

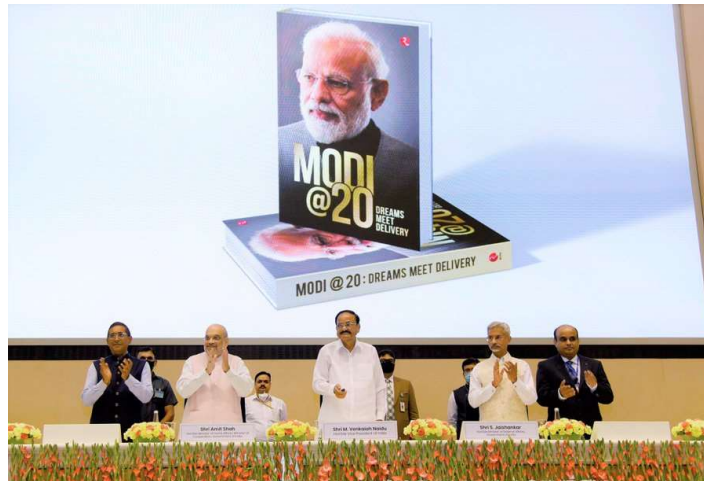
EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MAY 12, 2022

TAMIL NADU

- **Twelve panchayats in Tamil Nadu - bagged the annual national panchayat awards 'Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Sashaktikaran Puraskar' of the Union ministry of panchayati raj for 'best performance'.**
- ✓ The district panchayat of Tiruvannamalai, panchayat unions of Manachanallur (Trichy) and Mandapam (Ramanathapuram), panchayats of Akkaraipatti (Dindigul), Manmangalam (Karur), Chinnapatti (Madurai), Athikattuvelai (Kanyakumari), Gangaleri (Krishnagiri) and Kattathi (Pudukottai) bagged the national awards for improving delivery of services.
- ✓ Sathanur Panchayat in Ramanathapuram won Nanaji Deshmukh Rashtriya Gaurav Gram Sabha Puraskar for outstanding contribution to the socio-economic development
- ✓ Thuvar in Sivaganga bagged Gram Panchayat Development Plan Award and Kunjapanai panchayat in The Nilgiris won Child friendly Gram Panchayat Award.

NATIONAL

- **Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu - launched a compilation of 21 articles from experts titled "Modi @ 20: Dreams Meet Delivery" at a function in Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi on May 11**
- ✓ Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Union External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur and Union Minister of Minority Affairs Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi were present during the occasion
- ✓ 'Modi@20' is an anthology edited and compiled by BlueKraft Digital Foundation
- ✓ It is a compilation of chapters authored by eminent intellectuals and domain experts on Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- ✓ The Vice President at the launch event called PM Modi a "phenomenon at the national level".
- ✓ According to the Vice President, the authors have masterfully narrated the iconic leader's fascinating journey of public life for 20 years



- ✓ The book covers the experiential journey of PM Modi since he left his house at a young age of 17 on a mission of knowing himself, his country and finally defining the mission of transforming India.
 - ✓ It also speaks of PM Modi's vision, his dreams and mission India have been shaped by his extensive travels and insightful journey.
 - ✓ PM Modi is the first Prime Minister born after independence, who served as the Chief Minister of Gujarat for about 13 years and over the last eight years as the Prime Minister.
- **On May 11, Cyclone Asani - made landfall in coastal Andhra Pradesh and weakened into a depression**



- ✓ Asani is the first cyclonic storm of the season that gave widespread rains over coastal Andhra Pradesh, Rayalaseema, Odisha and West Bengal
- ✓ The system will now move north towards Narsapuram, Yanam and Tuni as predicted by IMD
- ✓ Also, the only notable harm to life occurred on the beaches of southern Odisha, where lakhs of eggs laid by the endangered olive ridley sea turtles were washed into the sea by the high and stormy tidal waves
- ✓ Sri Lanka gave the name 'Asani', which means 'wrath' in Sinhalese language
- ✓ The cyclone that will form after Asani will be called Sitrang, and the name has been given by Thailand.

INTERNATIONAL

- **The United Kingdom - has confirmed first case of Monkeypox, the virus that passed from infected animals such as rats to humans.**



- ✓ The virus has been found in a person who recently travelled to Nigeria.
- ✓ According to the WHO, human cases of monkeypox have been recorded in 15 countries across four continents, including in the United States, Israel, Singapore, South Sudan and Benin in Africa
- ✓ Monkeypox is a rare disease caused by infection with Monkeypox virus, belonging to the Orthopoxvirus genus in the family Poxviridae, that does not spread easily between people
- ✓ Monkeypox cases were last recorded in the U.K. in 2018, when three people, including a health worker, had contracted the infection
- ✓ According to World health Organization (WHO), the zoonotic disease occurs primarily in tropical rainforest areas of Central and West Africa and is occasionally detected in other regions.
- ✓ Fever, skin rashes, intense headache, back pain, muscle aches (myalgia), intense asthenia (lack of energy) and swollen lymph nodes are the common symptoms associated with Monkeypox.
- ✓ The incubation period (interval from infection to onset of symptoms) of monkeypox is usually from 6 to 13 days but can range from 5 to 21 days, according to the WHO.
- ✓ According to the US-CDC, the disease was discovered in 1958 and the first case of human transmission was reported in 1970 in Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)
- ✓ There is currently no specific treatment recommended for Monkeypox, as per the WHO.
- ✓ However, vaccination against smallpox is found to be about 85% effective in preventing the disease
- ✓ Apart from rodents, rope squirrels, tree squirrels, dormice, primates and other species too have been found to be carrying the virus

APPOINTMENTS

- **Arun Majumdar, Indian-American material scientist, engineer and professor - has been named the inaugural dean of Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability**
- ✓ This is Stanford University's new school that focuses on climate change and sustainability.



- ✓ To be launched on September 1, the university's first new school in 70 years aims to accelerate solutions to the global climate crisis.
- ✓ Originally from Kolkata, Majumdar got his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering at the IIT, Bombay in 1985 and his PhD from the University of California, Berkeley in 1989.
- ✓ He was nominated for the position of undersecretary of energy in the US between November 30, 2011 and May 15, 2012 but then the nomination was retracted.
- ✓ After leaving Washington DC, Majumdar served as the vice-president for energy at Google and then joined Stanford in 2014.
- ✓ He was the founding director of the Advanced Research Projects Agency – Energy, and currently serves as the chair of the advisory board to US secretary of energy.

SPORTS

- **On May 10, Indian athlete Jyothi Yarraji – created a new national record while winning 100m hurdles event at Cyprus with a timing of 13. 23 seconds.**
- ✓ The 22-year-old Andhra athlete won the gold in Cyprus international meet at Limassol under a head wind speed of 0.1 m/s.
- ✓ The old national record of 13. 38 seconds was in the name of Anuradha Biswal since 2002.
- ✓ This Cyprus International Meet is a World Athletics Continental Tour Challenger category D event.
- ✓ It has to be recalled that her national record effort was not counted due to wind assistance beyond legal limit last month



- ✓ Jyothi had clocked 13.09 seconds during the Federation Cup in Kozhikode last month but it was not counted as national record as the wind speed was +2.1 m/s, more than the permissible +2.0 m/s.
- **Rudranksh Patil clinched gold, while Abhinav Shaw bagged silver - to give India a double podium finish in the Junior men's 10m air rifle match at the ISSF Junior World Cup in Suhl, Germany, on May 11.**



- ✓ In the gold medal match, Rudranksh defeated Abhinav to top the podium, while the bronze went to Nils Palberg of Germany.
- ✓ The Indians qualified for the gold medal match after topping the final elimination stage.
- ✓ The format has been implemented by the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) for the first time in the juniors international level at Suhl.
- ✓ As per the new format, the shooters have to participate in the qualification round of 60 shots.
- ✓ The top-8 shooters then march to the first Elimination Stage, where they shoot 25 shots.
- ✓ The top-2 shooters will compete in the gold medal match, while the third shooter gets bronze.
- ✓ Rudranksh, who lives and trains in Thane, while Abhinav hails from Kolkata.

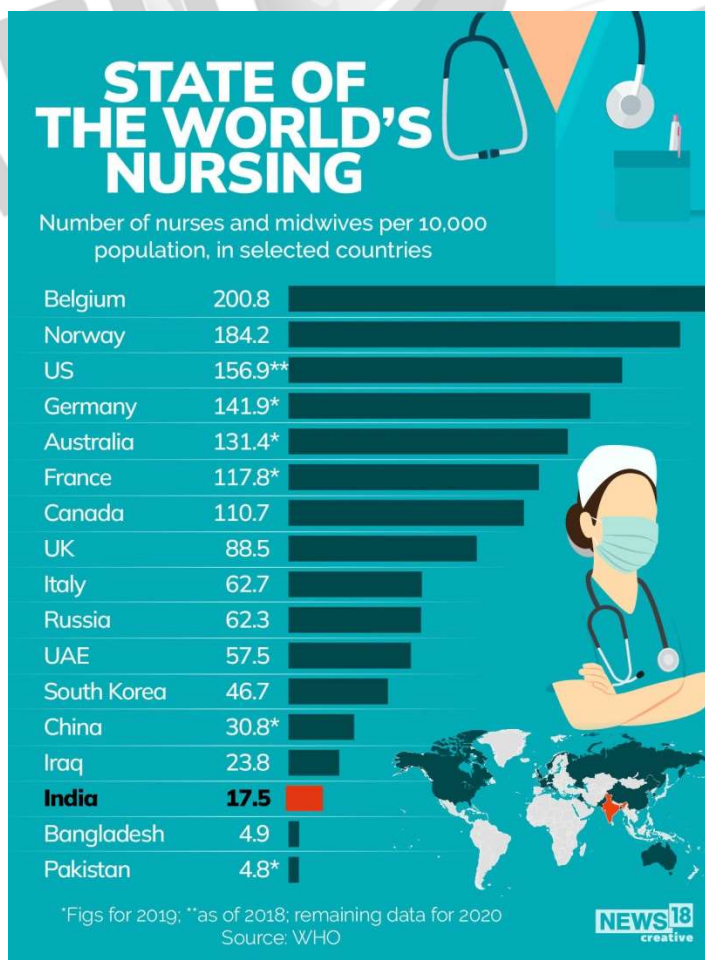
- ✓ Rudrankksh, 18, is currently the topranked shooter in the youth, junior and senior categories of 10m air rifle event.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

➤ International Nurses Day – May 12



- ✓ The Day is celebrated annually to honour and celebrate the invaluable and selfless contributions of nurses to sick patients all over the world
- ✓ The day is celebrated on Florence Nightingale's birth anniversary on May 12 every year.



- ✓ The special day was chosen by the International Council of Nurses and has been observed officially since 1965 to honour the 'founder of modern nursing.'
- ✓ Florence Nightingale is a British nurse and social reformer who dedicated her life to the improvement of the health sector.
- ✓ Florence Nightingale, who is remembered around the world as the “Lady with the Lamp,” took care of wounded soldiers of the British army and their allied forces during the Crimean War.
- ✓ She also established Nightingale Training School at St Thomas' Hospital in 1860 to provide training to aspiring nurses and healthcare workers.
- ✓ Theme 2022 - “Nurses: A Voice to Lead – Invest in Nursing and respect rights to secure global health.”
- ✓ In 1883, Florence Nightingale received the Royal Red Cross, in 1904, the Lady of Grace of the Order of St John, and in 1907, the Order of Merit.
- ✓ In February 1974, President Nixon announced a National Nurse Week, from May 6 to May 12 every year, while observing May 12 as the International Nurses Day

➤ **National Technology Day – May 11**



- ✓ India observes National Technology Day every year on May 11 to mark the anniversary of the Pokhran nuclear tests of 1998.
- ✓ The day was first officially celebrated on May 11, 1999, to commemorate the scientific and technological accomplishments associated with the first of the five nuclear tests conducted by India
- ✓ The creation of the day was officially signed by the then-Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee
- ✓ The day pays respect to scientists, researchers, and engineers for their technological contributions to the nation.
- ✓ The theme for the day this year is 'Integrated Approach in Science & Technology for Sustainable Future' - launched by union minister Jitendra Singh.
- ✓ On this day, the Technology Development Board (TDB) seeks applications for the national awards for the commercialization of technologies under three categories - National Awards, MSME awards, and Startup awards

- ✓ The Pokhran nuclear tests were a series of five nuclear bomb test explosions that were conducted at the Indian Army's Pokhran test range in Rajasthan's Thar desert under the guidance of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam
- ✓ The mission was codenamed Operation Shakti and was carried out in disguise
- ✓ With this test, India has become the sixth country to join the elite 'nuclear club'.
- ✓ Further, on this day, India's first indigenous aircraft, 'Hansa-3' took its first flight.

➤ **World Thalassemia Day – May 8**



- ✓ The day is observed every year to raise awareness about the struggle of patients suffering from the disease.
- ✓ Thalassemia is an inherited blood disorder that doesn't let the body to create enough haemoglobin, thereby weakening and destroying the blood cells.
- ✓ The disease is a genetic blood disorder that gets transferred from parents to their children.
- ✓ The individuals suffering from this disease have fewer red blood cells and haemoglobin in the body
- ✓ There are two types of thalassemia, alpha and beta, along with Thalassemia minor, intermedia and major as its subcategories.
- ✓ In the year 1994, Thalassemia International Federation (TIF) announced May 8 as International Thalassemia Day.
- ✓ The president and the founder of TIF, Panos Englezos, created this day in the loving memory of his son George and the other thalassemia patients who fought this disease
- ✓ Theme 2022 - 'Be Aware.Share.Care: Working with the global community as one to improve thalassemia knowledge.'

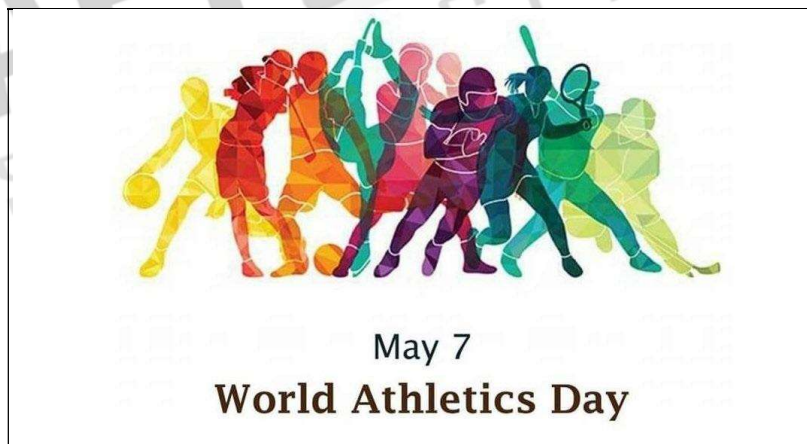
➤ **World Red Cross Day – May 8**

- ✓ World Red Cross Day also known as Red Crescent Day is celebrated on May 8 every year.



- ✓ This date marks the birth anniversary of Henry Dunant, who is the founder of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the recipient of the first Nobel Peace Prize
- ✓ The day is celebrated by the Red Cross society across all the countries
- ✓ World Red Cross Society provides for food shortages, natural disasters, wars as well as diseases and epidemics.
- ✓ Theme 2022 - 'Be Human Kind'
- ✓ The first World Red Cross Day was celebrated on May 8, 1948
- ✓ The official title of the day changed over time and became World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day in 1984.

➤ **World Athletics Day – May 7**



- ✓ The day is observed every year to raise awareness about the importance of fitness and playing sports, especially athletics.
- ✓ The day was first introduced in 1996 by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF)—now known as World Athletics—the international governing body for athletics.
- ✓ World Athletics Day is part of the IAAF's social responsibility project 'Athletics for a Better World'.
- ✓ In 1996, World Athletics Day was started by the then IAAF President Primo Nebiolo with a focus on fitness and health.

- ✓ IAAF was founded in Sweden on 17 July 1912 by 17 national athletic federations as the international governing body for the field of athletics
- ✓ The theme for the first World Athletics Day was based on the Centennial edition of the Olympic Games in Atlanta.
- ✓ The World Athletics federation and an international governing body for the field of athletics, IAAF, organises and sponsors this day every year.
- ✓ To mark the launch of the new Kids' Athletics programme, World Athletics will be celebrating Kids' Athletics Day on 7 May with organisations around the world
- ✓ Kids' Athletics Day has been created to encourage and give children the chance to participate in athletics, be active and learn new physical skills.
- ✓ Athletics is an exclusive category of competitive sports consisting of running, jumping, swimming, throwing and walking

REPORT

- **The number and duration of droughts - has risen 29% globally since 2000, as per a new report from the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) released on May 11**
- ✓ As per the report, the effect of severe droughts is estimated to have reduced India's gross domestic product (GDP) by 2-5% over the 20 years from 1998 to 2017
- ✓ The report was released on the sidelines of the ongoing 15th session of the UNCCD conference (COP15) at Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire
- ✓ The droughts represent 15% of natural disasters globally but took the largest human toll, causing approximately 650,000 deaths in 50 years (1970-2019).
- ✓ Globally, droughts caused economic losses of roughly \$124 billion during that period.
- ✓ Africa suffered severe drought more than any other continent with over 300 events recorded in the past 100 years, accounting for 44% of the global total droughts
- ✓ However, the highest total number of humans affected by drought was reported in Asia.

