

25th May 2023

INTERNATIONAL

1) India and Australia

- In a significant development highlighting the strengthening ties between India and Australia, the two nations signed crucial agreements on migration and mobility partnership, as well as on the establishment of a Green Hydrogen task force.
- The Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) were exchanged following a bilateral meeting between Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese in Sydney.

NATIONAL

1) New parliament building

- The upcoming inauguration of the new parliament building will feature an important addition, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi will place a significant golden sceptre near the Speaker's seat, announced Union Home Minister Amit Shah.
- According to Mr. Shah, this sceptre holds historical significance as it was originally presented to India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, symbolizing the transfer of power from the British to the Indian people.
- The Home Minister explained that the sceptre, known as "sengol," derives from the Tamil word "semmai," meaning "righteousness".

2) Jugalbandi, a generative Al-driven multilingual chatbot

- Microsoft has launched Jugalbandi, a generative Al-driven multilingual chatbot accessible via popular messaging platform, WhatsApp.
- The bot has been especially made to cover areas of rural India which aren't easily penetrated through media and lack access to government's welfare activities.
- The chatbot has been developed by AI4Bharat in collaboration with IIT Madras. It is aimed at providing personalised assistance by understanding user queries in multiple languages, whether spoken or typed.
- The chatbot was launched in April and has been tested in Biwan, a village near India's capital city of New Delhi.

















3) Infosys, a leading IT services company

- Infosys, a leading IT services company, has launched Topaz, a comprehensive suite of services, solutions, and platforms that harness the power of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies.
- Topaz is built on Infosys' applied AI framework, enabling the development of an AI-first core that enhances the capabilities of individuals and organizations to deliver cognitive solutions and accelerate value creation.

4) "AI Research Analytics and Knowledge Dissemination Platform" (AIRAWAT)

- The International Supercomputing Conference (ISC 2023) in Germany, the AI Supercomputer "AI Research Analytics and Knowledge Dissemination Platform" (AIRAWAT), situated at C-DAC, Pune, achieved an impressive global ranking of 75th on the esteemed Top 500 Global Supercomputing List.
- This accomplishment establishes India as a leading nation in the field of AI supercomputing.
- 'AIRAWAT' is part of the Government of India's National Program on AI and represents a significant stride forward in the country's AI capabilities.

5) Hari Budha Magar

- Hari Budha Magar, a former Gurkha soldier from Nepal who lost both his legs, made history by successfully climbing Mount Everest using prosthetic legs.
- Upon his return to Kathmandu, he was warmly welcomed by his relatives and family members.
- Speaking to the crowd gathered at the airport, the ex-Nepalese soldier expressed his gratitude and acknowledged that this accomplishment was the result of a collective effort.

STATE NEWS

1) 'Shasan Aplya Dari'

- The Maharashtra government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, is set to launch a new initiative called 'Shasan Aplya Dari' (government at your doorstep).
- The primary objective of this initiative is to provide citizens with easy access to government schemes and documents, all in one place.
- District administrations have been directed to organize two-day camps in their respective areas to facilitate the distribution of benefits to approximately 75,000 locals.
- The inaugural event for this campaign will be held in Satara district, the Chief Minister's home district.

















2) "total e-governed state"

- Kerala, the southern state of India, is set to make history by declaring itself as the country's first "total egoverned state."
- Building upon its reputation as the first fully-literate state in India, Kerala has achieved this milestone through a series of policy initiatives aimed at transforming the state into a digitally-empowered society.
- With a focus on a knowledge-based economy and 100% digital literacy, the government has digitized the delivery of vital services across various domains, ensuring transparency, inclusivity, and accessibility for all citizens.

3) Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers

- Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd, a leading defense shipyard in India, has launched a program called GRSE Accelerated Innovation Nurturing Scheme 2023 (GAINS 2023) in Kolkata.
- The aim of this initiative is to identify and promote innovative solutions for technological advancements in shipbuilding by startups.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESGINATIONS

1) R.N. Jayaprakash and Monal D Chokshi

- R.N. Jayaprakash and Monal D Chokshi were re-elected President and Secretary of the Swimming Federation of India (SFI) at its annual general body.
- The target activities of SFI for the next four years will be to develop grassroots' participation by holding camps and coaches' clinics at the State-level.
- Jayaprakash was elected unanimously as the president of SFI in an Annual General Body Meeting and Election held on Sunday in Chennai.
- The event was held with the aim to facilitate the election of new office-bearers who will steer the future of swimming in India.

















AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1) "Time Shelter"

- Georgi Gospodinov's captivating novel, "Time Shelter," translated by Angela Rodel, has secured the prestigious 2023 International Booker Prize.
- This remarkable achievement marks the first time a Bulgarian novel has been awarded this renowned literary honor.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1) "International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories"

- The United Nations has designated May 25 to 31 as the "International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories."
- This observance was established by the UN General Assembly on December 6, 1999.
- According to the UN Charter, a Non-Self-Governing Territory refers to a territory where its people have not yet achieved complete self-government.

2) World Thyroid Awareness Day

- World Thyroid Awareness Day is observed on May 25 every year. The day is dedicated to spreading awareness about thyroid-related disorders, their symptoms, diagnosis, and treatment options.
- On this day, all the stakeholders aim to educate people about the importance of maintaining a healthy thyroid gland and the impact of thyroid disorders on overall well-being.













