

May – 28

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ An historical building ‘Guru Nanak palace’ located in Narowal of Pakistan’s Punjab province was partially demolished by locals who sold its precious windows, doors and ventilators.
 - The walls of the 16-room palace had pictures of Sikh founder Guru Nanak Singh.
- ❖ According to an analysis by Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and New Election Watch, among the 539 newly elected Lok Sabha MPs, 43% have declared criminal cases against themselves.
- ❖ Sumalatha Ambareesh is the lone Independent MP of the 17th Lok Sabha and is elected from Mandya in Karnataka.
- ❖ The World Health Organization (WHO) for the first time has classified “burnout” as a medical condition during its recently concluded 72nd World Health Assembly in Geneva and added it to its on its International Classification of Diseases (ICD) list.
 - WHO classifies burnout as "a syndrome conceptualized as resulting from chronic workplace stress that has not been successfully managed".

ECONOMY

Billion e transactions

- ❖ The Ministry of electronics and information technology (MeitY) has set a target of 40 billion digital transactions in the financial year ending in March 2020.

PUSHING E-PAYMENTS TOOLS



- E-wallets saw rapid growth after demonetisation. UPI is now the highlight of new-age payments tools
- From 190 million transactions in April 2018, UPI saw 782 million transactions in April 2019
- SBI, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank, and Axis Bank are leading traditional banks in digital payments space
- PhonePe, Google Pay and Paytm are fuelling the growth of UPI, while banks have slowed down
- Paytm Payments Bank houses an e-wallet business and clocked 3.5 billion transactions in the previous year

- ❖ For the financial year ended March 2019, the target was of about 30 billion digital transactions. 90-95% of the target was met.
- ❖ Mobile wallets and the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) are considered as key instruments for the success of digital payments.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Ancient Ice age

- ❖ Researchers from the University of Chicago have discovered the remnants of seawater dating back to the Ice Age.
- ❖ The discovery was made while exploring the limestone deposits that form the Maldives.
- ❖ The exploration was conducted from Joint Oceanographic Institutions for Deep Earth Sampling (JOIDES) ship.
- ❖ It drills into the ocean floor to collect and study core samples.
- ❖ Scientists use this data for better understanding of climate change, geology and Earth's history.

STATES

Andhra Pradesh CM

- ❖ YSR Congress party leader Jagan Mohan Reddy will be sworn-in as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh on May 30, 2019 in Vijayawada.
- ❖ Jagan's party had won 151 of 175 Assembly seats and 22 Lok Sabha seats out of 25 in Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ He defeated incumbent CM Chandra Babu Naidu of Telugu Desam Party.
- ❖ He met PM Modi and requested him to accord Andhra Pradesh "Special Category Status".

Special Category Status (SCS)

- ❖ The concept of SCS was first introduced in 1969 by the 5th Finance Commission.
- ❖ It sought to provide certain disadvantaged states preferential treatment in the form of central assistance and tax breaks.

- ❖ Initially 3 states only Assam, Nagaland and Jammu & Kashmir were granted SCS.
- ❖ Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim, Tripura and Uttarakhand were later added.
- ❖ But the 14th Finance Commission scrapped the ‘special category’ status for states, except for the North Eastern and three hill states (J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand).
- ❖ Instead it recommended increased “tax devolution” from Union to States from 32% to 42%.

Sikkim CM

- ❖ The leader of Sikkim Karantikari Morcha (SKM) party Prem Singh Golay took over as the New Chief Minister of Sikkim.
- ❖ He beat 5-time Chief Minister Pawan Kumar Chamling of Sikkim Democratic Front.
- ❖ Sikkim as a state came into being in 1642 under the rule of Chogyal dynasty.
- ❖ In 1890 it came under British rule and became of protectorate state of British.

Odisha CM

- ❖ Naveen Patnaik of the Biju Jana Dal (BJD) party will be sworn-in as the Chief Minister of Odisha for the fifth consecutive term on May 29, 2019.
- ❖ On the day of his oath taking, 6 to 7 lakh farmers under the state’s KALIA scheme will receive the financial assistance of Rs 5000 through Direct Benefit Transfer.
- ❖ He has won 12 out of 23 parliamentary constituencies and 112 of the 146 Assembly seats in 2019.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Shailesh Tinaikar

- ❖ General Shailesh Tinaikar has been appointed by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres as the commander of the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS).



- ❖ He will succeed Lieutenant General Frank Kamanzi of Rwanda who will complete his UNMISS assignment this month.
- ❖ It is the second biggest peacekeeping operation.
- ❖ It was created in 2011 when South Sudan gained independence from Sudan.
- ❖ Mr Tinaikar will command over 16,000 peacekeepers, about 2,400 from India, in UNMISS.
- ❖ A 1983 graduate of the Indian Military Academy, General Shailesh Tinaikar is the recipient of the Sena Medal and the Vishisht Seva Medal for Distinguished Service.

Current Posting

- ❖ He currently serves as the commandant of the Indian Army Infantry School, at Mhow, or Dr. Ambedkar Nagar.
- ❖ The Infantry School at Mhow, Madhya Pradesh is the largest and the oldest military training centre of the Indian Army.
- ❖ This institution also trains the National Shooting Team under the aegis of Army Marksmanship Unit (AMU) which is a part of Infantry School.

Lee Jong-wook Prize

- ❖ The Director General of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) Professor Balram Bhargava has won the 2019 Dr Lee Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health.
- ❖ He was awarded at the 72nd World Health Assembly in Geneva.
- ❖ A Cardiologist at Delhi AIIMS, Dr. Bhargava was awarded for his achievements as a clinician, innovator, researcher and trainer.

About the Prize:

- ❖ The Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health was established in 2008.
- ❖ It is awarded to individuals, institutions, and governmental or nongovernmental organizations who have made an outstanding contribution to public health.
- ❖ The award consists of a plaque from the “Founder” and a sum of money which will not exceed US\$ 100 000.
- ❖ Other regular prizes awarded under WHO umbrella are



The Sasakawa Health Prize	Ihsan Dogramaci Family Health Foundation Prize
United Arab Emirates Health Foundation Prize	The State of Kuwait Prize for Research in Health Promotion

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Hypertension Day – May 17

- ❖ Every year 17 May is observed as World Hypertension Day (WHD).
- ❖ This is an initiative of the World Hypertension League (WHL), which is affiliated to International Society of Hypertension.
- ❖ The WHD was first inaugurated in May 2005.
- ❖ The purpose of the WHD is to promote public awareness of hypertension and to encourage citizens of all countries to prevent and control this silent killer, the modern epidemic.
- ❖ The theme of World Hypertension Day 2019 is "Know your numbers"
- ❖ The theme is meant to raise awareness about high blood pressure in people across the world.

World AIDS Vaccine Day – May 18

- ❖ World AIDS Vaccine Day also known as HIV Vaccine Awareness Day, is observed annually on May 18.
- ❖ This day is observed to recognize the many volunteers, community members, health professionals, and scientists working to develop a vaccine to prevent HIV.
- ❖ The concept of World AIDS Vaccine Day is rooted in a May 18, 1997 speech made by the President Bill Clinton.

- ❖ The first World AIDS Vaccine Day was observed on May 18, 1998 to commemorate the anniversary of Clinton's speech and to stress the continued need for a vaccine to prevent HIV infection and AIDS.
