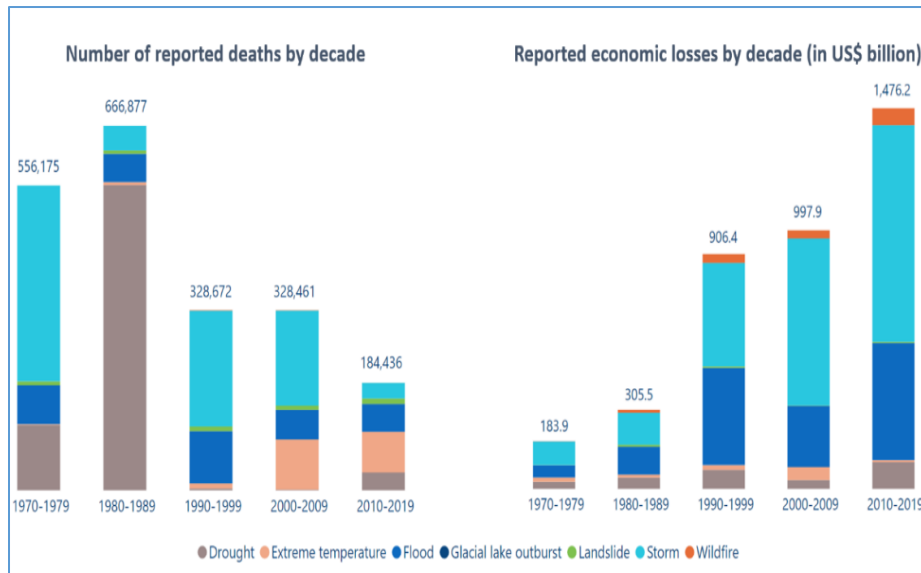


- ❖ A team of researchers have identified a new species of rock dwelling large-bodied gecko from the Pakkamalai hills.

- ❖ It is in Villupuram district of Tamilnadu near Gingee.
- ❖ The new species has been named as *Hemidactyluspakkamalaiensis*, after the hill where it was first recorded.
- ❖ It belongs to the genus *Hemidactylus*, and it is having large-body size (101–109 mm).

REPORTS AND INDICES

WMO's reports on Natural Hazards



- ❖ The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) recently released the updated data in the Atlas of Mortality and Economic Losses from Weather, Climate and Water-related hazards.
- ❖ Bangladesh had the highest number of climate-related casualties between 1970 and 2021.
- ❖ After Bangladesh, India and Myanmar recorded the highest number of human casualties in Asia.
- ❖ On a global scale, 11,778 disasters occurred between 1970 and 2021.
- ❖ They all attributed to extreme weather, climate, and water-related events.
- ❖ These events resulted in over 2 million deaths and \$4.3 trillion in economic losses.
- ❖ Asia reported the highest number of disasters related to weather, climate, and water extremes.

- ❖ After Asia, the region comprising North America, Central America, and the Caribbean had the second-highest number of extreme weather events.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

International Booker Prize 2023

- ❖ Georgi Gospodinov's novel, "Time Shelter", has secured the prestigious 2023 International Booker Prize.
- ❖ This remarkable achievement marks the first time a Bulgarian novel has been awarded this renowned literary honor.
- ❖ It was originally published in Bulgarian in 2020.
- ❖ It was translated by Angela Rodel.
- ❖ Time Shelter is about "a 'clinic for the past' offers a promising treatment for Alzheimer's sufferers.

