

May – 12

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Chhattisgarh police for the first time has inducted women commandos in the District Reserve Guard (DRG) which is its frontline anti-Naxal force.
 - Comprising 30 women led by a Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Dineshwari Nand, they have received extensive training in jungle combat.
- ❖ Singapore recently reported the first ever case of the **Monkeypox Virus** brought in by a Nigerian who arrived in Singapore.
 - This spreads by wild animals or through the consumption of bush meat of monkeys, bats, rodents, etc. Bush meat is a popular source of protein in some African countries.
- ❖ Pope Francis issued a historic document declaring that those who suspect sexual abuse in the Catholic Church are obliged to report it immediately to the church authorities.
 - This initiative by Pope is called ‘Motu Proprio’. In Catholic language it means a document issued and signed by the Pope, depicting his initiative.
- ❖ The hearing of Ayodhya land dispute case has been postponed by the Supreme Court to August 15, 2019. For more on this: <https://www.tnpscthervupettagam.com/ayodhya-dispute/>
- ❖ Ireland on May 9, 2019 became the second nation in the world after Britain to declare a climate emergency. Britain was the first.
 - The declaration calls for the government to fast track legislative changes and for a drastic cut down of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.
- ❖ A report published in Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) found that the chemicals used in sunscreen to absorb sun’s radiation tend to enter the blood stream which may become harmful in large levels.
 - The chemicals are avobenzene, octocrylene, oxybenzone, ecamsule.
- ❖ Islamic State (IS) has claimed for the first time that it has established a “province” in India after a clash between an alleged member of IS and security forces in the Kashmir region.
 - They have named the province “Wilayah of Hind”. Though this a dubious claim, Indian security experts have warned against complacency.
- ❖ Jeff Bezos who heads both Amazon and the space company Blue Origin, unveiled a lunar lander named Blue Moon.

- It would be used to transport equipment and possibly human beings to the south pole of the Moon by 2024.
- ❖ According to a report by Standard Chartered, **India, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Myanmar and the Philippines** are expected to sustain a growth rate of nearly 7 percent throughout the 2020s.
 - A 7 percent growth implies doubling of GDP every 10 years and rise in per-capita income.
- ❖ On 11 May, 2019 Boeing handed over to the Indian Air Force (IAF) the first of the 22 Apache Guardian helicopters that was ordered by India.
 - Air Marshal A S Butola travelled to Boeing's helicopter production facility at Mesa, Arizona to attend the handing over ceremony.

NATIONAL

Shortage in Healthcare

- ❖ According to a World Health Organisation (WHO) database, India is facing critical shortage of healthcare providers.
- ❖ Despite employing 5 million workers shortage is due to inequitable distributions of skilled health workers.
- ❖ Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan face severe shortage of healthcare workers.
- ❖ Delhi, Kerala, Punjab and Gujarat have a better number.
- ❖ WHO recommends that India needs to design courses for different categories of non-physician care providers.

ECONOMY

WTO Ministerial Meet

- ❖ A WTO Ministerial meeting of 16 developing countries and 6 Least Developed Countries (LDCs) is being hosted by India in New Delhi on 13-14 May 2019.
- ❖ The meeting will discuss 2 main issues
 - Deadlock in the appointment of WTO's appellate body members
 - Reforms in World Trade Organisation (WTO)

- ❖ A country is termed as LDC based on Gross National Income per capita, Human Assets Index and Economic Vulnerability Index.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Arsenic Respiration

- ❖ The scientist of the University of Washington discovered arsenic-breathing organisms in the surface of Pacific Ocean where oxygen is almost absent.
- ❖ Arsenic respiration was done during the evolution of the life on the earth.
- ❖ At that time there was scarce oxygen both in the air and in the ocean.
- ❖ Some biologists are of the opinion that these types of organisms are not new to the environment and exist from the inception of evolution.

Supernovas

- ❖ Scientist at Tata Institute of Fundamental Research have theorised the reason for formation of supernova.
- ❖ They say that **fast neutrino oscillations** may be the reason why some stars explode.
- ❖ Explosion of a star results in Supernova.
- ❖ It is the largest explosion that takes place in space.

Fast neutrino oscillations

- ❖ 3 types of neutrinos are electron neutrino, muon neutrino and tau neutrino.
- ❖ Neutrinos have a small mass and they can change from one flavour to another. This is called neutrino oscillation.
- ❖ Fast Neutrino oscillations happens when different kind of neutrons are emitted in slightly different directions.

ENVIRONMENT

Asiatic Lion

- ❖ For the first time the entire genome of Asiatic lion has been sequenced by scientists of CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad.

- ❖ This would enable scientists in better understanding the evolution of Asiatic lions and better management of the species.
- ❖ The striking feature in Asiatic lions is a longitudinal fold of skin running along its belly. It is absent in African lion.
- ❖ Gir National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary is the only abode of the Asiatic lion.

Fact Box

Common Name: Asiatic Lion, Indian Lion

Scientific Name: *Panthera Leo persica*

Status:

Listed in Schedule I of Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972,

Listed in Appendix I of CITES

Endangered in IUCN List

Threats:

Vulnerable to extinction from unpredictable events, such as an epidemic or large forest fire.

STATES

Social Justice

- ❖ The Supreme Court upheld Karnataka government's 2018 law which provided for reservation in promotion and seniority to SC and ST employees.
- ❖ The Constitution bench ruled that providing the reservation
 - Would not affect the efficiency of administration
 - Not at odds with the principle of meritocracy.
- ❖ Karnataka became the first state to establish backwardness and inadequacy of representation of SC/ST employees with quantifiable data.
- ❖ It appointed a committee under Chief Secretary in 2017 which collected, collated and analysed relevant data of SC and ST employees in service.
- ❖ In the past 32 years, only 10.65% SC and 2.92% ST employees served in Karnataka state civil services.

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Technology Day

- ❖ National Technology Day is observed on May 11 across India.
- ❖ Operation Shakti-98 (Pokhran Nuclear Tests) was conducted on May 11, 1998.
- ❖ On this day India carried out three nuclear tests.
- ❖ Subsequently, the then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee declared India a full-fledged nuclear state.
- ❖ Other achievements on May 11, 1998
 - Successful test firing of Trishul missile
 - Testing of India's first indigenous aircraft Hansa 3 in Bangalore
- ❖ This day celebrates the technical advancements and achievements of India.
- ❖ Technology Development Board of India commemorates the day by awarding individuals with National Award for their contribution to science and technology.

MISCELLANEOUS

SDG Advocates

- ❖ Indian actress Dia Mirza and Alibaba co-founder Jack Ma have been appointed by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres as the new advocates for the UN's ambitious Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- ❖ SDG advocates are expected to raise awareness, inspire greater ambition, solidify global political will and push for faster action to achieve SDG.
- ❖ A total of 17 global advocates from various countries have been appointed.



**The United Nations Secretary-General's
2019 SDG Advocates**

President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo	Prime Minister Erna Solberg	His Highness the Emir of Kano	Her Majesty Queen Mathilde	Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser	Richard Curtis	Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim
Jack Ma	Graça Machel	Dia Mirza	Alaa Murabit	Nadia Murad Basee Taha	Edward Ndopu	Paul Polman
www.unsdgadvocates.org		Jeffrey Sachs	Marta Vieira da Silva	Forest Whitaker		#SDGAdvocates
