

18th May 2024




Short News

- ❖ Prayagraj soon to get its second Sentinel Surveillance Hospital Lab (SSH Lab), a vital facility to diagnose dengue virus. Currently, the district of Prayagraj only has a SSH lab located at the department of microbiology in Moti Lal Nehru (MLN) Medical College.
- ❖ Shyam Rangeela, a comedian renowned for mimicking PM Modi, had his nomination for the Varanasi Lok Sabha seat rejected. The Varanasi District Magistrate clarified that the rejection was due to an incomplete affidavit and other procedural deficiencies.


Reports/ Indexes

<p>Times Higher Education Young University Rankings 2024</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Times Higher Education Young University Rankings 2024 was released on 17th May 2024. ❖ This year the ranking included over 673 universities from across the globe. ❖ The Two Indian universities have ranked in the top 100 list. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala - 81st Anna University, Chennai - 96th Nanyang Technological University. ❖ Nanyang Technological University, Singapore tops the league table for the second year in a row. ❖ Jaypee University of Information Technology, Noida and Amity University, Noida are the universities from Uttar Pradesh to be included in the list.
	<p>Young University Rankings reveal the best universities under 50 years old, assessing them across teaching, research, international outlook, and their work with industry. The Young University Rankings are published by Times Higher Education (THE).</p>

Person In News- Appointments



Lawrence Wong	He has been appointed as the fourth Prime Minister of Singapore.	
Kapil Sibal	He has been appointed as the president of the Supreme Court Bar Association.	
Senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officers A Y V Krishna and N Venu Gopal	They have been appointed as additional directors in the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).	

Person In News- Sports

Sunil Chhetri	<p>He has announced his retirement from international football, ending a record-breaking career for his country spanning two decades.</p> <p>He will retire after the World Cup qualifier against Kuwait on June 6.</p>	
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Important Days/Dates


May 17	World Telecommunication and Information Society Day	❖ World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) is celebrated every year in May to honour the founding of the
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	 <p>World Telecommunication and Information Society Day Digital innovation for sustainable development May 17</p>	<p>International Telecommunication Union (ITU) on May 17, 1969.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ WTISD commemorates two significant events in the history of global communication. Firstly, it marks the founding of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in 1865, when the first International Telegraph Convention was signed. ❖ Followed by, in November 2005, the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) called upon the United Nations General Assembly to also declare May 17th as World Information Society Day. And then in 2006, the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in Antalya, Turkey, agreed to combine the two events as World Telecommunication and Information Society Day. ❖ Theme for 2024 is “Digital Innovation for Sustainable Development,” underlying how digital innovation may help link everyone and create sustainable prosperity for all.
<p>May 17</p>	<p>National Endangered Species Day 2024</p>  <p>NATIONAL ENDANGERED SPECIES DAY</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ It is an annual event that strives to raise awareness about the significance of safeguarding endangered species and their habitats.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The Endangered Species Coalition and David Robinson co-founded National Endangered Species Day in 2006 to inspire people worldwide to learn more about endangered animals and their conservation. ❖ Theme for 2024, “Celebrate Saving Species”.
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Important News- Worldwide

Bhutan	<p>World Aquatics unveiled a new pool at a record altitude of 8,200 feet (2,400 meters) in the country of Bhutan.</p> <p>The pool was funded through the Pools for All Program development initiative launched in 2019.</p> <p>This one happens to be the highest swimming pool of its kind in the world.</p> <p>It will allow top national swimmers, who usually have to travel abroad to train and apply for scholarship programs and funding through institutions like World Aquatics, to remain home.</p>
France	<p>An inaugural Summit on Clean Cooking in Africa was held in Paris.</p> <p>It drew more than 1,000 delegates from nearly 60 countries to address the health and climate impacts of cooking using open fires and basic stoves.</p>
Netherlands	<p>The far-right party led by Geert Wilders has agreed to form a coalition government for the first time in the Netherlands</p>

Sri Lanka	<p>On May 15 2024, PhonePe, a popular mobile payment platform started its UPI service in Sri Lanka.</p> <p>PhonePe has launched UPI payments in Sri Lanka in partnership with LankaPay, allowing Indian tourists to make seamless payments through the app.</p>
UAE	<p>The United Arab Emirates has launched a special 10-year 'Blue Residency' visa for individuals who have made expectational contributions towards the protection of the environment.</p>
Venezuela 	<p>It is believed to be the first nation in modern times to have completely lost all of its glaciers.</p> <p>Five of the six glaciers in Venezuela, located in the Sierra Nevada de Merida Mountain range, disappeared by 2011. Since the Humboldt glacier was now less than two hectares in size, its classification was reduced from glacier to ice field.</p> <p>Due to the warming temperatures, this country just lost its last glacier, after it turned into an ice field.</p>

Important News- Miscellaneous

❖ **Blockout 2024** is a digital boycott where social media users are blocking celebrities ranging from Hollywood actors to social media influencers for their silence on the Israel-Gaza war, or in some cases, their purported support for the war. The movement was set off by this year's Met Gala, which took place in New York on May 6.

The **Met Gala** or **Met Ball** is an annual fundraising gala held for the benefit of the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Costume Institute in New York City.

