

## **EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MAY 21, 2023**

### **SCHEMES**

- On May 17, the Madhya Pradesh cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan - approved the 'Mukhya Mantri Sikho Kamao Yojana' for unemployed youth in the state



- ✓ Under the scheme, at least one lakh youths will be provided skill development with on-the-job training facilities across several sectors in various establishments.
  - ✓ These sectors include engineering, hotel management, tourism, travel, hospital services, ITI, software development, banking, insurance, accounting, chartered accountancy, financial services, industries, and MSME industry.
- ✓ Establishments will be able to train student trainees up to 15% of their total workforce.
- ✓ Under the scheme, trainees who have passed class 12th or below will be given a stipend of Rs 8,000, ITI passed Rs 8,500, diploma passed Rs 9,000 and graduate passed or those with higher educational qualification Rs 10,000 per month.
- ✓ According to the terms, 75% amount of stipend will be paid by DBT to the trainee on behalf of the state government, while the concerned establishment will have to deposit 25% of the prescribed minimum stipend in the bank account of the trainee.
- ✓ Local residents of Madhya Pradesh, 18 to 29 years old youth, whose educational qualification is 12th or ITI or higher, will be eligible to join the scheme.

- ✓ After the training, the State Council for Vocational Training (SCVT) certificate will be given by the Madhya Pradesh State Skill Development and Employment Generation Board (MPSSDEGB).
- ✓ The scheme will be operated by the Empowered Committee constituted under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary.

## STATES

- **Senior Congress leader Siddaramaiah - took oath as Karnataka Chief Minister at the Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru on May 20**



- ✓ Along with him, Congress's state unit chief DK Shivakumar was sworn in as the cabinet minister and has been designated as the state's sole deputy chief minister.
- ✓ Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot administered the oath of office and secrecy to both leaders at the swearing-in ceremony.
- ✓ Eight ministers — all senior MLAs, including G Parameshwara, a former deputy CM and state Congress head in 2013 – were also sworn in during the event
- ✓ Siddaramaiah has become the Chief Minister for the second time after his earlier five-year stint from 2013
- ✓ Siddaramaiah holds the distinction of being only the third CM of Karnataka (after S Nijalingappa and D Devaraj Urs) to complete a full term (2013-18).
- ✓ Several leaders, including Bihar CM Nitish Kumar, Tamil Nadu CM M.K. Stalin, Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot, former Madhya Pradesh CM Kamal Nath, Bihar Deputy CM Tejashwi Yadav, NCP chief Sharad Pawar, former J&K CM Mehbooba Mufti, and National Conference leader Farooq Abdullah, attended the event.
- ✓ During the first cabinet meeting of the newly-formed government, a decision was made to fulfil the five guarantees promised to voters in the Congress party's election manifesto.
- ✓ These guarantees include providing Rs.1,500 stipends to the unemployed diploma holders and Rs. 3,000 for unemployed graduates for two years (YuvaNidhi scheme), granting Rs.2,000 to women heads of families (Gruha

Lakshmi scheme), offering 200 units of free electricity (Gruha Jyoti scheme), enabling free bus travel for women (Shakti scheme), and providing free 10 kilograms of rice to the underprivileged (Anna Bhagya scheme)

- **On May 19, the Centre and Assam government - signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at promoting riverine tourism along the river Brahmaputra.**



- ✓ The signing ceremony was held in the presence of Chief Minister of Assam, Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma and the Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Ayush, Sarbananda Sonowal in Guwahati, Assam
  - ✓ The project, executed via a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), is likely to be completed with an investment of Rs.45 crore and will be completed within 12 months.
  - ✓ The MoU was signed by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), Sagarmala Development Company Limited (SDCL), Assam Tourism Development Corporation (ATDC) and Department of Inland Waterways Transport (DIWT) of Assam government.
  - ✓ Under the MoU, a "Riverine Based Religious Tourism Circuit" will be developed, covering seven historic religious sites located near Guwahati.
    - ✓ The identified sites include Kamakhya, Pandunath, Ashwalknata, Douli Govinda, Umananda, Chakreshwar, and Auniati Satra.
  - ✓ The agreement also includes plans for a modern ferry service operating on a "Hop On Hop Off" model, facilitating convenient access for tourists.
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- **In her maiden visit to Kerala, President Droupadi Murmu - inaugurated the silver jubilee celebrations of Kudumbashree, the largest self-help group network in the country, on May 17, 2023**
  - ✓ The president had also released a handbook titled *chuvadu* (footsteps) that deals with ideas for the movement's future and the achievements it has gained so far.





- ✓ Kudumbashree was launched in Malappuram 25 years ago by Prime Minister AB Vajpayee as an all-women poverty alleviation programme with members hailing primarily from lower-income families of the state.
  - ✓ From the beginning, it has been functioning under the local self-government department by accepting financial support from the union government and NABARD.
  - ✓ In the subsequent years, Kerala has witnessed how those women became part of grassroots planning for employment generation, poverty alleviation and women empowerment
  - ✓ Kudumbashree began as a cluster of microcredit neighbourhood groups with thrift and credit activities, creating many crisis managers and entrepreneurs of humble origins over the years.
  - ✓ The scheme transformed ordinary women from poverty-ridden families into agents of change and recovery in critical times like the flood and the pandemic.
  - ✓ At the primary level, Kudumbashree is the collective of Neighbourhood Groups (NHG), Area Development Societies (ADS) at the ward level and Community Development Societies (CDS) at the local government level.
  - ✓ The organisation currently has 306,551 NHGs, 19,470 ADSs and 1070 CDSs.
  - ✓ Kudumbashree is currently undertaking consultancy work on women empowerment in 13 other states.
- **Madhya Pradesh capital, Bhopal - has become the first city in India to accept the localization of the United Nations (UN)-mandated Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)**
- ✓ The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, also known as Agenda 2030, is being translated into local actions and impacts by the state, as part of the SDGs localization process
  - ✓ Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan had earlier on May 12 officially unveiled the 'Agenda for Action: Sustainable Urban Transformation' in Bhopal.
  - ✓ Voluntary Local Reviews (VLR) will now be conducted in Bhopal to show the abilities and commitments of the government.

- ✓ The Agenda 2030, which includes 17 SDGs and 169 goals, was endorsed by all 193 UN members earlier in 2015 as a strategy for prosperity of the planet.
- ✓ Earlier in 2018, New York became the first city to submit its VLR to the UN's High-Level Political Forum (HLPF).

## NATIONAL

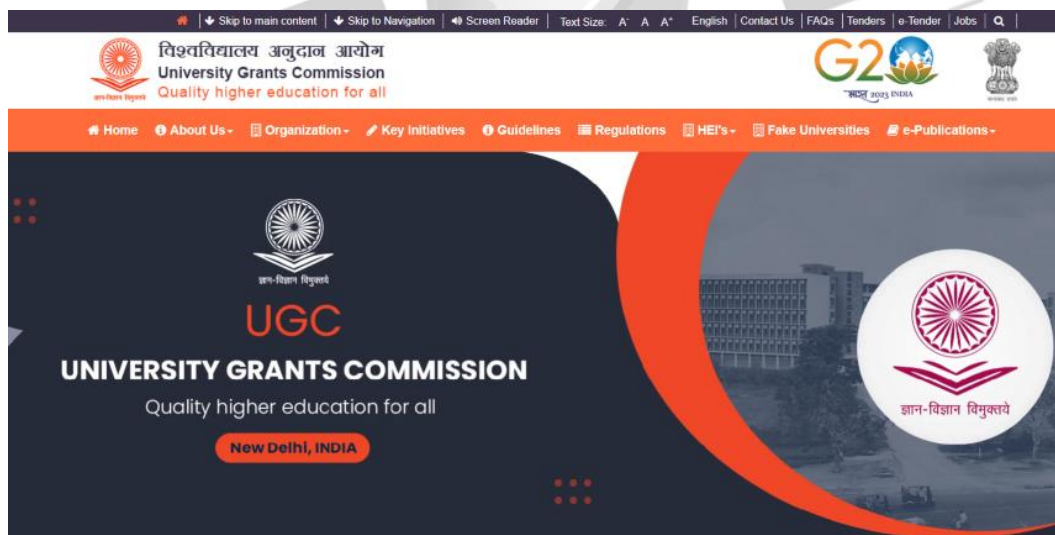
- **Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying Parshottam Rupala - launched the Sagar Parikrama Yatra - Phase-V in Karanja in the Raigad district of Maharashtra recently on May 17**



- ✓ The Government of India has started phase-V of the 'Sagar Parikrama' from the Gateway of India in Mumbai to the Coastal parts of Goa.
  - ✓ During this journey, certificates/sanctions related to Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), KCC (Kisan Credit Card) and state schemes will be awarded to fishermen, especially coastal fishermen.
  - ✓ The 'Sagar Parikrama' aims to resolve issues of fishermen and other stakeholders and facilitate their economic upliftment through various schemes.
  - ✓ The Program 'Sagar Parikrama' has successfully completed four phases, covering 19 locations in Gujarat, Daman & Diu, Maharashtra, and Karnataka.
- **The Union Health Ministry - unveiled the ambitious "75/25" initiative on May 17, on the eve of World Hypertension Day**



- ✓ The program aims to ensure that 75 million individuals suffering from hypertension and diabetes receive standardised care by 2025, primarily through Primary Health Centers (PHCs).
  - ✓ Under the initiative, the government plans to train approximately 40,000 Primary Health Care Medical Officers on the Standard Treatment Workflow for non-communicable diseases (NCDs).
  - ✓ This training will be facilitated through the Shashakt Portal, enabling healthcare professionals to provide improved services at the community level.
  - ✓ The initiative was announced at the G20 co-branded event “Accelerating the Prevention and Management of Hypertension and Diabetes”, organised by Union Health Ministry and WHO
  - ✓ The Outcome Budget document of Union Budget 2023-2024 has for the first time introduced hypertension and diabetes treatment as output indicators reflecting the government's commitment to scale-up hypertension and diabetes coverage services.
- **On May 16, the University Grants Commission (UGC) - launched Professors of Practice (PoP) and UTSAH portals along with a new redesigned website of UGC**



- ✓ The UTSAH (Undertaking Transformative Strategies and Actions in Higher Education) portal has been launched to efficiently track and support the implementation process of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020
  - ✓ It will serve as a repository for Regulations, Guidelines, and Frameworks issued by the UGC, ensuring easy accessibility for all stakeholders.
  - ✓ The portal provides a platform for higher education institutions to showcase their achievements, share best practices, and engage in knowledge-sharing with other institutions.
- ✓ On the other hand, the PoP portal has been launched to make it easier for academic institutions to recruit all experienced professionals.



- ✓ The PoP portal will facilitate the hiring of experienced professionals in various fields, bridging the gap between academia and industry
- ✓ Experts having proven expertise of minimum 15 years will be applicable for the PoP posts.
- ✓ The commission introduced the professor of practice scheme in August last year for higher education institutions as a part of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 implementation.
- **On May 17, the Indian government – has launched the Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR) system across the country for tracking the lost or stolen mobile phones**



- ✓ The Centre for Department of Telematics (CDoT), a technology development body, has been running the pilot of the CEIR system in some of the telecom circles, including Delhi, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Northeast region
- ✓ The new system will enable people to block and track their lost mobile phones.
- ✓ The CEIR system is equipped with an in-built mechanism that allows it to detect the use of cloned mobile phones across all telecom networks
- ✓ The new system will provide telecom operators with access to both the IMEI number of the device and the associated mobile number
- ✓ Recently, the Karnataka Police used the CEIR system to recover and hand over more than 2,500 lost mobile phones to their owners.
- **The government - launched "Meri LiFE" (My Life) mobile application to empower young people and encourage their participation in tackling climate change.**

- ✓ As a build up to June 5 - World Environment Day, Meri LiFE App has been launched by Bhupender Yadav, Union Minister for Environment, Forest, and Climate Change recently on May 15



- ✓ The app will help to track the progress being made on Mission LiFE
- ✓ The app is inspired by the concept of LiFE, envisioned at COP 26, which emphasizes mindful and deliberate utilization instead of mindless and wasteful consumption of natural resources.
- ✓ To facilitate the monitoring of progress, the ministry has developed two dedicated portals - the Mission LiFE Portal and the Meri LiFE Portal
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched 'Mission LiFE' on 20 October 2022 at Kevadia, Gujarat.
- ✓ LiFE stands for lifestyle for environment.
- ✓ The mission focuses on bringing about behaviour changes in individuals through simple and easy to do actions.
- ✓ The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is the nodal ministry for national-level coordination and implementation of Mission LiFE
- ✓ This drive will culminate on 5 June 2023 in a mega celebration of World Environment Day, which aims to raise environmental awareness among people across the globe.
- ✓ The missionlife-moefcc.nic.in is an open access website and can be used to download various creatives, videos, and knowledge materials developed by the Ministry for LiFE.

## INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS

- **On May 18, the Indian government - has launched “Operation Karuna” to provide humanitarian assistance to Cyclone Mocha-hit Myanmar.**
- ✓ Under the operation, Indian naval ships INS Shivalik, INS Kamorta, INS Savitri and INS Gharial carrying 40 tonnes of relief material reached Yangon, Myanmar on May 18 and 19.





- ✓ The ships were carrying emergency food items, tents, essential medicines, water pumps, portable generators, clothes, sanitary and hygiene items, etc.
- ✓ With coastal winds reaching up to 250 kilometers per hour during landfall off the Bay of Bengal, the storm tore through villages in Myanmar's Rakhine state

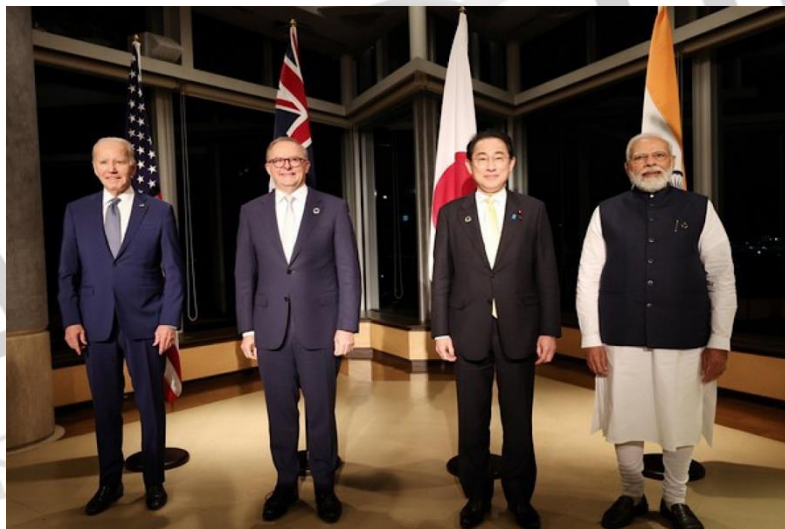
## CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi – addressed the G7 session on ‘Working Together to Address Multiple Crisis’ at the G7 Summit, in Hiroshima, Japan on May 20**



- ✓ During his address, the PM gave a 10-point call to action to address food, health and development-related issues plaguing the world
- ✓ PM Modi's 10-point “call to action” included the need to create an inclusive food system with focus on the world's most vulnerable, mainly marginal farmers.
- ✓ The PM called for strengthening global fertiliser supply chains by removing political barriers and hoped the G-7 summit would be useful in creating an important link between the agenda of the G20 and the G7

- ✓ For global food security, the PM suggested adoption of millets as a way to nutritional and environmental benefits, stopping wastage of food and developing alternative models to fertilisers.
- ✓ For health security, the PM suggested developing resilient healthcare systems, pursuing holistic healthcare and traditional medicine systems, and promoting digital health to ensure global universal health coverage.
- ✓ He further suggested taking efforts to ensure mobility of healthcare professionals and building development models inspired by the needs of developing countries and not driven by consumerism.
- ✓ On Women Empowerment, the PM noted that India has a woman president and that 33% of seats in local government are reserved for women
- ✓ In addition to these key highlights, PM Modi also spoke about a number of other issues, including climate change, digital technology, and infrastructure
- ✓ US President Joe Biden, Australian PM Anthony Albanese, Japanese PM Fumio Kishida & PM Modi attended the Quad meeting in Hiroshima on the sidelines of the summit



- ✓ PM Modi announced in his opening remarks India will host the Quad summit next year.
- ✓ For the first time, the joint statement of Quad leaders' together explicitly expressed their "deep concern" over the war raging in Ukraine
- ✓ Biden is the second US sitting president after Barack Obama to visit Hiroshima, the site of the world's first nuclear attack.
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi met his British counterpart Rishi Sunak, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, Indonesian President Joko Widodo and UN chief Antonio Guterres on the sidelines of the G7 summit
- ✓ Further, Prime Minister Modi also held in-person talks with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on the sidelines of the G7 summit.
- ✓ It is the first in-person meeting between the two leaders after the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February last year.

- ✓ The Ukrainian president is also attending the G7 summit following an invitation by Japan, the current chair of the powerful G7 grouping.



- ✓ PM Modi met Dr. Tomio Mizokami, Professor Emeritus at the Graduate School of Foreign Studies of Osaka University, a renowned author, linguist, and proficient in Hindi and Punjabi languages.
  - ✓ Mizokami was conferred the Padma Shri in 2018 for his contribution to the promotion of Indian literature and culture in Japan.
  - ✓ He presented the widely acclaimed book “Jwalamukhi”– an anthology of writings from the 1980s by a cohort of Japanese scholars who laid the foundation of Hindi learning in Japan
- ✓ Further, Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled a 42-inch bronze bust of Mahatma Gandhi in Hiroshima.



- ✓ The bust site, adjacent to the Motoyasu River, is close to the iconic A-Bomb Dome
- ✓ The Prime Minister arrived in Hiroshima on May 19 to attend the annual summit of the G7 grouping in the first leg of his three-nation tour that will also take him to Papua New Guinea and Australia.
- ✓ Prime Minister Modi is in Hiroshima to attend three sessions at the G7 Summit following an invitation by his Japanese counterpart Fumio Kishida.
- ✓ The agenda of the annual summit includes nuclear disarmament, regional issues, climate change, energy security, food, health, economic security and resilience.
- ✓ During his visit, India will be actively involved in three official sessions during May 20 and 21



- ✓ The first session, scheduled for May 20, prioritize discussions on health, gender, food, and development.
- ✓ On May 21, Prime Minister Modi will take part in the second session dedicated to environment, energy, climate change, while the final session of the day will revolve around achieving a “peaceful, stable, and prosperous world.”
- ✓ The G7 comprises the US, the UK, France, Italy, Germany, Canada and Japan.
- ✓ Japan, the current chair of the grouping, invited India and seven other countries to the summit.
- ✓ The inaugural summit took place in 1975, with France as the host of the Group of Six meeting.

## DEFENCE

- **Indian Navy’s newly inducted MH-60 Romeo helicopter – undertook its maiden landing on the indigenously designed and constructed destroyer INS Kolkata in the Arabian Sea on May 19**



- ✓ The integration of the MH-60 Romeo helicopter with the Indian Navy warships will boost the Navy's capabilities to carry out anti-submarine warfare underwater
- ✓ In 2019, the Indian Navy placed an order for 24 MH-60 Romeo helicopters from the United States.
- ✓ The MH-60R is manufactured by Lockheed Martin
- ✓ The MH-60 Romeo helicopters are one of the most advanced multi-mission helicopters currently used around the world.
- ✓ These helicopters are known for their Anti- Submarine Warfare (ASW), surveillance, anti-shipping, and search & rescue capabilities.
- ✓ The Indian Navy received the first batch of two Lockheed Martin-Sikorsky MH-60R multi-role helicopters at Kochi in July 2022

- **The Gajraj Coprs of the Indian Army - conducted a joint flood relief exercise named 'Exercise Jal Rahat' at Hagrama Bridge on Manas River, Assam on May 16.**



- ✓ The aim of the exercise was to boost flood relief preparedness ahead of the monsoon floods in the state and coordinate preparedness by multi-agency flood relief columns.
  - ✓ The exercise witnessed the participation of various agencies such as the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), and police representatives.
  - ✓ The event included coordination and rehearsals for rescue mission of people from inundated areas by joint efforts of specialist teams from Army, NDRF and SDRF.
- **The fourth edition of the Indo-Indonesia bilateral exercise Samudra Shakti-23 - concluded in the South China Sea.**



- ✓ The sea phase held from 17th to 19th May witnessed the participation of ASW corvette INS Kavaratti with an integral Chetak helicopter and a Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft of the Indian Navy.
- ✓ According to the Defence Ministry, the exercise has enhanced interoperability between the two navies.
- ✓ KRI Sultan Iskandar Muda with an integral helicopter Panther and a CN 235 Maritime Patrol Aircraft participated in the exercise from the Indonesian Navy.

- ✓ During the exercise, a series of complex exercises including tactical manoeuvres, weapon firings, helicopter operations, Air defence and Anti-Submarine warfare exercises were undertaken.

## AWARDS

- **Tata Group Chairman N Chandrasekaran - has been given France's highest civilian award 'Chevalier de la Legion d'honneur' (Knight of the Legion of Honour) for his contributions to strengthen the trade relationship between India and France.**



- ✓ French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Catherine Colonna gave the award to Chandrasekaran on behalf of the French President.
- ✓ The Indo-French Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IFCCI), in collaboration with Business France, hosted the 5th edition of the Indo-French Business Awards (IFBA) and Grand Prix VIE on May 16
- ✓ Natarajan Chandrasekaran was appointed as the Chairman of Tata Sons in 2017, taking over from Cyrus Mistry and in February 2022, was given a second-term in the role for another five years.
- ✓ Till 2017, Chandrasekaran served as the CEO and MD of TCS for eight years.
- ✓ He also served on the board of the Reserve Bank of India from 2016 to 2022, further contributing to his remarkable career.
- ✓ Over the course of his more than two-decade-long tenure at TCS, he steadily climbed the ranks and became the CEO in 2009.
- ✓ Chandrasekaran has also been appointed as the chair of B20 India by the Central government.
- ✓ In this role, he will lead the business agenda during India's G20 presidency.
- ✓ He is also heading the new Economic Advisory Council of Maharashtra, which was announced by the state government in December 2022.
- ✓ Earlier this year, Tata Group-owned Air India had signed a multi-billion dollar deal with Airbus to buy 250 aircraft from Airbus, which included 210 A320 neo planes and 40 A350 aircraft.



- ✓ Last year in December, Tata Technologies inaugurated its innovation centre in Toulouse, France

## SPORTS

- **India - ended their Archery World Cup 2023 stage 2 campaign in Shanghai, China, with four medals – three gold and one bronze – on May 20**



- ✓ Indian archer Prathamesh Jawkar defeated World number one Mike Schloesser of the Netherlands to win a maiden World Cup gold medal in the men's individual compound section.
- ✓ In the non-Olympic compound section, India bagged two gold with the mixed team duo of Ojas Deotale and Jyothi Surekha Vennam beating top-seeded Korean team
- ✓ This was a successive World Cup gold medal for the mixed pair duo after winning gold in the Antalya leg last month.
- ✓ Earlier, in the Compound mixed team event on May 19, mixed team duo of Sheetal and Rakesh also bagged gold medal.
- ✓ Meanwhile, Avneet Kaur won bronze medal in the women's individual compound category with a victory over Ipek Tomruk of Turkey.

