

May - 29

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ NASA has set up a new Earth System Observatory which will help in mitigating climate change, forest fires and hurricanes.
 - It will also support real-time agriculture.
- ❖ Panacea Biotec (Indian pharmaceutical producer) in collaboration with the Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF) launched the production of the Sputnik V coronavirus vaccine in India.
 - Panacea and the RDIF had announced their plan to produce 100 million doses of the Sputnik V COVID-19 vaccine per year.
- ❖ Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu appointed David Barnea as the new head of the country's spy agency, the Mossad.
 - Barnea, a former longtime Mossad operative, will succeed Yossi Cohen as head of Israel's intelligence agency.
- ❖ The recent Presidential Election in Syria was the second one since the beginning of Syria's uprising-turned-war a decade ago.
 - The latest elections resulted a fourth term for President Bashar al-Assad.

NATIONAL

One Stop Centre Scheme

- ❖ Union Ministry of Women and Child Development Ministry is to set up One-Stop Centres (OSCs) in 10 missions across 9 countries.
- ❖ It will be set to curb the cases of violence against women.
- ❖ One OSC will be set up each in Kuwait, Oman, Bahrain, UAE, Qatar, Canada, Australia and Singapore.
- ❖ Two OSCs will be set up in Saudi Arabia.
- ❖ Also 300 OSCs will be set up across India.
- ❖ All OSCs will be supported by Women and Child Development Ministry while, Ministry of External Affairs will operate it.
- ❖ Centrally sponsored One Stop Centre Scheme will be funded through Nirbhaya Fund.



Statement of law

- ❖ The Centre has appointed Maharashtra cadre IPS officer of 1985 batch, Subodh Kumar Jaiswal, currently Director General of the Central Industrial Security Force.
- ❖ He is appointed as CBI Director for two years.
- ❖ The government has picked him from a panel of three officers.
- ❖ They were shortlisted by the committee consisting of PM, CJI as well as leader of the largest opposition party in the Lok Sabha.
- ❖ They were appointed by the Prime Minister-led Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).
- ❖ In the PM led panel, Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana opined to avoid officers with less than six months left to retire for appointment as CBI Director.
- ❖ This is being termed as a simple “statement of law”.
- ❖ Because, as per the CJI, the panel’s selection of officers should be able to withstand the “scrutiny of law in the future”.



INTERNATIONAL

New Consulate General of India in Maldives

- ❖ Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the opening of a new Consulate General of India in Addu City, the Maldives in 2021.
- ❖ India and Maldives share ethnic, linguistic, cultural, religious and commercial links steeped in antiquity.
- ❖ Maldives occupies an important place in the 'Neighbourhood First Policy' and the 'SAGAR' (Security and Growth for All in the Region) vision of the Government of India.

WHO BioHub

- ❖ The World Health Organization (WHO) will establish the first BioHub Facility in Spiez, Switzerland.
- ❖ The BioHub will allow rapid sharing of pathogens between labs and partners to facilitate a better analysis and preparedness against them.
- ❖ It will also help in safe reception, sequencing, storage and preparation of biological materials for distribution to other labs.
- ❖ It will enable member states to share biological materials with and via the BioHub under pre-agreed conditions and regulations.
- ❖ The move will help contribute to the establishment of an international exchange system for SARS-CoV-2 and other emerging pathogens, to assess risks and launch countermeasures.

ECONOMY

'Ricochet Impact'

- ❖ According to International Monetary Fund (IMF), Emerging-market nations' struggle to move out of covid-19 pandemic-induced economic crisis can hurt developed nations.
- ❖ It said, crisis has "Ricochet impact" on the developed and advanced economies.
- ❖ IMF suggests that, developed nations should be doing all to ensure better & equitable access to vaccines and equitable recovery.
- ❖ Poorer nations are facing the risk of increasing interest rates even though, their economies aren't growing.

- ❖ International Monetary Fund is an international financial institution is headquartered in Washington, D.C.
- ❖ It comprises of 190 countries.

STATES

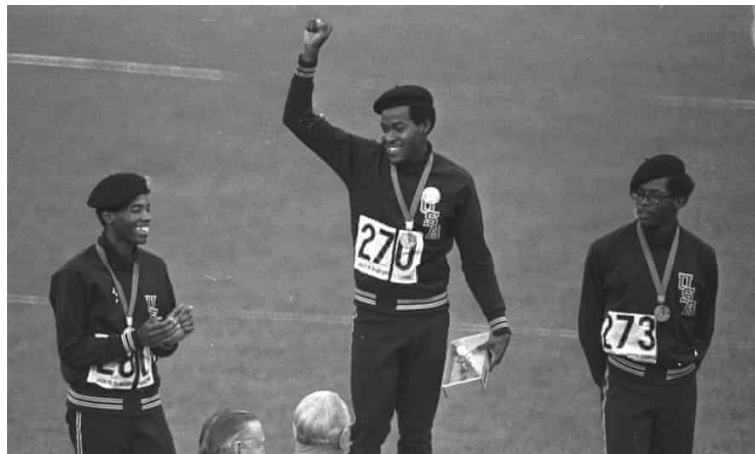
African Violet plant in Mizoram

- ❖ A new species of plant, called African violet, was discovered by Indian Institute of Science education and research (IISER), Bhopal.
- ❖ African violet is found in parts of Mizoram and adjoining areas in Myanmar.
- ❖ IISER Bhopal described new species as “*Didymocarpus Vickifunkiae*”.
- ❖ They are considered as an endangered species.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Olympic sprinter Lee Evans passes away



- ❖ Lee Evans was the record-setting sprinter from America.
- ❖ He wore a black beret in a sign of protest at the 1968 Olympics.
- ❖ He went onto a life of humanitarian work in support of social justice.
- ❖ Evans became the first man to crack 44 seconds in the 400 meters, winning the gold medal at the Mexico City Games in 43.86.

SpiceHealth wins Gold Stevie Award 2021

- ❖ SpiceHealth has won the Gold Award at the 2021 Asia-Pacific Stevie Awards.
- ❖ SpiceHealth is a healthcare company founded by the promoters of SpiceJet.
- ❖ It has won the award for 'Most Valuable Medical Innovation' under Covid19.



ONV award - Vairamuthu.

- ❖ ONV award for this year was conferred on Tamil poet and lyricist Vairamuthu.
- ❖ ONV award is instituted by ONV cultural academy in memory of late Malayalam poet ONV Kurup.

- ❖ It is given to litterateurs from Malayalam and other Indian languages.
- ❖ This is for the first time a non-Keralite writer has been chosen for ONV award.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Action for Women's Health - May 28

- ❖ International Day of Action for Women's Health is observed globally every year since 1987.
- ❖ The main purpose of this day is to promote the sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) of all women all over the world.
- ❖ International Day of Action for Women's Health is being coordinated by the Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights (WGNRR).

World Menstrual Hygiene Day - May 28

- ❖ The main idea behind marking this day is to change the social stigma associated with menstruation.
- ❖ The date May 28 was chosen to observe the day because on an average the menstrual cycle for most women is 28 days and the menstruation period for most women is for five days.
- ❖ Hence, the date was kept as 28/5.
- ❖ The theme for this year is: "Action and Investment in Menstrual Hygiene and Health."

