

May – 27

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Working Group on "Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPI) Regulations" under the Chairmanship of H.R. Khan has submitted its report to Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
 - SEBI had constituted this working group in March 2018 under H.R. Khan who is a retired Deputy Governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- ❖ The 'UNSDG (Sustainable Development Goals) 10 Most Influential People in Healthcare Award' was received by Acharya Balkrishna, Managing Director of Patanjali Ayurveda Limited on behalf of India's Patanjali Group of Institutions in Geneva, Switzerland.
- ❖ Lt. Governor of Delhi Anil Baijal inaugurated the "Sahara Naval Hostel" for the Veer Naris in New Delhi. It is a unique Hostel project for Naval Widows or Veer Naris.
 - It aims to provide rehabilitation of Naval Widows and their families in period immediately after unfortunate demise of their husbands serving the Indian Navy.
- ❖ Securing the right of Sikhs, the UK government has passed an amendment which allows the people of the community to carry "kirpans" and use it during religious and cultural functions.
 - Kirpan is omitted from the list of offensive weapons in the 'Offensive Weapons Bill' that aims at tackling rising knife crimes in the UK.
- ❖ For the first time in India's electoral history, in 2019 Parliamentary elections the voter turnout for men and women was almost equal.
 - 66.79% Men voted and 66.68% women voted in these elections.
- ❖ For the first time, Anna University has launched a two-year Post-Doctoral Fellowship programme with a stipend of Rs 45,000 a month and Rs 10,000 for accommodation. An additional travel grant of Rs 1 lakh per year is also given.
 - Researchers with a PhD in any science or engineering subject can apply for the fellowship.

TAMIL NADU

100 crores upgrade

- ❖ Ten high-performing state universities across India are set to undergo Rs 100 crore upgrade this academic year.
- ❖ The varsities have been selected under the Centre's Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyaan (RUSA) to promote excellence.
- ❖ They will also be mentored in various disciplines by 7 US universities, including the prestigious Cornell, UPenn and UC Berkeley.
- ❖ The varsities will establish special Campus Companies under the Companies act to receive funds directly from the Union Government.
- ❖ The underlying condition will be that the 100 crores should be spent by March 2020.
- ❖ Karaikudi Alagappa University, Hyderabad's Osmania University, Savitribai Phule University have already formed their companies.

NATIONAL

Indigenous Bio-fuel

- ❖ Indian Air Force's (IAF's) AN-32 aircraft was formally fleet "certified" to fly on blended aviation fuel containing up to 10% of indigenous bio-jet fuel.
- ❖ The indigenous bio-jet fuel was first produced by the CSIR-IIP (Council of Scientific & Industrial Research - Indian Institute of Petroleum) lab at Dehradun in 2013
- ❖ It is made using Jatropha oil sourced from Chattisgarh Biodiesel Development Authority (CBDA).
- ❖ This bio-fuel would be produced from Tree Borne Oils (TBOs) sourced from tribal areas and farmers.
- ❖ Thus it can augment their income substantially.

New Space India ltd

- ❖ The Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) new commercial arm called NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) was officially inaugurated in Bengaluru.

- ❖ NSIL is provided an authorised share capital worth Rs.100 crore and initial paid up capital of Rs.10 crore.
- ❖ Its main objective is to scale up industry participation in Indian space programmes.
- ❖ The first commercial venture of Department of Space was Antrix Corporation Limited.
- ❖ It was set up in September 1992 to market products and services of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

INTERNATIONAL

Anti Venom Strategy

- ❖ The World Health Organization had unveiled a new strategy to reduce deaths and injuries from snakebites.
- ❖ It has warned that a dearth of “antivenoms” could soon spark a global public health emergency.
- ❖ In 2017 WHO had categorised “snakebite envenoming” as a Neglected Tropical Disease.
- ❖ WHO insisted on the need for a 25-percent increase in the number of competent manufacturers by 2030.

Treatment in India

- ❖ Polyvalent anti-snake venom (ASV) injection is the main treatment for snake-bites in India.
- ❖ It is effective against all the four common species - Russell’s viper, common cobra, common Krait and saw-scaled viper.
- ❖ The six most poisonous snakes in India are
 - Indian Cobra
 - King Cobra
 - Indian Pit Viper
 - Russell’s Viper (also called Koriwala)
 - Saw-scaled Viper
 - Indian Krait

ECONOMY

Statistics Department

- ❖ In an order dated May 23 NDA government had announced the merger of the NSSO with CSO under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
- ❖ National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) and Central Statistical Office (CSO) will be merged to form the new National Statistical Office (NSO).
- ❖ The proposed NSO would be headed by Secretary (Statistics and Programme Implementation).
- ❖ CSO provides data on economic indicators such as the Gross Domestic Product and Index of Industrial Production.
- ❖ NSSO conducts research on matters such as consumption expenditure and unemployment.
- ❖ The latest data on unemployment reported by the National Sample Survey Office has still Not been made public by Modi government.

STATES

Tapuk Taku

- ❖ Tapuk Taku of National People's Party (NPP) defeated his rival candidate in the Seppa East Assembly constituency of Arunachal Pradesh with a narrow margin of 29 votes.
- ❖ He contested and won against Ealing Tallang of BJP.
- ❖ The final count from the Postal Votes tilted the scales his favour.

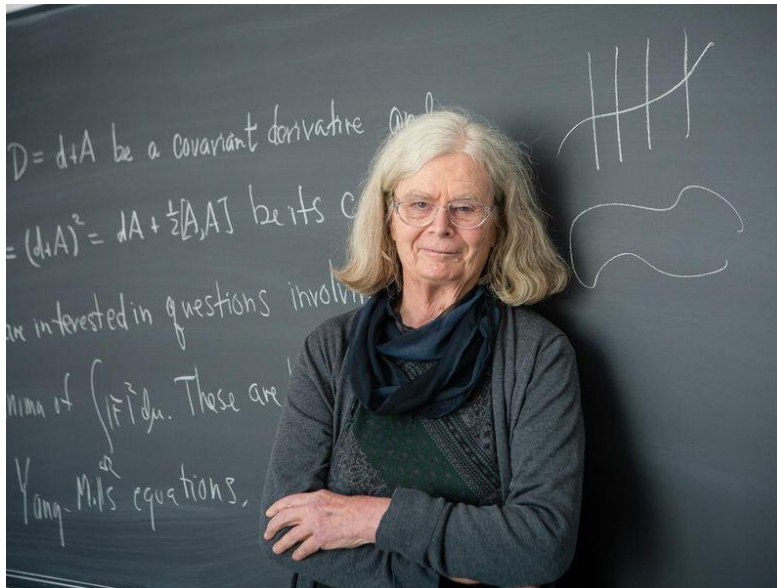
Postal Voting

- ❖ Postal voting is a type of voting in elections whereby Electronically Transmitted Postal Ballot Papers (ETPB) are distributed to electors and returned by post.
- ❖ Postal voting refers only to the “means” by which the ballots are submitted, not to the “method” by which the votes are counted.
- ❖ According to the Election Commission (EC) of India Postal Voting facility is available to a service voter — that is a voter having a service qualification.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Abel Prize

- ❖ Professor Karen Uhlenbeck of the University of Texas has been awarded the Abel Prize.
- ❖ It is one of the most prestigious awards in the field of mathematics. It is considered the Nobel Prize of Mathematics.



- ❖ She becomes the first and only woman to have won the award.
- ❖ It accompanies a prize of 6 million Norwegian Kroner (~£530,000).

Origin

- ❖ The Abel prize was first proposed in 1899 by Sophus Lie.
 - ❖ He proposed it after knowing that there would be no Nobel prize for Mathematics.
 - ❖ Abel Prize was started in 2002.
 - ❖ It was to commemorate the 100th birth centenary of Norwegian mathematician Niels Henrik Abel.
 - ❖ The prize is named after him by The Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters. (established in 1760).
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