

May - 30

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The World Vape Day is to be observed on May 30 all over the world, a day before World No Tobacco Day.
 - It aims to increase awareness on e-cigarettes and help smokers that are unable to quit smoking.
- ❖ May 28 is marked as World Hunger Day.
 - It is an initiative of the Hunger Project.
- ❖ The Karnataka State Government announced that it will launch a “State Health Register” to collect data of all its citizens.
 - The register is first of its kind in the country.
- ❖ Under its Perspective Aviation Complex for Long Range Aviation (PAKDA) programme, Russia has constructed its first Stealth Bomber.
- ❖ The Operation Warp Speed is a public-private partnership, initiated by the Federal Government of the United States, to facilitate and accelerate the development of COVID-19 vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is likely to allow banks to assign zero risk weight for loans that will be extended to the micro, medium and small enterprises (MSMEs) under the Atmanirbar Bharat package.
 - Zero risk would mean that banks will not have to set aside additional capital for these loans.
- ❖ Montenegro is the first country in Europe to declare itself coronavirus-free.
 - Montenegro is a Balkan country.
- ❖ The United States has declared that it no longer considers Hong Kong autonomous from China.
 - This could result in loss of Hong Kong’s special trading status with the US and threaten its standing as an international financing hub.

NATIONAL

Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana.

- ❖ The Government of India announced that around 9 crore 60 lakh farmers were benefitted under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana.
- ❖ This was mainly done through the PM-KISAN Scheme

- ❖ The Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana aimed to ease the life of the people during lock down.
- ❖ The PM-KISAN scheme was launched in 2019.
- ❖ Under the scheme Rs 6000 was deposited to the accounts of eligible farmers in three installments annually.
- ❖ The scheme targeted the small and marginal farmers.

ECONOMY

India Jewellery Report

- ❖ The World Gold Council released its report on Retail Gold Insights: India Jewellery Report.
- ❖ According to the report, around 37% of Indian women never bought jewellery.
- ❖ The report says that gold jewellery was the second most popular item among “Fashion and Lifestyle” shoppers next to clothes and silk sarees.

ENVIRONMENT

Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary

- ❖ Bihar government is setting up India’s first observatory for the mammals in Bhagalpur district at the Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary (VGDS).
- ❖ Bihar is home to around half of the estimated 2,500-3,000 Gangetic dolphins in India.



- ❖ The Ganges river dolphin is primarily found in the Ganges and Brahmaputra Rivers and their tributaries in India, Bangladesh, and Nepal

- ❖ The Ganges river dolphin has been recognized by the government of India as its National Aquatic Animal in 2009.
- ❖ This decision was taken in the first meeting of the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) chaired by Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh.
- ❖ It is also an official animal of the Indian city of Guwahati.

Charru mussel

- ❖ Charru mussel is an invasive mussel native to the South and Central American coasts.
- ❖ It is spreading quickly in the backwaters of Kerala, elbowing out other mussel.
- ❖ The rapid spread of the Charru mussel (*Mytella strigata*) may have been triggered by Cyclone Ockhi which struck the region in 2017.



Charru mussel (*Mytella strigata*).

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Dugong Day - May 28

- ❖ Dugongs are an endangered marine species like sea turtles, seahorses, sea cucumbers and others.
- ❖ They are protected in India under Schedule I of the Wild (Life) Protection Act, 1972.
- ❖ There were just 250 dugongs in the Gulf of Mannar in Tamil Nadu, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Gulf of Kutch in Gujarat according to the 2013 survey report of the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI).
- ❖ Seagrass in Odisha's Chilika lake is a proper habitat for dugongs.

- ❖ However, there is not extant population in Chilika.



International Day of UN Peacekeepers 2020 - May 29

- ❖ The theme for this year's Day is "Women in Peacekeeping: A Key to Peace".
- ❖ It is to help marking the 20th anniversary of the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.
- ❖ The first UN peacekeeping mission was established on 29th May 1948, when the Security Council authorized the deployment of a small number of UN military observers to the Middle East.
- ❖ Every peacekeeping mission is authorized by the Security Council.
- ❖ UN peacekeepers are often referred to as Blue Berets or Blue Helmets.

