

Daily Current Affairs – May 22, 2019**Important Days****May 22 - International Day for Biological Diversity**

- The United Nations has proclaimed May 22 The International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB) to increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues.
- 2019 Theme - Our Biodiversity, Our Food, Our Health

National Affairs**New Delhi****EC established 24 hr EVM Control Room at Nirvachan Sadan**

- Election Commission has established a 24 hour EVM Control Room at Nirvachan Sadan in New Delhi. This will monitor complaints relating to polled EVMs.

International Affairs**Joko Widodo elected President of Indonesia for second term**

- Indonesia's Joko Widodo has been re-elected as president of the country, beating rival Prabowo Subianto, a retired general.

Serbia lawmakers amend penal code to introduce life sentence without parole

- In Serbia, lawmakers today amended the penal code to introduce a life sentence without parole, despite concerns voiced by the Council of Europe. Until now, the maximum sentence in Serbia, which seeks to join the European Union, was 40 years in prison.

Pakistan appoints Mueenul Haq as High Commissioner to India

- Pakistan has appointed career diplomat Mueenul Haq as the High Commissioner to India. Haq, the current ambassador to France, has previously served as chief of protocol at the Foreign Office.

Space Science**PSLV-C46 successfully launches RISAT-2B**

- India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C46) successfully launched the RISAT-2B satellite from Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR, Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh. This was the 72nd launch vehicle mission from SDSC SHAR, Sriharikota and 36th launch from the First Launch pad.
- RISAT-2B is a radar imaging earth observation satellite weighing about 615 kg. The satellite is intended to provide services in the field of Agriculture, Forestry and Disaster Management.

Banking Affairs**RBI to create regulatory cadre**

- The Reserve Bank of India's Central Board has decided to create a specialized supervisory and regulatory cadre. The cadre is being created with a view to strengthening the supervision and regulation of commercial banks, urban cooperative banks and nonbanking financial companies.

High-level committee submits its recommendations on crude oil imports

- A High-Level Committee constituted by the Centre has submitted its recommendations to bring down India's dependence on crude oil imports. The High-Level Committee consisted of Dr Anil Kakodkar, eminent Scientist and Sidharth Pradhan, an expert on financial and tax issues.

Summits

SCO Foreign Ministers meet in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

- External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj will attend the meeting of Council of Foreign Ministers of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. The meeting will exchange views on topical issues of international and regional importance.
- This is the second Council of Foreign Ministers meeting that India is attending as a full member of SCO.

Awards

Man Booker International Prize

- Oman author Jokha Alharthi, has won the prestigious Man Booker International Prize for "Celestial Bodies", the story of three sisters of a desert country confronting its slave-owning past and a complex modern world.

Japanese award for Shyam Saran

- The Government of Japan announced that it will confer 72-year-old Saran, 'the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star'. Saran, who was India's Foreign Secretary during 2004-2006, has played an important role to elevate Japan-India relationship to strategic partnership, the Embassy of Japan said in a statement.

Sports Affairs:

BCCI elections on October 22

- The Committee of Administrators said that the much awaited BCCI elections will be held on October 22. The CoA announced the elections date after due consultation with the apex court appointed amicus curiae P.S. Narsimha.

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