

Weekly Current Affairs (23rd- 29th May 2023)

(30th & 31st May 2023)

Q1) PM Modi inaugurated new Parliament building



- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on May 28, inaugurated the new Parliament of India located on the Sansad Marg in New Delhi.
- He laid the foundation stone of new building on **10 December 2020**.
- The new building is **triangular in shape** covering an area of 224,600 sq. ft.
- The construction of building is a part of “Central Vista Redevelopment Project.”
- The Parliament House has 3 entrances, named *Gyan Dwar* (knowledge gate), *Shakti Dwar* (power gate), and *Karma Dwar* (Karma gate).
- The new building has **888 Lok Sabha seats** and **384 Rajya Sabha seats**. Unlike the old parliament building, it does not have a central hall.

Sengol: A Historic Sceptre



- PM Modi also unveiled a historical sceptre “Sengol” from Tamil Nadu and installed in the Lok Sabha near the Lok Sabha Speaker’s chair.

- Sengol was used on August 14, 1947 presented by Lord Mountbatten to the First Prime Minister of India Jawaharlal Nehru when the transfer of power took place from the British.
- The Sengol was crafted in Chennai by **Vummidi Ethirajulu**, one of Chennai's renowned jeweller along with his brother 75 years ago.
- The word Sengol is derived from the Tamil word "Semmai" meaning righteousness.
- It is civilisational practise from the **Chola era** given to the successive rulers as a means of transfer of powers.
- It was kept in the Allahabad museum.

Q2) Prime Minister Modi recent visit to Japan, Papua New Guinea & Australia

1) PM Modi unveil statue of Mahatma Gandhi in Hiroshima



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his three-day visit to Japan, will unveil a statue of Mahatma Gandhi in Hiroshima.
- The Gandhi statue will be a message of peace as the leader believed that the world could only be saved by non-violence.
- After this, PM Modi will attend the **G 7 Summit** in Hiroshima and address the G7 nations.
- From Japan, PM Modi will travel to Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea where he will host the 3rd summit of the "Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation" (FIPIC) on May 22 with Prime Minister James Marape.

2) PM Modi conferred with the highest orders of Papua New Guinea and Fiji



- PM Modi has been conferred with the highest civilian orders of the Papua New Guinea and Fiji.
- He was conferred with the “The Companion of the Order of Fiji” by the Fijian PM, Sitiveni Rabuka for his global leadership.
- While Papua New Guinea conferred its highest civilian order “Grand Companion of the Order of Logohu” for championing the cause of unity of Pacific Island countries.

3) PM Modi releases Tamil classic “Thirukkural” in Tok Pisin Language



- Prime Minister Modi alongside PM of Papua New Guinea James Marape released the Tamil classic “Thirukkural” in Tok Pisin language.
 - Tok Pisin is the official language of Papua New Guinea.
 - Thirukkural is a collection of couplets on ethics, political and economic matters and love written by poet Thiruvalluvar.
 - Aim is to bring Indian thought and culture closer to the South-Western Pacific countries.
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- In his final tour, PM Modi will travel to Australia where he will have a talks with PM of Australia, Anthony Albanese and address a diaspora event on May 23.

4) India and Australia sign agreement in the filed of Green Hydrogen



- India and Australia have strengthen their relation and signed across various sectors, the signed agreements on migration and the Green Hydrogen task force are expected to pave the way for enhanced collab.
 - The MoU's were exchanged after a bilateral meeting between PM Modi and Anthony Albanese.
 - He also announced the establishment of a new Australian Consulate General in Bengaluru saying it will help connect Australian businesses to India's becoming digital and innovation ecosystem.
 - During his visit to Australia, he was accorded with a Ceremonial Guard of Honour at the Admiralty House in Sydney.
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- Harris Park in Australia has been renamed to “**Little India**” during the arrival of PM Modi.

Q3) Chennai Super Kings won the IPL 2023 title



- Chennai Super Kings defeated the Gujarat Titans by 5 wicket in a last-ball nail-biting final here in Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad to win the **15th** edition of the IPL 2023 title.
- This was their 5th title of the season and equalled the titles with the Mumbai Indians.
- The 2-month long season started on 31st March with **Chennai Super Kings and defending Champions Gujarat titans** and final match to be played on 28th May.
- However, due to heavy rainfall the final match was postponed to the reserve day i.e. on 29 May.
- The winner of the match was decided by the DLS method and match was reduced to 15 overs when the second inning was interrupted by rain.

Additional Information

Total league matches played- **70**

3rd place - **Lucknow Super Giants**

4th place - **Mumbai Indians**

Winner of the Purple cap (most wickets) - **Md. Shami (28 wickets)**

Winner of the Orange cap (most runs) - **Shubman Gill (890 runs)**

Most valuable player - **Shubman Gill**
Fair play award - **Delhi Capitals**

Q4) Georgi Gospodinov wins the International Booker Prize 2023 for Time Shelter.



- Bulgarian writer Georgi Gospodinov and Angela Rodel (translator) bagged the 2023 “International Booker Prize” for their book “Time Shelter.”
- It is the first book originally written in the Bulgarian to be nominated for the award.
- Time Shelter is a story of a magical clinic for Alzheimer’s patients.
- The prize has recognised fiction translated into English and published in the United Kingdom or Ireland in the year leading up to the award.

Previous International Booker Prize winner

In 2021 - David Diop

He was awarded for his book At Night All Blood is Black

In 2022 - **Gitanjali Shree**

She won the award for novel “**Tomb of Sand**”

Q5) India's AI Supercomputer "AIRAWAT" ranked 75th in Global Supercomputing list



- The AI Supercomputer "AIRAWAT" installed at C-DAC, Pune has been ranked 75th in the top 500 Global Supercomputing list.
- The announcement was made during the **61st edition of the " International Supercomputing Conference (ISC 2023) held in Germany.**
- It has the potential to revolutionize various sectors, including weather forecasting, drug discovery, climate modelling and artificial intelligence research.
- AIRAWAT is the name for an in-house cloud platform for big data.
- Airawat PSAI, stands as India's largest and fastest AI supercomputing system with a speed of 13,170 teraflops.
- AIRAWAT's manufacturer is Netweb Technologies.

Additional information about Supercomputer

Father of Indian Supercomputers - **Vijay Pandurang Bhatkar**

Fastest Supercomputer in Modern world - **Fugaku (Japan)**

Indian Supercomputer in Modern times- **1) PRATYUSH**
(used for Geographical calculation)
2) MIHIR
(used for Weather forecasting)

Q6) SpaceX sends Saudi astronauts including first Arab women to ISS



- Saudi Arabia's **Rayyanah Barnawi** has made history by becoming the first Arab women to travel to the International Space Station (ISS) as part of the private Ax-2 mission.
- She is the breast cancer researcher and was joined fellow Saudi Ali Al-Qarni, a Royal Saudi fighter pilot.
- The Axiom Mission (Ax-2) crew took off aboard a Space-X Falcon 9 rocket from the Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral, Florida.
- The mission was organized by Axiom Space, a Houston-based company, and executed by SpaceX.
- The team also includes Peggy Whitson, the first female commander of the ISS and John Shoffner.

Q7) India wins the NSC CAVA Women's Volleyball Championship 2023



- Indian Volleyball team trashed the Kazakhstan team 3-0 (25-15, 25-22, 25-18) to win the Central Asian Volleyball Association (CAVA) Championship 2023 held in **Kathmandu, Nepal** on Sunday.
- The tournament was organised by the Nepal Volleyball Association.

Winner- India

Runners-up - Kazakhstan

3rd place - Nepal

4th place- Uzbekistan

Q9) The Hanke's Annual Misery Index (HAMI) 2022: India ranked 103rd

- India has been paced at the 103rd spot out of 157 countries in the Hanke's Annual Misery Index (HAMI) 2022 with unemployment identified as the primary contributing factor to the country's relative level of misery.
- Switzerland emerged as the "least miserable country" occupying the top position (157) in the list.
- Zimbabwe has been ranked "most miserable country" in the list.
- The index is the sum of the year-end unemployment, inflation and bank-lending rates, minus the annual percentage change in real GDP per capita.

Q10) Hari Budha Magar conquered Mount Everest with artificial legs



- Hari Budha Magar, a double amputee ex-British Gurkha soldier from Nepal. Scaled Mount Everest with artificial legs.
- Magar lost both his legs when he stepped on an improvised Explosive Device (IED) planted by the Taliban during the Afghanistan mission in 2010.
- In the past decade, he accomplished numerous mountaineering feats, including the ascents of Ben Nevis (1,345 m), Mount Blanc (4,808.72 m), Mt. Kilimanjaro (5,895 m), Mt. Peak (6,475 m) and Mt. Taubkal (4,167 m).
- On 29 May 1953, Edmund Hilary of New Zealand and Tenzing Norgay Sherpa, an India citizen of Nepali origin, climbed Mount Everest for the first time.
- Junko Tabei (Japan) is the first women to reach the Mount Everest.
- Bachendri Pal is the first Indian women to scale Mt. Everest in 1984. Santosh Yadav is the first Indian women to scale twice in a row.

Q11) Thalapathy Vijay wins Best Actor award at Osaka Tamil Film Festival, Japan



- Thalapathy Vijay received the Best Actor award at the Osaka Tamil International Film Festival held in Japan.

- He was awarded for his performance in “Master” (directed by Lokesh Kangaraj) released in 2021.
- While Kangana Ranaut has won the Best Actress award for her brilliant performance in Thalaivii.

Other winners

Best Tamil film - **Sarpatta Parambarai**

Best director - **Pa. Ranjith (for Sarpatta Parambarai)**

Other news

1) Tamil Nadu CM inaugurated India’s longest “skywalk bridges”

Length - **570 m**

Width - **4.2 m**

Route- **Mambalam railway station & T Nagar bus terminal**

2) india will host the **Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QSD) or Quad Leaders’ Summit in 2024.**

3) Ministry of Education and PARAKH organise the 1st National level workshop to discuss the integration of 60 school examination boards in different states and UT’s.

PARAKH - Performance Assessment, Review and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development.

4) Russian tennis player Daniil Medvedev wins “Italian Open 2023” after beating Holger Rune (Denmark).

Women’s singles title - Elena Rybakina (Kazakhstan)

5) India's long jumper, Murali Sreeshankar wins gold at the 13th "International Jumping Meeting 2023" in Kallithea, Greece.

Gold medallist - **Murali Sreeshankar**

Distance- **8.18 m**

Silver medallist - **Jeswin Aldrin**

Distance - **7.85 m**

Bronze medallist - **Jalen Rucker (Australia)**

Distance - **7.80m**

6) Iran successfully launched ballistic missile "Kheibar"

Range- 2,000 km