

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MAY 23, 2022

### NATIONAL

- The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) fee panel headed by Justice Srikrishna - has recommended a minimum fee of Rs.79,600 a year and a maximum of Rs.1,89,800 for undergraduate engineering degrees.

The Union government has accepted the All India Council for Technical Education's (AICTE) recommendation to hike and fix new fee slab for engineering and other related courses.

B.E/B.Tech/B.Arch		M.E/M.Tech/M.Arch	
Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
Rs. 76,900	Rs. 1,89,800	Rs. 1,41,200	Rs. 3,04,000

3 Year Diploma		MBA/MCA	
Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
Rs. 67,900	Rs.1,40,900	Rs. 85,000	Rs.1,95,200

\*Fell Slab for annum

This is the first time AICTE has fixed a minimum fee slab and now the state governments will fix the fee slab in their states based on AICTE recommendations.

- ✓ The earlier panel has fixed only the maximum fees of Rs.1. 45 lakh a year.
- ✓ For diploma programmes, the new panel fixed minimum fees at Rs.67,900 and maximum Rs.1,40,900 a year.
- ✓ For PG engineering courses, the minimum annual fees is fixed at Rs.1,41,200 and maximum at Rs.3,04,000.
- ✓ For MCA, the panel suggested Rs.88,500 to Rs.1,94,100 and for management, the fee suggested is Rs.85,000 to Rs.1,95,200 a year.
- ✓ The Srikrishna panel also recommended that seventh pay commission recommendations be implemented for faculty members.
- ✓ The starting salary recommended for assistant professors is Rs.57,700 a month without allowances and Rs.83,657 with allowances.

- ✓ For faculty on contract, the committee recommends Rs.60,000 a month.
  - ✓ The fees were arrived at based on various costs including human resources, learning resources, IT infrastructure, operational and miscellaneous heads.
  - ✓ The panel also said the state-level fee regulatory committees need to fix the fees within the band it recommended.
  - ✓ Apart from tuition fees, the committee said institutions can charge development fees limited to 15% of the tuition fees.
  - ✓ The annual fee for government quota engineering seats in Tamil Nadu is Rs.50,000 (non-accredited courses) and Rs.55,000 (accredited courses).
  - ✓ Similarly, the annual fee is Rs.85,000 (non-accredited) and Rs.87,000 (accredited courses) for management quota seats
  - ✓ The revision comes now after the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) put a cap in 2015 on the maximum fee that can be charged by private technical institutes from students
  - ✓ In 2020, AICTE had constituted a committee under the chairmanship of Justice BN Srikrishna, a former Supreme Court judge, to review existing fee structure and fix norms as well as guidelines for charging tuition and other costs.
  - ✓ The committee had submitted its report in August 2021
  - ✓ There are over 6,500 private technical institutions affiliated to the AICTE.
  - ✓ The new fee structures will not be applicable for IITs and IIMs that do not require AICTE approval
- **Union Minister for Micro Small and Medium Enterprises Narayan Rane – inaugurated the country's first ever 'Centre of Excellence for Khadi' in New Delhi recently**



- ✓ The Centre of Excellence for Khadi has been established at the National Institute of Fashion Technology as a hub in Delhi and its spokes will function in Bangalore, Gandhinagar, Kolkata, and Shillong
- ✓ The Centre of Excellence will be aimed at designing apparel, home furnishing, and accessories for people from different age groups
- ✓ This centre will act as a hub for experimentation, innovation, and design for the Khadi Village and Industries Commission (KVIC).

- ✓ Further, the Minister launched the Centre of Excellence for Khadi website where the latest design and technology interventions will be uploaded for usage of the khadi institutions.
  - ✓ This knowledge portal will provide design directions on finer aspects like color, silhouettes, weave, surface, textures, prints, closures, size chart, and trims and finishes.
  - ✓ A memorandum of understanding (MoU) for setting up the Centre of Excellence for Khadi was signed between KVIC (Khadi and Village Industries Commission) and NIFT last year and the project will be implemented over a period of three years.
  - ✓ In order to promote Khadi production and development of its industry, the Indian government launched the All India Khadi and Village Industries Board in 1957, which later came to be known as Khadi Village and Industries Commission.
- **The National Skill Development Council International (NSDCI) and the Indian unit of UAE's DP World, Hindustan Ports Private Limited - have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to develop the country's first ever 'Skill India International Centre' at Varanasi recently**



- ✓ Union Minister of Education & Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Dharmendra Pradhan and Minister of State for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Rajeev Chandrasekar were present during the event
- ✓ The Centre will provide high quality training facilities to Indian youth and offer skills as per the demand of international employers in countries such as United Arab Emirates (UAE), Canada, Australia and other GCC regions.
- ✓ The Centre will skill Indian youth as per international standards and make them ready for jobs overseas in logistics, port operations and allied areas
- ✓ The Skill India International Centres will also have a wide network of partnering organisations and overseas recruiters to facilitate the supply of skilled and certified workforce in other countries.

- **The country's first ever organic waste-powered EV charging station – was recently inaugurated near Haji Ali in Mumbai**



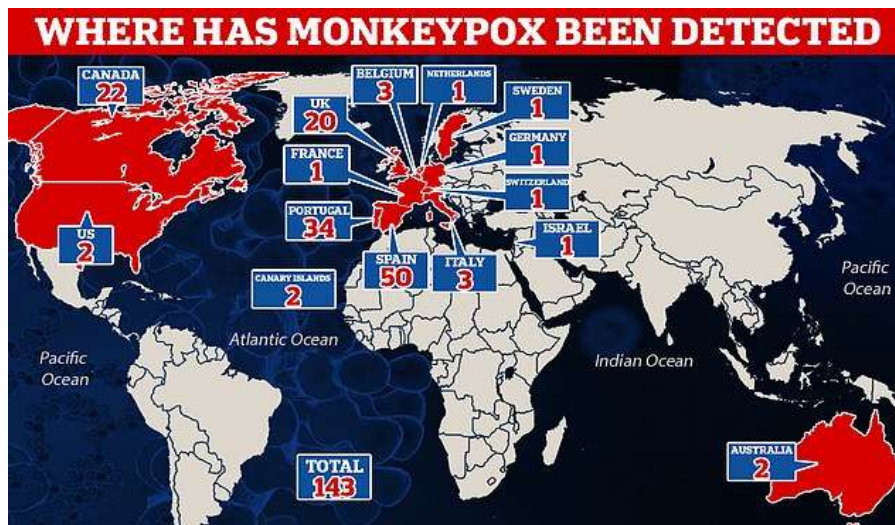
- ✓ The station will generate 220 units of electricity from food waste collected from its nearby areas, mostly from bulk generators like hotels and offices
  - ✓ This food waste to energy plant will power street lights and also charge electric vehicles
  - ✓ The inauguration of this bio-gas powered electronic vehicle charging station was done by Minister for Environment and Tourism Aaditya Thackeray
  - ✓ The project is a joint venture between the civic body and AeroCare Clean Energy.
- **Union Minister for MSME, Narayan Rane - launched the second phase of MSME RuPay Credit Card**



- ✓ The Minister launched the Card at the recently concluded National conference of MSME- Development Institutes, Testing Centres and Technology Centres
- ✓ The second phase of MSME RuPAY Credit Card is with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), Kotak Mahindra Bank, Bank of Baroda, SBM Bank (India) and HDFC Bank.
- ✓ This card will provide a simplified payment mechanism to MSMEs to meet their business related operational expenses.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

- **Belgium - has become the first country to introduce a compulsory 21-day monkeypox quarantine.**



- ✓ According to Belgian health authorities, those who contract the virus will now have to self-isolate for three weeks
- ✓ The move follows after three cases were recorded in the country
- ✓ Meanwhile, UK confirmed community transmission of monkeypox, after it witnessed daily infections that are unconnected to any travel to West Africa, where the disease is endemic.
- ✓ Israel, Switzerland and Austria have become the latest countries to confirm cases of monkeypox virus
- ✓ The WHO had earlier said that at least 92 monkeypox virus cases have been confirmed in 12 countries, including the US, Canada, Australia, UK, Spain, Portugal, Germany, Belgium, France, the Netherlands, Italy and Sweden.
- ✓ A first case of monkeypox was also confirmed in Austria, Switzerland and Israel by the health authorities
- ✓ There is no treatment but vaccination against smallpox has been found to be about 85% effective in preventing monkeypox.

## CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **US President Joe Biden – convened the second virtual summit on the Covid-19 pandemic recently**



- ✓ The summit was co-hosted by the United States, Belize, Germany, Indonesia, and Senegal.
- ✓ The virus has killed more than 995,000 people in the U.S. and at least 6.2 million people globally, according to figures released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization
- ✓ Eight months before, Biden used the first such summit to announce an ambitious pledge to donate 1.2 billion vaccine doses to the world
- ✓ The U.S. has shipped nearly 540 million vaccine doses to more than 110 countries and territories, according to the State Department — by far more than any other donor nation.

## APPOINTMENTS

- **The Infosys board - has reappointed Salil Parekh as CEO and MD for a five-year period effective July 1.**



- ✓ The decision was taken in the meeting of the company's Board of Directors held on May 21, 2022.
- ✓ Parekh took over as CEO and MD of Infosys in 2018
- ✓ Parekh will be the only non-founder CEO to have managed to be as the head of the company for a second term.
- ✓ Before joining Infosys Parekh was a member of the Group Executive Board at Capgemini, where he held several leadership positions for 25 years.
- ✓ He also served as a Partner at Ernst & Young and is widely credited for bringing scale and value to the Indian operations of the consultancy firm.
- ✓ Infosys has grown at a fast pace in the last three years under Parekh.
- ✓ For FY22, the company reported revenue of \$16.3 billion, which grew 19.7% year-on-year, one of its highest growth rate in a decade.

## SPORTS

- **Manchester City - won the Premier League title by a point from rivals Liverpool on the final day of the campaign on May 22.**

- ✓ Manchester City came back from two goals down in the second half to beat Aston Villa 3-2 in front of home supporters at the Etihad Stadium to be crowned Premier League 2021-22 champions
- ✓ City won their second consecutive title with 93 points from 38 games as Liverpool fell short by one point

### EPL TABLE: TOP SIX

TEAMS	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Man City	38	29	6	3	99	26	93
Liverpool	38	28	8	2	94	26	92
Chelsea	38	21	11	6	76	33	74
Tottenham	38	22	5	11	69	40	71
Arsenal	38	22	3	13	61	48	69
Man Utd	38	16	10	12	57	57	58



- ✓ For the Manchester City, this is their fourth league title in five years and sixth title in 11 seasons
- ✓ Liverpool failed to win the title by a solitary point, even after scoring a hard-fought 3-1 win over Wolves at home in Anfield on the final day of the season.

## INTERNATIONAL DAY

### ➤ International Day for Biological Diversity – May 22



- ✓ The Day is observed every year to raise awareness and understanding of biodiversity concerns.
- ✓ Biodiversity is a broad phrase that refers to the diversity and variability of life on Earth
- ✓ Theme 2022 - "Building a shared future for all life"
- ✓ The International Day for Biological Diversity was initially established by the UN General Assembly's Second Committee in late 1993, on December 29, the date of the Convention on Biological Diversity's entrance into force

- ✓ The United Nations General Assembly adopted May 22 as International Day for Biological Diversity in December 2000, to mark the adoption of the Convention at the Rio Earth Summit on May 22, 1992.

