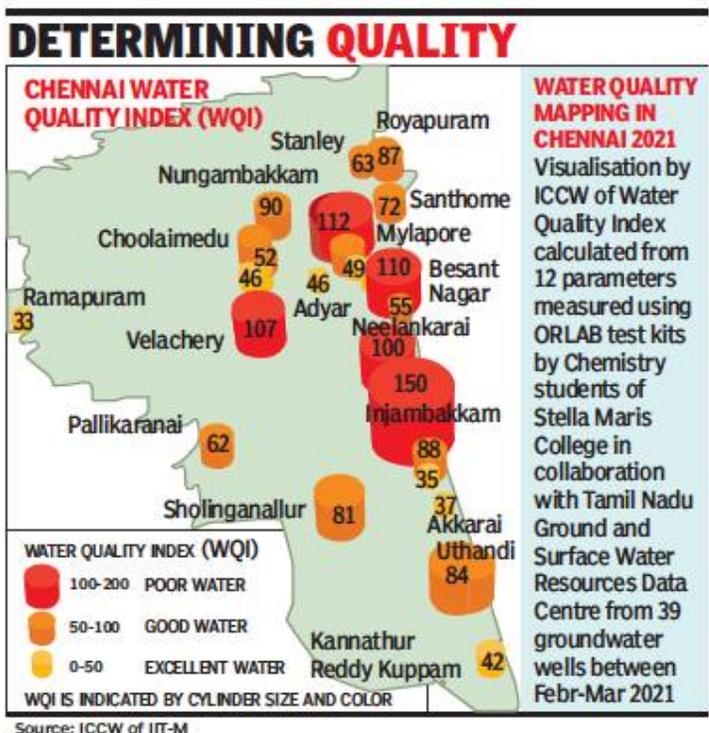




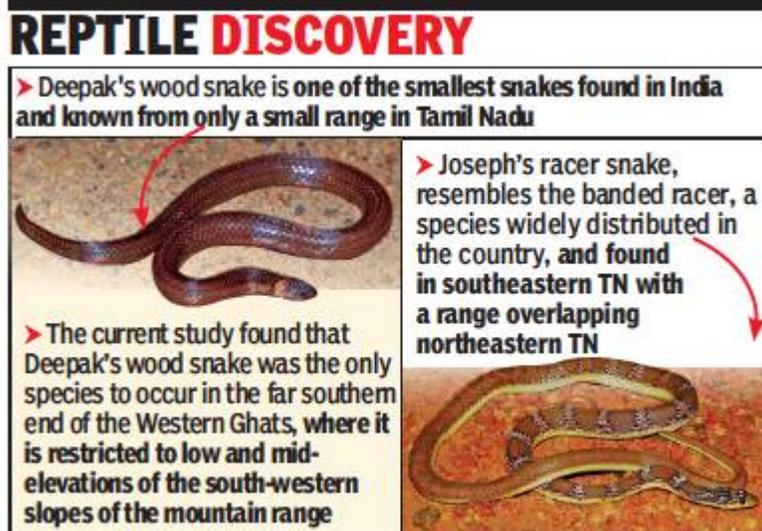
EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MAY 31,

TAMIL NADU

- **IIT-Madras - has started collecting data as part of a pilot project to map the quality of Chennai’s groundwater in association with the state government.**
- ✓ The team from IIT-Madras is utilizing a device developed by the International Centre for Clean Water (ICCW) for the project
- ✓ As per the data collected, the quality of groundwater in localities closer to the beach is found to be ‘poor’, while the quality in core areas was found to be ‘excellent’.
- ✓ As the quality of water fluctuated across the city, the project aims to gather enough data so that ground water quality can be forecast at any time of the year at the click of a button.



- ✓ The International Centre for Clean Water (ICCW) has developed a device to assess various water quality parameters on the spot and upload the details into a cloud server.
 - ✓ The team has already collected samples and tested them from 39 locations and plans to expand it to 60 more locations.
 - ✓ To collect data on the spot, the team has developed a device with sensors that can assess the various water quality parameters, generate a reading and transfer the same to a cloud server through a mobile phone.
 - ✓ The water quality index is measured based on various parameters like chloride, total hardness, fluoride, nitrate, turbidity, ammonia and alkalinity
 - ✓ The water quality index is considered poor when it is between 100 and 200, good if it is between 50-100 and excellent if it is between zero and 50.
 - ✓ As per the researchers, several factors influence the city's groundwater quality including the rate of withdrawal, proximity to the sea shore, contamination from sewer lines, amount of rainwater recharge and industrial effluents.
- **The number of snake species in Tamil Nadu – has reached 100, after the recent discovery of two new species of non-venomous snakes in the state**
- ✓ The two new species spotted were named as Joseph's racer snake and Deepak's wood snake
 - ✓ They were found in the Western Ghats area of Kanyakumari district and Srivilliputhur Meghamalai tiger reserve



- ✓ Deepak's wood snake was the only species to occur in the far southern end of the Western Ghats, where it is restricted to low and mid-elevations of the south-western slopes of the mountain range.
- ✓ Snakes of this species have been seen, particularly in banana, coconut and rubber plantations in some areas of Kanyakumari district
- ✓ The second species, Joseph's racer snake, was recorded in the southeastern and north eastern part of the state
- ✓ It was given the name as it was first sighted by Naveen Joseph of Tuticorin.

- ✓ The snake closely resembles the banded racer, a species widely distributed in the country.
- ✓ It is a harmless terrestrial reptile and grows up to less than a metre in length and feeds mainly on geckos, lizards and small rodents.

NATIONAL

- **On May 30, the government – has extended the scope of Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) for four more months up to September 30, 2021**
- ✓ The Centre has announced the fourth iteration of the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS), which guarantees loans to Covid-hit businesses
- ✓ Under ECLGS 4.0, the aviation sector has been included with maximum assistance for a borrower capped at ₹200 crore.
- ✓ It also aims to provide full guarantee loans up to Rs 2 crore to hospitals for setting up oxygen plants.
- ✓ The ECLGS was introduced by the government under Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan package to provide relief to small businesses after the first phase of the lockdown last year in March 2020
- ✓ Under the latest ECLGS 4.0, an additional 10% of credit limits can be provided and more time can be given to eligible borrowers.
- ✓ The current ceiling of Rs 500 crore of loan outstanding for eligibility under ECLGS 3.0 has been removed
- ✓ However, it is subject to maximum additional ECLGS assistance to each borrower being limited to 40% or Rs 200 crore, whichever is lower.
- ✓ The scheme provided for guarantees on loans of up to Rs 3 lakh crore.

HOSPITALS GET UP TO ₹2CR COVER	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In the fourth iteration of the credit guarantee scheme for businesses hit by Covid (ECLGS 4.0), the aviation sector will be covered for the first time ➤ In ECLGS 4.0, loans to healthcare facilities will get 100% guarantee cover up to Rs 2 crore ➤ Borrowers who availed loans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> under ECLGS 1.0 can seek an additional year of moratorium on the principal amount ➤ ECLGS 1.0 borrowers can now get assistance of up to 10% of outstanding as on Feb 29 ➤ The current upper limit of loan outstanding at Rs 500 crore for eligibility under ECLGS 3.0 will be removed

- ✓ Banks have sanctioned loans worth over ₹2.5 lakh crore under the scheme, of which ₹2.4 lakh crore has been disbursed.
- ✓ In ECLGS 1.0, borrowers could avail of a loan of four years and repay only interest for the first year.
- ✓ If eligible for restructuring, they can now extend the loan for five years by repaying only the interest component in the first two years.

- ✓ Under ECLGS 4.0, the loans to hospitals, nursing homes and medical colleges for setting up an oxygen plant would be available at a concessional interest rate of 7.5%.
- **The India Meteorological Department (IMD) – has announced that the monsoon onset over Kerala is likely to take place by June 3**
- ✓ The IMD had on May 14 predicted it to be around May 31 with model error of +/- 4 days.
- ✓ The normal onset date of the southwest monsoon falls on June 1 with a standard deviation of seven days.
- ✓ The IMD has been issuing operational forecasts for the date of monsoon onset over Kerala from 2005 onwards.
- ✓ It claimed that the operational forecasts of the date of monsoon onset over the state during the past 16 years (2005-2020) were proved to be correct except in 2015.
- ✓ The IMD is expected to come out with its second stage monsoon forecast, within a day or two, based on a new model — called the Multi-Model Ensemble (MME) forecasting system
- ✓ The MME is considered the most advanced and comprehensive system to arrive at monsoon forecast
- ✓ It forecasts “spatial distribution” of seasonal rainfall for four geographical regions along with the “regionally averaged rainfall forecasts” for better regional level planning of activities.

OBITUARY

- **Human rights activist, veteran Marxist leader and Scholar, Mythily Sivaraman (82 years) – passed away due to Covid-19 on May 30**



- ✓ She was instrumental in drawing national attention to the Vachathi mass rapes of tribal women, perpetrated by the forest department personnel under the pretext of identifying aides of forest smuggler, Veerappan

- ✓ Born in 1937 and educated in Syracuse University, Mythili was at the forefront of various struggles associated with women and worker-centric issues.
- ✓ Mythili was the former vice president and co-founder, with veteran leader Pappa Umanath and K.P. Janakiammal, of the Tamil Nadu unit of the All India Democratic Women's Association (AIDWA), the women's wing of the CPI (M), in 1973
- ✓ Her activism began after she returned to India in 1968 after working for nearly two years as a research assistant in the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations.
- ✓ She has written widely on the massacre of 44 Dalit agricultural labourers in Kilvenmani in Thanjavur district.
- ✓ She met the Gandhians - Jegannathan and Krishnammal Jegannathan - in Thanjavur district who were working among peasants and Dalits then and took their inputs.
- ✓ It was through her writings that the 1992 Vachathi mass rapes were documented in detail.
- ✓ She visited the tribal villages and interviewed many of the rape survivors in the remote village in Dharmapuri district.
- ✓ Mythili cofounded socialist journal 'Radical Review' to highlight issues on international sociopolitical issues
- ✓ She joined the Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) of the CPI (M) to create a political space for her activities
- ✓ Her works spanning over nearly two decades were compiled in a book titled- 'Haunted by Fire: Essays on Caste, Class, Exploitation and Emancipation.'
- ✓ Mythili was one of the members of the fact-finding Committee that probed the police firing on fishermen at Nadukuppam during the regime of M.G. Ramachandran.
- ✓ Chief Minister M K Stalin condoled her death

SPORTS

- **Chelsea - won their second Champions League title after prevailing over Manchester City by a solitary goal in all-English final at the Estadio Do Dragao, Porto**
- ✓ The German youngster, Kai Havertz scored a first-half goal in the 42nd minute to decide a tight encounter played in front of a 16,500 crowd.
- ✓ With this, Chelsea became the third English side to win the Champions League on two occasions after emerging winners in 2012
- ✓ The other two-time winners are Liverpool (2004-05 and 2018-19) and Manchester United (1998-99 and 2007-08).
- ✓ Premier League champions, Manchester City were favourites ahead of the final
- ✓ Their high-profile coach, Pep Guardiola won three of the last four Premier League titles for City
- ✓ He was also the winner of the coveted European trophy with Barcelona in 2011

CHELSEA WIN BATTLE OF BLUES & CL
 An admirer of City manager Pep Guardiola, Chelsea counterpart Thomas Tuchel won the Champions League by beating the former in a tactical battle



Chelsea won 1-0 & lifted the CL after 9 years

<p>▼ Chelsea are the 3rd English side to win the CL twice, after Liverpool (2004-05 & 2018-19) & Man Utd (1998-99 & 2007-08)</p>	<p>▼ Guardiola has lost more matches against Chelsea in all competitions (8) than any other club in his career</p>
<p>▼ Tuchel is the 3rd different German manager to win the CL in last 3 yrs after Jurgen Klopp (Liverpool, '19) & Hansi Flick (Bayern, 20)</p>	<p>▼ Chelsea keeper Mendy's 9 clean sheets the most by any custodian in his maiden Champions League season</p>



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- ✓ For Chelsea's German manager Thomas Tuchel, the triumph comes after his Paris St. Germain side suffered defeat in last season's final against Bayern Munich
- ✓ Thomas Tuchel took over from Frank Lampard at the west London club, Chelsea, just four months before.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

➤ World No Tobacco Day - May 31



- ✓ The observance of the day aims to raise awareness about the ill effects of tobacco and its associated deaths, which are preventable
- ✓ Theme 2021 - "Commit to Quit"

- ✓ In 1987, the World Health Organisation passed a resolution announcing April 7, 1988, as 'World No Smoking Day'.
- ✓ This was announced to ensure people not using tobacco for at least 24 hours on the day
- ✓ Later in 1988, the World Health Organisation passed another resolution that World No Tobacco Day will be observed on May 31.
- ✓ In 2008, the WHO banned any kind of advertisement or promotion about tobacco, acknowledging its ill-effects
- ✓ Lancet has identified Tobacco control as a crucial step to reach WHO's global goal of 25% reduction in "premature mortality" from non-communicable diseases by 2025 to comply with UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- ✓ Every year, 8 million deaths are caused due to smoking of tobacco, while its associated economic loss is pegged at more than US \$1 trillion
- ✓ China, India, Indonesia, USA, Russia, Bangladesh, Japan, Turkey, Vietnam, and Philippines were ranked as the Top 10 countries with the largest number of tobacco users
- ✓ Smoking any kind of tobacco reduces lung capacity and increases the severity of respiratory diseases.

