

May - 24

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for supporting a joint collaborative research programmes in area of Cancer.
 - The DAE was represented by its Tata Memorial Centre, which also functions as coordinating centre on behalf of The National Cancer Grid of India.
- ❖ Jeff Bezos-led Amazon has bagged a seven-year dispute over the “.amazon ” domain name from the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN).
- ❖ Food safety regulator FSSAI (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India) has permitted small organic producers having annual turnover of over Rs 12 lakh to sell their produce directly to end-consumers without certification till April, 2020.
- ❖ The annual global index named “Kids Right Index” has ranked countries on the basis of how much they are involved and equipped to improve child rights.
 - India is ranked 117th out of 181 countries.
- ❖ Flight Lieutenant Bhawana Kanth became the first woman fighter pilot of the Indian Air Force (IAF) to qualify for combat missions. She had joined the fighter squadron in November 2017 and flew her first solo flight on a MiG-21 Bison in March 2018.
 - Along with Mohana Singh and Avani Chaturvedi, she was among the first women selected for the Air Force’s fighter stream in 2016.

NATIONAL

31 Judges

- ❖ The Supreme Court has reached its full sanctioned strength with appointment of 4 new judges to the apex court.
- ❖ The total sanctioned strength of Supreme Court is 31 (30 + 1).
- ❖ It includes 30 Supreme Court Judges and the Chief Justice of India (CJI).
- ❖ The length of their term is from their joining till they retire at the age of 65.

- ❖ The four new judges are
 - Justice Aniruddha Bose
 - Justice Surya Kant
 - Justice A S Bopanna
 - Justice B R Gavai

RISAT 2B

- ❖ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully launched RISAT-2B satellite on May 22.
- ❖ RISAT 2B stands for “Radar Imaging Satellite-2B”.
- ❖ It will be used in the following fields and purposes
 - Agriculture, Disaster Management and Forestry
 - All weather monitoring
 - Day and Night imaging of places
 - Study of small objects and surveillance
- ❖ Other RISAT Family of Satellites

RISAT-2	First satellite in the series launched for the purpose of surveillance
RISAT-1	India’s first all-weather radar imaging satellite.

- ❖ RISAT-2B is to be followed by RISAT-2BR1, 2BR2, RISAT-1A, 1B, 2A and so on.
- ❖ A constellation of such space-based radars enables a comprehensive vigil over the country.
- ❖ For more on RISAT please go here:
<https://www.tnpscthervupettagam.com/isros-risat-2br1/>

BrahMos Air

- ❖ The Indian Air Force (IAF) successfully fired the BrahMos Air version missile from its frontline Su-30 MKI fighter aircraft.

- ❖ It is a 2.5-ton supersonic Air-to-surface cruise missile with ranges of close to 300 km, designed and developed by BAPL.
- ❖ This is the second such live launch of the weapon.
- ❖ The IAF became the first Air Force in the world to have successfully fired an air launched 2.8 Mach surface attack missile of this category on a sea target on 22 November 17.

BAPL

- ❖ The BrahMos Aerospace Limited (BAPL) is a joint venture between
 - The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) of India
 - Federal State Unitary Enterprise NPO Mashinostroyenia (NPOM) of Russia

BrahMos Aerospace Limited

Type	Government-owned corporation
Industry	Defense
Founded	New Delhi, India (February 12, 1998)
Headquarters	New Delhi, India
Key people	Dr. Sudhir Kumar Mishra Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director
Products	Cruise missile
Total assets	US\$5 billion (2013)

INTERNATIONAL

Hot Pursuit

- ❖ The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) gave a “hot pursuit” and apprehended a Pakistani fishing vessel off Gujarat coast.
- ❖ It seized huge cache of narcotic drugs worth ₹600 crore.
- ❖ The doctrine of maritime “hot pursuit” is codified in Article 111 of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

- ❖ It recognizes the right of a State to pursue a vessel belonging to a foreign State, which has violated any law within its territorial boundaries and jurisdiction.
- ❖ It also allows to pursue the enemy vessel outside the territorial limits into the open sea and then to take into custody.

ECONOMY

Chief Risk Officer

- ❖ The RBI has asked the non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) with assets of more than ₹5,000 crore to appoint a Chief Risk Officer (CRO).
- ❖ Defaults by some huge non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) has led to the liquidity crisis. Ex: Financial crisis in IL&FS
- ❖ The primary role of the CRO will be identification, measurement and mitigation of risks.
- ❖ He should be a senior official in the hierarchy of an NBFC and shall possess adequate professional qualification or experience in the area of risk management.

Masala Bonds

- ❖ The Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB) has issued Masala Bonds to raise funds from the overseas market.
- ❖ Kerala has become the first Indian state to tap into the market for masala bonds.
- ❖ A Masala Bond is a
 - Rupee-denominated bond
 - Settled in US Dollars
 - Subject to English law.
- ❖ A rupee-denominated bonds indicates that the funds would be raised from overseas market in Indian rupees.
- ❖ Kerala plans to use the money raised from the bonds to rebuild the infrastructure that was devastated by last year's floods.
- ❖ KIIFB has listed Masala Bond on the London Stock Exchange on 17.05.19 to tap USD 312 million (₹ 2,150 crore).

- ❖ London Stock Exchange claims to be the largest Masala Bond centre globally, with 49 such rupee-denominated bonds listed across its markets.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Woman on Moon

- ❖ NASA has unveiled the calendar for the "Artemis" program.
- ❖ This program aims to take astronauts back to the Moon and specifically land a first female astronaut on lunar soil.
- ❖ Apollo lunar mission was named after Greek God Apollo.
- ❖ Artemis is the twin sister of Apollo in Greek mythology.
- ❖ Artemis series of launches planned are

Artemis 1	2020	an unmanned mission around the Moon
Artemis 2	2022	Manned mission orbiting around moon
Artemis 3	2024	Land astronauts on moon, including the first woman

- ❖ These three will be launched into space by the biggest rocket of all time, the Boeing-led Space Launch System (SLS).
- ❖ In addition to these, the mission will also carry the building blocks of the lunar mini-station "Gateway".
- ❖ These launches will be done by private space companies.

STATES

Andhra Bulls

- ❖ The Vice-President of India released a compendium on Ongole bulls in Andhra Pradesh during a private function.
- ❖ He stressed on the need to protect the globally famous Ongole bulls.
- ❖ They are an indigenous cattle breed that originate from Prakasam District, Andhra Pradesh.

- ❖ The Ongole breed of cattle (*Bos indicus*) are said to possess resistance to both
 - foot and mouth disease
 - mad cow disease.
- ❖ Fact sheet of Ongole breed

Global Prominence of Ongole Breed

Zebu - Brazil imported barely hundred Ongole breed from India and produced multiple superior breeds like the world-famous Zebu bulls.

Brahmana bull - Famous in America, it is an off-breed of the Ongole.

Santa Gertrudis - Famous breed developed in Texas, USA have Ongole blood

Bull Fights - Used in Mexico and some parts of East Africa due to their strength and aggressiveness.

Zeliangrong Tribe

- ❖ The Scientists are attempting to document an indigenous medicinal knowledge of Zeliangrong ethnic group in Manipur who have discovered new plants.
- ❖ The medicinal or pharmacology properties of these plants are not known previously.
- ❖ Some of them are *Gynura cusimbua*, *Hedyotis scandens*, *Mussaenda glabra* and *Schima wallichii*.
- ❖ Some rare and vulnerable species like “*Piper arunachalensis*” are also used by them to make traditional medicines.
- ❖ Zeliangrong ethnic group is one of the 32 tribes in Manipur, living in the Tamenglong district.
- ❖ It comprises of three groups which are collectively known as Zeliangrong
 - Zeme
 - Liangmai
 - Rongmei
