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MAY - 2018

TAMIL NADU

- 1) **INTERNATIONAL RAIL COACH EXPO (IRCE): 1st International Rail Coach Expo** is being held in **ICF RPF Parade Grounds, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, from 17th to 19th May 2018**. It comes under the “Make in India” project.
- 2) **Mu. Va. Award: M. Narayanan** was awarded *Mu. Va. Award* by the **Mu. Va Foundation, Vellore**.
- 3) **ARUNA JEGADEESAN COMMITTEE:** The Tamil Nadu government appointed a **one-member Committee** of Inquiry headed by a retired judge of the Madras High Court “Mrs. Aruna Jegadeesan” on **23rd May 2018 to probe the violence at Thoothukudi in which thirteen people were killed**.
- 4) **Gandhi Green Earth Award: TN CM Edappadi K. Palanisamy** made suggestion to institute the **“Gandhi Green Earth Award” (like Nobel Prize) at the meeting of the National Committee to commemorate 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi**.
- 5) **Tamilnadu’s First POLICE MUSEUM:** TN CM inaugurated the police museum in **Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu** on 16th May 2018.
- 6) **TN CM** has launched the **New School Books (SCERT) for 1, 6, 9 & 11 on 4th May 2018**.
- 7) **Miss Koovagam 2018:** The award is given for the Transgenders for their Knowledge, beauty, and attire every year. This year the award was given to **“Mobina from Chennai”**
- 8) During the **4th Stage of Kheezhadi Archaeological excavation**, Old Stone Age pots, Coins, golden ornaments are excavated. The excavation is located in **Kheezhadi Pallichanthai Thidal, Sivagangai District**.
- 9) **Museum of Tamil Arts & Culture** will be set up at **Madurai Tamil Sangam Building in Madurai**.
- 10) **Tamil Development Culture Corporation:** For the development of Tamil language, *Tamil Development Department Minister* has

announced that **Tamil Development Culture Corporation will be open in Oragadam near Tambaram, Chennai.**

- 11) On the Occasion of the "**Buddha Purnima,**" (12th May 2018) special Postal Cover (*marked as Buddha statue*) was released in Chennai.
- 12) **Railway employee Self Service App (RESS):** Indian Railways has launched the "**Railway employee Self Service App**" for their employees were launched in Chennai.
- 13) **'Safe Zone' App:** Tamil Nadu government launched the 'Safe zone' app *to check the use of tobacco in prohibited areas.*
- 14) **TN Govt** has ordered to fix the **GPS and a panic button** in Autos, Buses, and Call – taxis will come to effect from **3rd May 2018.**
- 15) *For Small, Medium Industrial Enterprises,* TN govt has launched the new Website **www.easybusiness.tn.gov.in**
- 16) **Beautiful Railway Station: "Madurai Railway Station ranked 2nd most beautiful Railway station in India"** and *Madhubani Railway station in Bihar is the most beautiful railway station in India.*
- 17) **Ajith Kumar (Actor):** Madras Institute of Technology (MIT) was appointed, Ajith kumar as the "**Helicopter Test Pilot and UAV System Adviser**"

NATIONAL

- 1) **Andhra Pradesh Government notified its New State Symbols after Bifurcation in 2014**

SYMBOL	NAME	LOCAL NAME
State Bird	Rose-Ringed Parakeet	Rama Chiluka
State Animal	Black Buck	Krishna Jinka
State Tree	Neem	VepaChettu
State Flower	Jasmine	

Telangana's New State Symbols:

- The State Bird - Palapitta (Indian Roller or Blue Jay).
- The State Animal - Jinka (Spotted Deer).
- The State Tree - Jammi Chettu (Prosopis Cineraria).
- The State Flower - Tangidipuvvu

Free State Level TNPSC Group II (OT) MOCK TEST on 4th November 2018 (Sunday)

Test Centres: 1. Anna Nagar, 2. Adyar, 3. Salem, 4. Madurai, 5. Trichy, 6. Tirunelveli, 7. Cuddalore, 8. Vellore, 9. Thanjavur, 10. Kancheepuram, 11. Krishnagiri, 12. Erode, 13. Palani, 14. Coimbatore, 15. Namakkal

- 2) **Agnihotri COMMITTEE:** A two-member committee has been appointed to make **recommendations for revising the rules of the Upper House (Rajya Sabha).**
- 3) **Supreme Court approves draft Cauvery Management Scheme:** Supreme Court has approved draft Cauvery Management Scheme (on 18th may 2018) for smooth distribution of water among 3 states (Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Kerala) and a U/T (Pondicherry). **The bench consists of Justice A. M. Khanwilkar and Justice D. Y. Chandrachud.**
- 4) **“Sagar” cyclonic storm:** The India Meteorological Department issued an advisory to Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra and Lakshadweep (UT) over cyclonic storm ‘Sagar’ in the Arabian Sea. **“The Name Sagar was given by India” (Cyclone Sagar is also expected to affect Somalia; Ethiopia, Djibouti)**
- 5) **DUST STORM:** A violent dust storm led to deaths of more than 100 people in Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, and New Delhi. Dust storms are also known as **Haboob, which is Arabic** for violent wind.
- 6) **Braille-enabled signboards to be used during Maheshtala bypoll:** Election Commission of India for the **1st time** will start the use of “Braille-enabled signboards for visually challenged voters” in the upcoming **Maheshtala Assembly by-election in West Bengal.**
- 7) **Dalmia group adopted the Redfort in Delhi and Gandikota Fort in Andhra Pradesh** under the “Adopt a Heritage: ApniDharohar, ApniPehchaan” scheme. This scheme was launched on 27 september 2017.
- 8) **100th Functional Airport: Pakyong Airport in Sikkim** is set to become the 100th Operational Airport in India will come to operation from **24th September 2018.** Sikkim was the only state without an airport in the country.
- 9) **Mission Raftaar:** Ministry of Railways conducted one day workshop “Mission Raftaar” aimed at **raising average speed of freight trains and coaching trains in New Delhi.**
- 10) **Navika Sagar Parikrama:** Indian Navy’s 6 member all-women Navy crew onboard of **INSV Tarini reached Panaji, Goa after**

circumnavigating around the globe in 254 days on 21st May 2018 (expedition started on 10 september 2017 in Goa). Under Navika Sagar Parikrama expedition.

- 11) **Kishanganga Hydroelectric Project:** Prime Minister inaugurated the **300 MW Kishanganga Hydroelectric Project** in Bandipora District of **Jammu & Kashmir**.
- 12) **PakalDul Power Project:** PM laid the foundation stone for the **1000MW PakalDul Power Project** in Marusadar River, a tributary of **Chenab River** in **Kishtwar district, Jammu & Kashmir**.
- 13) **Patratu Super Thermal Power Project:** Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for **the first phase (2400MW)** of **NTPC's Patratu Super Thermal Power Project in Jharkhand**.
- 14) **Zojila Tunnel:** PM inaugurated the **14.150km long two-lane bi-directional road Tunnel project** which connects the **Srinagar – Kargil – Leh in NH-1A**. The construction of this tunnel will provide all-weather connectivity between Srinagar, Kargil, and Leh.
- 15) **Eastern Peripheral Expressway:** Prime Minister India's **1st Smart and green highway-135 km long Kundli-Ghaziabad-Palwal (KGP) Expressway Passing through the states of Haryana and Uttarpradesh**.
- 16) **Banihal-Qazigund Road tunnel:** It is an **8.45 km long double tube tunnel** consisting of two parallel tunnels located in **PirPanjal range in Jammu and Kashmir connecting Banihal and Qazigund**.
- 17) **Green Licence Plates:** The Union Government has approved **green licence plates** for private electric vehicles. **Green licence plates have numbers in white fonts for private e-vehicles and yellow fonts for taxis**.
- 18) **Post Office Passport Seva Kendra:** *The 1st Post Office Passport Seva Kendra run by an all-woman team began its operations* **Phagwara, Punjab**.
- 19) **Gujarat Government** launched the **free treatment scheme for the road accident victims**.

- 20) **Model Code of Conduct Violation Reporting App:** Election Commission of India launched a multi-lingual mobile application called “Model Code of Conduct Violation Reporting App” **ahead of the 2019 election.**
- 21) **Nidaan Software: Rajasthan Government** has launched new software called “Nidaan” for disease monitoring and strengthening telemedicine services in the government hospitals.
- 22) **AYUSH Word:** Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT) **adopted a word ‘AYUSH’ in Hindi and English languages for scientific and technical purposes.**
- 23) **Swadeshi Samridhhi SIM cards:** Baba Ramdev’s Patanjali has tied up BSNL to launch Swadeshi Samridhhi SIM cards.
- 24) **9th edition of Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav:** To celebrate the **idea of unity in diversity**, the Ministry of Culture is organising the 9th edition of Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav in **Tehri, Uttarakhand** under **Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat.**
- 25) **Most Polluted City:** According to **Global Urban Air Pollution** database released by the World Health Organisation, **14 Indian Cities are more polluted among the world’s 20 most polluted city.** The 14 cities are Delhi, Varanasi, Kanpur, Faridabad, Gaya, Patna, Agra, Muzaffarpur, Srinagar, Gurgaon, Jaipur, Patiala, and Jodhpur.
- 26) **World’s 1st Fully Solar energy-powered airport: Kochi International Airport, Kerala** is running as the fully in solar power & it is marked as the world’s 1st Fully Solar energy powered airport. It is recognised by UNEP.
- 27) Retirement fund body **Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO)** has launched **View Pension Passbook Service for pensioners on Umang App.**
- 28) **National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)** has partnered with board Survey of India, to facilitate the Ganga rejuvenation task under Namami Ganga programme **by using Geographic Information System (GIS) technology.**

- 29) The Union Cabinet has approved setting up of a **new All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS)** in **Deoghar, Jharkhand** under **Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY)**.
- 30) **National Water Informatics Centre:** *Ministry of Water Resources, River Development, and Ganga Rejuvenation* have set up the central body – National Water Informatics Centre **to maintain a comprehensive water resources data.**
- 31) **Indus Dolphins (Bhulan) Census:** Punjab government and World Wildlife Fund, India are conducting a **1st organised census of Indus Dolphins.** *Indus Dolphins are one of the world's rarest mammals found only in India and Pakistan.*
- 32) **Border Roads Organisation (BRO) celebrated** its 58th Raising Day on 7th May 2018. *BRO is a government organisation of infrastructural development in the border areas of the country.*
- 33) **Arun-3 Hydropower Project:** **Nepal government** has granted permission **to generate the electricity in the Arun-3 Hydropower project in Nepal** to the Indian government-owned subsidiary Sutluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd with a capacity of **900MW.**
- 34) **First Integrated Control and Command Centre:** **Madhya Pradesh** has launched *India's first Integrated Control and Command Centre for its all smart cities in Bhopal.*
- 35) **National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation:** The Union Cabinet has approved to establish the *National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation (NIMHR)* at **Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**
- 36) **National Policy on Biofuels – 2018:** The Union Cabinet has approved National Policy on Biofuels **in order to promote biofuels in the country.**
- 37) **Gaj Yatra 2018: "GajYatra"** is a journey celebrating India's national heritage animal **aims to secure 100 elephant corridors across India** (for safe passage of elephants).
- 38) **Bharosa:** United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is going to set up skill development centre for clients of Bharosa. **It is an initiative of Hyderabad City Police** is a state-of-the-art centre **to**

support women and children who are victims of violence was launched in 2016.

- 39) **Women Entrepreneurship Platform: NITI Aayog and actor Sushant Singh Rajput** have decided to collaborate towards promoting the Women Entrepreneurship Platform launched by the NITI Aayog.
- 40) **UDAN scheme:** 1st commercial flight of Arunachal Pradesh was landed at **Pasighat**.
- 41) International Children's Theatre Festival 2018 was inaugurated at **Kolkata, West Bengal**.

INTERNATIONAL

- 1) **Vice – President Venkaiyah Naidu's 1st official foreign visits.**
 - Guatemala
 - Panama
 - Peru
- 2) **The 8th amendment to the Irish constitution:** The 8th amendment is regarding **“Abortion”**. *“Abortion is illegal in Ireland”. It recognizes an equal right to life for both mother and unborn child, effectively prohibiting abortion in all cases.*
- 3) **Eliminate trachoma: Nepal** becomes **the first country in south-east Asia to eliminate Trachoma (Bacterial eye Infection)** according to World Health Organization (WHO) report. In December 2017, India itself was declared free from infective Trachoma.
- 4) **Lassa fever: Nigeria** has announced that it is **free from Lassa fever outbreak**.
- 5) **Bangladesh Bhawan:** Indian PM Modi & Bangladesh PM Sheik Hasina inaugurated the Bangladesh Bhawan **at Vishwa Bharathi University in Santiniketan, West Bengal**.
- 6) **India & Nepal direct Bus Service:** Both the Indian & Nepal PM's flagged off bus service between **Janakpur (Nepal) and Ayodhya (India)** under Ramayan Circuit. *India's Ramayan Circuit comes under Swadesh Darshan Scheme to promote religious tourism in Nepal and India.*

- 7) **GILGIT-BALTISTAN ORDER:** India recently **opposed Pakistan's order** to integrate the region of Gilgit - Baltistan into the federal structure of the country.
- 8) **COLOMBIA TO JOIN NATO:** **Colombia** will be the next country to formally join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). It makes it first Latin American to join NATO.
- 9) **Akademik Lomonosov:** Russia built the **world's 1st floating nuclear power station** at the port city of Murmansk, Russia.
- 10) **Clean Air India Initiative:** **India and Netherlands** launched Clean Air India Initiative in **New Delhi**.
- 11) **The 3rd Largest solar market in the world 2017:** Mercom Communications, India released the report that **India is the 3rd Largest Solar Market in the World**. China and U.S are in the top 2 positions.
- 12) **ASEAN India Film Festival:** Ministry of External Affairs organised the **ASEAN India Film Festival in New Delhi** from May 25-30, 2018. **"THEME:** Friendship through Films"
- 13) **"REPLACE" Campaign:** Review, Promote, Legislate, Assess, Create awareness and Enforce (REPLACE), **World Health Organization (WHO) launched the campaign to eliminate the Trans-Food by 2023.**
- 14) US President Donald Trump withdraws **the US from Iran nuclear deal (Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action) made on 14th July 2015 at Vienna.**
- 15) **The wealthiest country in the world:** According to AfrAsia Bank Global Wealth Migration Report, **India is the 6th wealthiest country** in the world and US is the richest country in the world.
- 16) **World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA):** **India ranked 6th on the list of doping violations by WADA** and Italy ranked in the 1st position.

SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

SUMMITS / CONFERENCES	PURPOSE	PLACE	DATE
First Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Tourism Ministers conference	India's Tourism sector is fast growing and has got an emerging market for outbound travel and a tremendous potential for tourism co-operation with the SCO region.	Wuhan, China	10 th May 2018
1st ever Shanghai Cooperation Organisation-Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (SCO-RATS) Meeting	The meeting was to discuss issues related to terrorist threats in the region and how to overcome them.	Islamabad, Pakistan	23 rd May 2018
4th BIMSTEC summit, 2018	The summit is to increase connectivity between BIMSTEC nations including roads, airways and transmission lines.	Kathmandu, Nepal	August 30-31, 2018 (*Upcoming)
Global Wind Summit	It will be largest and most important meeting of the wind industry worldwide.	Hamburg, Germany	September 25 to 28, 2018 (*Upcoming)
4th South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN) Meeting.	It aims at working as a strong regional inter governmental body for combating wildlife crime by attempting common goals and approaches for combating illegal trade in the region.	Kolkata, West Bengal (first meeting of SAWEN to be held in India since its inception in 2011).	May 8-10, 2018.
9th India-Japan Energy Dialogue	Aim of the dialogue is to work together for energy security, energy access and climate change issues.	New Delhi	1 st May 2018
6th US - India Aviation Summit (Biennial Summit)	The summit is a technical, policy and commercial forum.	Mumbai, Maharashtra	May 9-11, 2018
India-US Maritime Security Dialogue	Both the countries discussed developments in maritime	Goa	April 30 to May 1, 2018

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domain in Indo-Pacific Region and exchanged views on ways to further strengthen bilateral maritime security Cooperation.

15th Asia Media Summit (AMS 2018) THEME: "Telling our Stories- Asia and More" New Delhi May 10-12, 2018

1st Apex Conference for CEOs of Smart Cities The objective is to promote sustainability, innovation and participatory approaches in the Smart Cities. Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. 15th May 2018

3rd United Nations Peacekeeping Course for African Partners To build and enhance the capacity of the African Troop Contributing Countries to the UN. New Delhi May 7 to 25, 2018

1st Bi-annual Naval Commanders Conference It discussed aspects concerning country's maritime security, analyse mission-based deployments and larger issues of geo-strategic Indian Ocean Region. New Delhi May 8-11 2018

SCHEMES / YOJANAS

SCHEMES / YOJANAS	PURPOSE / Why in News?	MINISTRY / CABINET	DATE
PRADHAN MANTRI JAN VIKAS KARYAKRAM (PMJVK)	“Renaming and restructuring” of Multi-sectoral Development Programme as “Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram”	Approved by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs	3 rd May 2018
PRADHAN MANTRI VAYA VANDANA YOJANA (PMVVY)	To doubling the investment limit for senior citizens from (Rs. 7.5 lakhs to Rs. 15 lakhs).	Approved By Union Cabinet	2 nd May 2018
PRADHAN MANTRI SWASTHYA SURAKSHA YOJANA (PMSSY)	To set up 20 All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) across the country and upgrade 73 medical colleges. And it is extended beyond 12th Five Year Plan to 2019-20.	Approved by Union Cabinet	2 nd May 2018
PRADHAN MANTRI KRISHI SINCHAYEE YOJANA (PMKSY)	To set up of Micro Irrigation Fund (MIF) in NABARD Bank under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)	Approved by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs	16 th May 2018
RYTHU BANDHU (FRIEND OF FARMERS)	Investment scheme to support livelihood of farmers.	Telangana Government	10 th May 2018
PILOT SCHEME FOR PROCUREMENT OF AGGREGATE POWER OF 2500 MW	for three years	The Ministry of Power	1 st May 2018
SAMAGRA SHIKSHA SCHEME	To improve the quality of school education.	The Ministry of Human Resource Development	24 th May 2018
GREEN REVOLUTION – KRISHONNATI YOJANA	Continuation of Umbrella Scheme “Green Revolution - Krishonnati Yojana” in Agriculture Sector. The Umbrella scheme comprises of 11 Schemes and Missions	Approved by Cabinet committee on economic affairs	2 nd May 2018

VAN DHAN VIKAS KENDRAS	The Scheme is to Expand the Van Dhan Vikas Kendras in tribal districts across the country.	The Ministry of Tribal Affairs	7 th May 2018
PERMANENT RESIDENCY STATUS SCHEME	Providing foreigners who invest at least Rs.10 crore under the Foreign Direct Investment.	The Union Cabinet	20 th May 2018
DIGITAL INDIA INTERNSHIP SCHEME PORTAL	It is the Website for Students to apply for the Internship.	The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology	10 th May 2018

MILITARY EXERCISES IN MAY 2018

EXERCISE NAME	HELD BETWEEN	TYPE OF AN EXERCISE	PLACE	DATE
HARIMAU SHAKTI 2018	India and Malaysia	1st ever bilateral Joint military exercise	Sengai Perdik, Hulu Langat, Malaysia.	30 th April – 13 th May2018
Final and 3rd PHASE OF VARUNA 2018	India and France	<i>Naval exercise</i>	Reunion Island	1 st May – 7 th May 2018
SURYA KIRAN XIII	India and Nepal	A Joint Bilateral annual Military exercise	Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand	Begins on 30 th May 2018
VIJAY PRAHAR	South Western Command of Indian Army	Military	Suratgarh, Rajasthan	Concludes on 9 th May 2018
GANDIV VIJAY	Chetak corps of South Western Command of Indian Army	Military	Mahajan field firing ranges of Rajasthan	Concludes on 23 rd May 2018
BALIKATAN	U.S and Philippines	A Joint annual Military exercise	Philippines	

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ROCKETS LAUNCHED IN MAY 2018

ROCKETS	COUNTRY	LAUNCH VEHICLE	PURPOSE	LAUNCH DATE
Bangabandhu-1	Bangladesh	Space X- Falcon 9	1 st ever communication satellite for Bangladesh	11 th May 2018
InSight (Interior Exploration using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy and Heat Transport)	USA	Atlas V	Mission to Mars to study deep interior of Mars	5 th May 2018
APSTAR-6C	China	Long March-3B	Communication satellite	3 rd May 2018
Queqiao	China's Relay Satellite	Long March – 4C	To establish communication link between earth and it's planned Chang'e-4 lunar probe (rover) that will explore the dark side of moon.	20 th May 2018
GRACE-FO	USA	Space X – Falcon 9	SpaceX launches NASA satellites to track Earth's water Cycle.	22 nd May 2018

DEFENCE & SPACE

- 1) **Mt. Bhagirathi II: Indian Army Women Officers Mountaineering Expedition to Mt. Bhagirathi-II (6512 metres -located in the Garhwal Himalayas in Gangotri National Park)** consisting of nine women officers, was recently flagged off.
- 2) **OPERATION INSANIYAT:** India sends 2nd relief consignment to Bangladesh for displaced Rohingya Muslim. India's 1st relief consignment sent on September 2017. (**Rohingya Muslims are the minority in Myanmar**).

- 3) **Bastariya Battalion:** CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force) has commissioned the Special unit called **Bastariya Battalion to combat Naxalites in Bastar Region, Chattisgarh district.**
- 4) **Black Panther:** The Union Home Minister has approved that **Chhattisgarh** will get specialised **anti-Naxal combat force called Black Panther.** (Grey Hound Unit: Andhra & Telangana).
- 5) **US Withdraws invitation:** US had withdrawn invitation to Chinese navy to participate in 2018 RIMPAC biennial maritime exercise.
- 6) **INDOPACOM:** US has renamed its oldest and largest military command **US Pacific Command (PACOM) to Indo-Pacific Command (INDOPACOM)**
- 7) Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) has released the report that **India has emerged as 5th largest military spender in 2017. Top 5 Countries are USA, China, Saudi Arabia, Russia and India.**
- 8) **Upgraded Pinaka Rocket:** DRDO has successfully test-fired the upgraded guided version of Pinaka Rocket from **Proof & Experiment Establishment (PXE) at Chandipur, Odisha.**
- 9) **BrahMos supersonic cruise missile:** BrahMos supersonic cruise missile was **successfully test-fired from a mobile launcher** at Balasore district, Odisha.
- 10) **Hydroxyl Ammonium Nitrate (HAN):** Scientists at **ISRO's** Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre are developing environment friendly propellant Hydroxyl Ammonium Nitrate (HAN) to power satellites and spacecraft's.
- 11) **Rustom-II:** Indigenously developed Rustom-II Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) developed by DRDO **will be delivered to armed forces by 2020.**
- 12) **NASA Mars Helicopter:** The Mars Helicopter, **a small, autonomous rotorcraft,** will travel with the agency's **Mars 2020 rover mission.** "Aim of the mission is to demonstrate the viability and potential of heavier-than-air vehicles on the Red Planet"

- 13) **Type 001A: China's** 1st indigenously developed aircraft carrier known as "Type 001A" started its 1st sea trials from **Dalian port in Liaoning province, China.**

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

RECENT DISCOVERIES

NEW SPECIES	TYPE	PLACE
Microhylakodial (Mangaluru Narrow -Mouthed Frog)	Frog	Coastal Karnataka
Uropeltisbhupathyi	Shield tail Snake	Western ghats (Anaikatty Hills, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.)
Dhara Mustard Hybrid (DMH - 11)	Mustard (genetically modified mustard)	

ELEMENTS / ROCKS	SIGNIFICANCE
Moganite	Scientists from Japan have found a mineral called Moganite in a lunar meteorite. Moganite is a crystal of silicon dioxide (SiO₂).
Ruthenium (Ru)	Ruthenium is the 4 th element after Iron (Fe), Cobalt (Co) & Nickel (Ni) to have the magnetic property in the room temperature
Magmatic zircon	"Magmatic zircon" is a world's 2nd oldest (4.2 billion years old) rock found from the Kendujhar district, Odisha. [Oldest Rock-Jack Hill (4.4 billion years old) , Western Australia]

- 1) **Nipah Virus (NiV) Infection:** The Virus was attacked in the **Kozhikode, Kerala** by the "**Fruit Bats**" on 20th May 2018. It was confirmed by the *National Institute of Virology, Pune*. "It was first identified in 1998 at **Kampung Sungai Nipah village, Malaysia.** *The virus is named after this village*"

- 2) **Mount Merapi:** It is an **active stratovolcano** located on the border between *Central Java and Yogyakarta provinces, Indonesia*
- 3) **Vaccine for Leptospirosis:** Scientists from Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre has discovered **key peptide** to develop a vaccine for *leptospirosis*.
- 4) **Laparoscope-Assisted Insemination Technique:** *Scientists at Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute Avikanagar, Rajasthan* have found a new laparoscope - assisted insemination technique for **Sheep breeding**.
- 5) **GravityRAT:** GravityRAT was first detected by Indian Computer Emergency Response (CERT-In), on various computers in 2017. **GravityRAT, a malware allegedly designed by Pakistani hackers which now becomes stronger.**
- 6) **Interactive Robotic Assistant (IRA) 2.0:** **HDFC Bank** has launched an interactive humanoid Robot at **Koramangala Branch in Bengaluru, Karnataka**. HDFC was a 1st bank in India to introduce humanoid IRA 1.0 at **Kamala Mills Branch in Mumbai in January 2018**.
- 7) **National Digital Communications Policy 2018:** *The Department of Telecommunications has released a draft of new Telecom policy. The aim of the draft is to give direction not only to the telecom market but also to enhance the digital communications.*
- 8) **World's 1st 3D printed Human Corneas:** Scientists from Newcastle University, UK have created the **World's 1st 3D printed Human Corneas** (3D printed thin protective film over eye) *in order to solve the shortage of available eye donors and help millions of blind people gain their sight again.*

ECONOMICS

- 1) **FDI Confidence Index 2018:** **Global consultancy firm A T Kearney released the Index.** According to the Index, **India ranked as the 11th position (In 2017-8th Position)** and the USA ranked as the 1st position.
- 2) **Business Optimism Index:** *Grant Thornton's International Business Report* released in the first quarter of 2018 report. According to the

report, **India ranked as the 6th position & Austria ranked as the 1st position.**

- 3) **Asia Power Index:** Australian think tank Lowy Institute released the Asian power Index. **India ranked as the 4th position out of 25 nations in Asia-Pacific region.**
- 4) **Advisory Council:** The **15th Finance Commission chairman NK Singh** has constituted Advisory Council to advise and assist Commission on issue or subject related to Terms of Reference. **15th Finance Commission will come into effect from 2020.**

AWARDS

AWARDS / PRIZES	PERSON / ORGANIZATION
Man Booker International Prize 2018	Olga Tokarczuk from Poland (Book: "FLIGHTS"-Translated by Jennifer Croft)
KISS Humanitarian Award 2018	Prof. Muhammad Yunus
Nikkei Asia Prize 2018	Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak
Linnaean Medal (For Botanical Research)	Dr. Kamaljit S. Bawa (first Indian to win this award)
2017 DRDO's Lifetime Achievement	V K Saraswat
"Excellent Woman of Excellence award"	Nisha Bhalla
Swara Mauli award 2018	Lata Mangeshkar (Singer)
13th edition of World Press Cartoon awards 2018	Thomas Antony
European Golden Shoe 2018	Lionel Messi
India Biodiversity Award 2018	Arunachal Pradesh-based NGO Singchung Bugun Community Reserve

APPOINTMENTS & PERSONS IN NEWS

1) States New Governor's:

STATE	GOVERNOR
Odisha	Prof. Ganeshi Lal
Mizoram	Kummanam Rajasekharan
Manipur	Jagdish Mukhi (Acting Governor)

2) Country's New Presidents / Prime Ministers:

COUNTRY	PRESIDENT / PRIME MINISTER
Russia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dmitry Medvedev (Prime Minister- His second term began in 7 May 2018) ➤ Vladimir Putin (President- His fourth term began in 7 May 2018)
Malaysia	Mahathir Mohammed (Prime Minister) [world's oldest (93 years) sitting head of government]
Venezuela	Nicolas Maduro (President)
Paraguay	Alicia Pucheta (1st Interim Woman President)
Barbados	Mia Amor Mottley (1st Female Prime Minister)
Costa Rica	Carlos Alvarado (President)

- 3) **Nima Jangmu Sherpa:** She is the only woman in the world to climb **three highest peaks in Nepal above 8,000 meters in single climbing.**
- 4) **Sangeeta Bahl:** *Oldest (53 years) Indian woman Climbed the world's highest peak "Mount Everest"*
- 5) **Shivangi Pathak:** *Youngest (16 years) Indian woman to scale Mount Everest from Nepal side.*
- 6) **Uttam Pacharne:** *Uttam Pacharne was appointed as the president of the **Lalit Kala Academy.***

- 7) **7th Caretaker PM of Pakistan: Nasirul Mulk** was named as *caretaker Prime Minister for the two-month period* ahead of general elections to be held in July 2018 after the resignation of *Shahid Khaqan Abbasi*.
- 8) **1st Chief Financial Officer:** Reserve Bank of India has appointed "**Sudha Balakrishnan**" as the first Chief Financial Officer.
- 9) **Justice R K Agrawal** was appointed as the "*President of National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission*"
- 10) **Pawan Kumar Agarwal** gets extension in three months as **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of the *Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)*.
- 11) **Yudhvir Singh Malik** was appointed as the *Chairman of National Highway Authority of India (NHAI)*.
- 12) **Shashank Manohar** was re-elected as the *new independent chairman of the International Cricket Council*.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

- 1) **Book:** "*Across the Bench – Insight into the Indian Military Judicial System*" written by Gyan Bhushan.
- 2) **Book:** "*Straight Talk*" written by Abhishek Manu Singhvi.

SPORTS

- 1) **Kidambi Srikanth** (Badminton Player) took Charge as **Deputy Collector of Guntur, Andhra Pradesh**. Andhra CM had offered a Group 1 officer post on the honour of Srikanth's victory in **Silver Medal at Commonwealth games** and Indonesian & Australian Open Titles.
- 2) *Indian Captain Virat Kohli* won the **International Cricketer of the Year at the CEAT Cricket Ratings**.
- 3) *Indian boxer Neeraj Goyat* has been conferred for the **WBC Asia Boxer of the Year Award 2018**.

- 4) **1st Sports University:** The Union Cabinet has approved an ordinance to set up the **country's first national sports university in Imphal, Manipur.**
- 5) **Star Khel Mahakumbh:** *Himachal Pradesh government* launched this program **to find talents in sports in village areas** launched in Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh
- 6) **11th Indian Premier League 2018: Cricket**
- **Chennai Super Kings was Champion of 2018 IPL** against Sunrisers Hyderabad.
 - *Kane Williams* (Sunrisers Hyderabad) won the *Orange Cap* with Maximum of 735 runs.
 - *Andrew Tye* (Kings XI Punjab) won the *Purple Cap* after taking 24 Wickets.
 - Rishab Pant (Delhi Daredevils) was the highest run scorer of 128 runs.
 - Sunil Narine was the Most Valuable Player of the season.
- 7) **Italian Open tennis tournament 2018:**
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| Men's Singles | Rafael Nadal (Spain) – won Vs. Alexander Zverev (Germany) |
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| Women's Singles | Elina Svitolina (Ukraine) – won Vs. Simona Halep (Romania) |
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- 8) **Green Cricket in India:** BCCI has signed with UN Environment to promote **green cricket in India.**
- 9) **Abu Dhabi Open squash 2018: Ramit Tandon** has won the 2018 Abu Dhabi Open squash.
- 10) **Heena Sidhu**, an Indian shooter won the gold in **women's 10m air pistol event** at **the International Shooting Competitions of Hannover, Germany.**
- 11) **5th Hockey Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2018:** *South Korea won the trophy against India in Final match.*

IMPORTANT DAYS

DAYS	EVENTS	THEMES/ SIGNIFICANCE
May 1	International Labour Day	“Uniting Workers for Social and Economic Advancement”
	World Asthma Day	“Allergy and Asthma”
May 3	World Press Freedom day	“Keeping Power in Check: Media, Justice and The Rule of Law “
May 4	International Fire Fighters Day	It was instituted after the death of five firefighters in tragic circumstances in a wildfire in Australia.
May 5	World Cartoonist Day	To honor all those creative ink-stained artists, past and present
May 6 (In 2018)	World Laughter Day	World Laughter Day takes place on the 1 st Sunday of May every year.
May 8	World Red Cross Day	“Memorable smiles from around the world”.
	World Thalassaemia Day	“Thalassaemia past, present and future: Documenting progress and patients’ needs worldwide”.
May 11	National Technology Day	“Science and Technology for a Sustainable Future”
May 12	International Nurse Day	“A voice to lead: Health is a human right.
May 15	International Day of Families	“Families and inclusive societies”.
May 16	National Dengue Day	The day is to create an awareness about the Dengue.
May 17	World Telecommunication and Information Society Day	“Enabling the positive use of Artificial Intelligence for All”
May 18	International Museum Day	‘Museums and Hyper Communication – New Approaches and New Public’.
	World AIDS Vaccine Day	To raise the awareness of the continued need for a vaccine for HIV.
May 21	National Anti – Terrorism Day	To make the people aware of the anti-social act of terrorism and its impact on human suffering and lives.

Free State Level TNPSC Group II (OT) MOCK TEST on 4th November 2018 (Sunday)

Test Centres: 1. Anna Nagar, 2. Adyar, 3. Salem, 4. Madurai, 5. Trichy, 6. Tirunelveli, 7. Cuddalore, 8. Vellore, 9. Thanjavur, 10. Kancheepuram, 11. Krishnagiri, 12. Erode, 13. Palani, 14. Coimbatore, 15. Namakkal

May 22	International Bio-diversity	“Celebrating 25 Years of Action for Biodiversity”
May 23	World Turtle Day	To educate people about the things that they can do to protect the habitats of turtle and tortoises.
May 25	World Thyroid Awareness Day	To spread awareness of thyroid and educating about prevention and treatment of thyroid diseases. Theme: “Lifestyle and diet change for better thyroid management”
May 22 to 28	International Thyroid Awareness Week	“It’s not you. It’s your thyroid”
May 28	World Menstrual Hygiene Day	The hashtag for the campaign is #nomorelimits
May 29	International Day of UN Peacekeepers	“UN Peacekeepers: 70 Years of Service and Sacrifice”