MAY 12th

INTERNATIONAL

1) "Improving maternal and newborn health and survival and reducing stillbirth"

- United Nations published the report **titled "Improving maternal and newborn health and survival and reducing stillbirth".**
- It focuses on the global focus of improving maternal and newborn health and reducing stillbirths.
- The report emphasizes the need to address maternal mortality, neonatal mortality, and stillbirths worldwide.

2) Monkey Pox

- On 11th May, the **World Health Organization announced** that the **global health emergency for mpox**, a viral disease formerly known as monkeypox, has ended after 10 months.
- **Mpox is a viral disease that spreads through direct contact with body fluids and was first observed in humans in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 1970.**

NATIONAL

1) "Land Governance in North Eastern States"

- Recently, the National Conference **on "Land Governance in North Eastern States" concluded in Guwahati.**
- The conference focuses on digitizing and modernizing land records, the conference served as a vital platform for discussions on land governance.

2) MoU on movement of skilled professionals

- **India and Canada** have agreed to increase the movement of skilled professionals and students to enhance their bilateral economic partnership.
- Canada was **India's 35th largest trading partner** during April-February (2022-34), with **total trade amounting to $7.5 billion**.

3) Cyclone Mocha

- **Cyclone Mocha** was a very severe cyclonic storm that formed in the Bay of Bengal. The storm intensified rapidly, reaching peak winds of 160 kilometers per hour (100 miles per hour) before making landfall in Bangladesh.
- Cyclone Mocha was named on the basis of a suggestion made by **Yemen.**

4) Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport

- The **Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport** in Varanasi has become the first in India to have a **reading lounge.**
- The lounge`s library has a collection of literature and books in many international languages besides books of youth authors published under **Prime Minister Yuva Yojana.**

5) 25th anniversary of Pokhran-II

- India successfully conducted three nuclear bomb test explosions at the testing site in Pokhran on May 11, 1998. It was Codenamed Operation Shakti.
- India's nuclear programme can be traced to the work of physicist **Homi J Bhaba.**

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

1) Gold-backed digital currency

- Zimbabwe launched a gold-backed digital currency, marking another attempt to stabilize and strengthen its currency. It aims to address the ongoing challenges faced by the country's financial system.
- It is a form of currency that is tied to the market value of gold.

2) Greenwashing TechSprint

- The Reserve Bank of India has opened a window to permit all India-based firms and innovators to take part in Global Financial Innovation Network's first-ever Greenwashing TechSprint.
- GFIN, a renowned international organization, is hosting the Greenwashing TechSprint. Comprising regulators and experts from various countries, GFIN is dedicated to fostering financial innovation and addressing critical challenges in the financial sector.

APPOINTMENTS

1) Karthik Balagopalan

- Karthik Balagopalan has been appointed as the Managing Director of PUMA India. He will succeed **Abhishek Ganguly,** who worked for PUMA's Indian business for 17 years and has been the Managing Director of PUMA India since 2014.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1) International Day of Plant Health

- Every year, on 12th May International Day of Plant Health is observed.
- The day is observed to raise global awareness on how protecting plant health can help end hunger, reduce poverty, protect biodiversity and the environment, and boost economic development.

2) International Nurses Day

- Every year, on 12th May **International Nurses Day** is observed to celebrate the birth of **Florence Nightingale,** the founder of modern nursing.
- Theme of 2023: is "Our Nurses. Our Future".