

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MAY 27, 2021

TAMIL NADU

- **On May 26, the Tamil Nadu government - enhanced solatium for kin of government-recognised journalists who die of Covid-19 from ₹5 lakh to ₹10 lakh**
- ✓ The one-time incentive for journalists has also been increased by the government from ₹3,000 to ₹5,000
- ✓ The government has announced the incentive following a request from journalists' forums.
- ✓ The Chennai Press Club has requested to cover all working journalists, not only the government-recognised journalists, under the solatium scheme.
- ✓ The forum has also requested the government to expedite the pension scheme for kin of journalists who died of Covid-19.

- **Tamil poet and lyricist Vairamuthu - has been selected for this year's ONV Award instituted by the ONV Cultural Academy in honour of late Malayalam poet ONV Kurup.**



- ✓ This is the first time that the award, being given to litterateurs from Malayalam and other Indian languages, is going to a non-Keralite writer.
- ✓ Malayalam University vice-chancellor Anil Vallathol, writer Alamcode Leelakrishnan and poet Prabha Varma were members of the award jury.

- ✓ The award comprises a cash prize of ₹3 lakh, citation and plaque.

NATIONAL

- **The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) - has allowed colleges to offer engineering degree in eight regional Indian languages, including Tamil, from the new academic year (2020-21) commencing June.**
- ✓ The other languages in which it would be available are Hindi, Bengali, Telugu, Marathi, Gujarati, Kannada and Malayalam, as of now.
- ✓ The move would help aspirants, particularly from rural and tribal areas, to realize their dreams of pursuing engineering degree in their mother tongue.
- ✓ Many advanced countries like Germany, France, Russia, Japan and China impart entire education in their official languages.
- ✓ The AICTE is also planning to offer UG engineering courses in 11 more languages in future.
- ✓ It will be offering course material in all these languages and also translating courses taught under Swayam and massive open online course (MOOC) portals in various regional languages
- ✓ The move to introduce engineering in regional languages was made possible due to AICTE's indigenously developed software that can translate entire engineering syllabuses into 22 regional languages.
- ✓ The software has a huge dictionary of over 10,000 words related to the engineering subjects
- **The Union Ministry of Women and Child Development – is planning to set up One-Stop Centres (OSCs) in 10 missions across 9 countries to deal with the cases of violence against women.**
- ✓ These Centres will be set up, one each, in Kuwait, Oman, Bahrain, UAE, Qatar, Canada, Australia and Singapore, while two Centres will be set up in Saudi Arabia.
- ✓ Apart from that, 300 OSCs will be set up across the country soon.
- ✓ Currently, a total of 701 One Stop Centres are operating in the country across 35 states & Union Territories.
- ✓ Through these Centres, three lakh women have been provided assistance till now.
- ✓ This centrally sponsored scheme of OSCs was funded through Nirbhaya Fund and launched in 2015
- **The railway ministry - has issued a corrigendum amending its circular that allowed medical facilities to only “one adopted child” wholly dependent on a railway employee**
- ✓ This is a significant development that reinforces the rights of all adopted children and puts them at par with biological children as per the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015

- ✓ Accordingly, the health benefits will be available to all “legally adopted children” just as it applies to all biological children
- ✓ In the over 20-year-old circular related to health facilities, in the definition of family members it was stated that besides the sons and daughters, step-sons, unmarried stepdaughters, married stepdaughters, “one adopted child” is to be covered.
- ✓ The ministry has informed that “one adopted child” is being replaced with “legally adopted children” in the circular subject to the age limit prescribed and provided they are wholly dependent on the railway employee.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **US biotech company Dyadic - has tied up with Bangalore-based Syngene, a subsidiary of Biocon, to develop a new Covid-19 vaccine**
- ✓ The vaccine will be developed using Dyadic’s proprietary C1-cell protein production platform, based on the fungus, *Thermothelomyces heterothallica*, or C1.
- ✓ The new vaccine is aimed at protecting against the emerging variants of concern, and be manufactured affordably at a large scale.
- ✓ The C1 microorganism enables the development and large-scale manufacture of low-cost proteins

DEFENCE

- **India - to soon get four advanced Israeli Heron Mark-II drones, which can stay airborne for 45 hours at a stretch**



- ✓ The first two Heron-II unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) will be delivered to the Army in the next two to three months
- ✓ The remaining two will be coming in by end of the year, under the lease agreement signed with Israel.
- ✓ The lease of the four satellite communication-enabled Heron Mark-II drones was part of the major surveillance plan of the Government
- ✓ They will ensure continuous real-time long range surveillance through a wide array of drones, sensors, reconnaissance and electronic warfare equipment along the entire 3,488km LAC with China.

- ✓ The three-year lease of the four Heron Mark-II drones is the second such instance of the ₹500 crore emergency financial powers being used by the armed forces
- ✓ The Navy is already extensively using two MQ-9B Sea Guardian drones, variants of the iconic armed Predator drones, for surveillance missions over the Indian Ocean after leasing them from US firm General Atomics last November.
- ✓ The medium-altitude, long-endurance (MALE) Heron Mark-II drones are manufactured by Israel Aerospace Industries
- ✓ They are an upgraded version of the original Heron UAVs inducted by the Indian armed forces over the years.
- ✓ These drones are equipped with long-range radars and sensors, anti-jamming capability and have the ability to reach an altitude of 35,000 feet
- ✓ They will also be able to gather all kinds of intelligence across the LAC without even flying close to it.

SPORTS

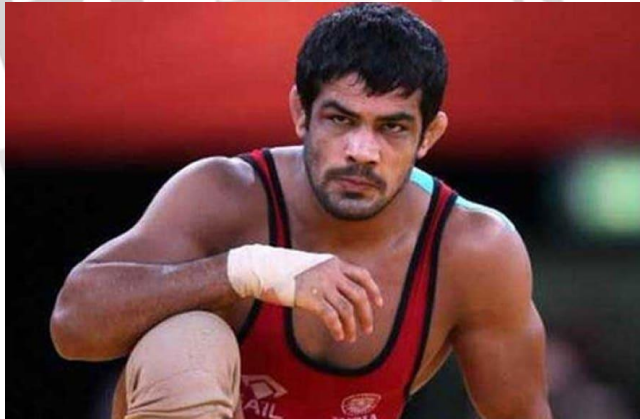
- **Defending champion Amit Panghal (52kg) - advanced to the semifinals and assured himself of a second successive medal at the Asian boxing Championships**



- ✓ In the quarterfinal, Amit had defeated Mongolia's Kharkhuu Enkhmandakh 3-2 in Dubai on May 26.
 - ✓ With this India's tally of assured medals in the tournament increased to 13.
 - ✓ Earlier on May 25, Sanjeet (91kg), Sakshi (54kg), Jaismine (57kg) and the Olympic-bound Simranjit Kaur (60kg) joined Shiva Thapa (64kg) in the last four stage following wins in their quarterfinal bouts.
 - ✓ Further M C Mary Kom (51kg) was already assured of the medal.
- **Achinta Sheuli - produced his personal best in all three events to clinch an overall silver medal in the 73kg category at the Junior World Weightlifting Championship in Tashkent on May 26.**



- ✓ The 19-year-old lifted 313kg — 141kg in snatch, followed by 172kg in clean and jerk.
- ✓ The Commonwealth Championship gold medallist bettered both his earlier personal best in snatch and clean and jerk by two kilograms each at the gold level Olympic qualifier event
- ✓ He had lifted 309kg (139kg+170kg) at the Asian Championships in Tashkent last month.
- ✓ With the effort, Achinta broke the senior national snatch record of 140kg that stood in N Ajith's name, while also bettering his own junior record of 139kg.
- **Northern Railway - has issued an order suspending India's two-time Olympic medallist wrestler, Sushil Kumar following his arrest in a murder case by Delhi Police.**



- ✓ Sushil Kumar was arrested on May 23 for his involvement in death of a 23 year old wrestler, Sagar Dhankhar, at Chhatrasal Stadium in Delhi on May 4
- ✓ Kumar had been on deputation with the Delhi government since 2015 and was posted as an Officer on Special Duty (OSD) at Chhatrasal Stadium for development of sports at school level.
- ✓ His deputation was extended in 2020 and Kumar had applied for an extension for 2021 as well
- ✓ However, his request had been rejected by the Delhi government and he was sent back to his parent cadre -- Northern Railway

- ✓ Sushil Kumar is an Indian wrestler who carried Indian flag at the opening ceremony of 2012 London Olympics.
- ✓ Kumar won a silver medal in the 2012 Olympics and a bronze in the 2008 Games.
- ✓ He also received India's highest honour for sportsperson, Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna, in 2009.

