



## **Government of Tamil Nadu**

### **Department of Employment and Training**

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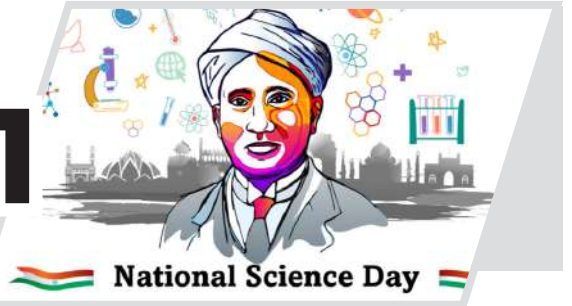
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**Director,  
Department of Employment and Training.**

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STATES		Rank 2019	Rank 2020
1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2
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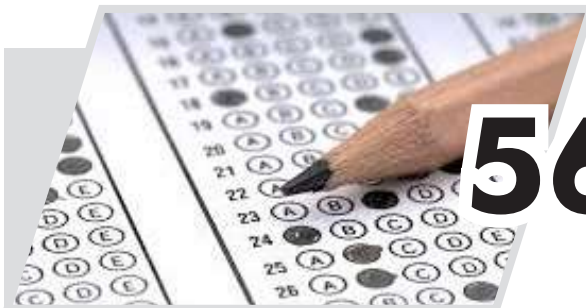
18 states, each with population of over 1 crore



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## PRACTICE QUESTIONS



Date	Day	Theme / Remark
1-02-2021	<b>Indian Coast Guard celebrates its 45<sup>th</sup> Raising Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) is celebrating its 45<sup>th</sup> Raising Day on 01 February 2021.</li> <li>The ICG was formally established on February 1, 1977, by the Coast Guard Act, 1978 of the Parliament of India.</li> <li>It operates under the Ministry of Defence.</li> <li>With just 7 surface platforms in 1978, ICG currently comprise of 156 ships and 62 aircraft in its inventory and is likely to achieve targeted force levels of 200 surface platforms and 80 aircraft by 2025.</li> </ul>
2-02-2021	<b>World Wetlands Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The international theme for World Wetlands Day 2021 is 'Wetlands and Water'.</li> </ul>
13-02-2021	<b>World Radio day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On November 3, 2011, UNESCO decided during its 36th conference that a day will be dedicated to the humble radio and its importance in the forever growing world.</li> </ul>
21-02-2021	<b>International Mother Language Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As the world marks International Mother Language Day - February 21, vice president and Rajya Sabha chairman M Venkaiah Naidu urged everyone to promote the use of their mother tongues.</li> <li>The 2021 theme is "Fostering multilingualism for inclusion in education and society".</li> <li>Since 2000, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) has led the world in celebrating languages with a view to promoting linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism.</li> <li>About 200 Indian languages are facing extinction and the UNESCO has expressed concern over one world language becoming extinct every two weeks.</li> </ul>

Date	Day	Theme / Remark
<b>24-02-2021</b>	<b>Central Excise Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When: Central Excise Day is celebrated every year on February 24 in India.</li> <li>Objective: to encourage the employees of excise department in carrying out the central excise duty in a better way.</li> <li>The Central Excise Day is also celebrated to commemorate the Central Excise and Salt Act, which was enacted on February 24, 1944.</li> </ul>
<b>28-02-2021</b>	<b>National Science Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme-2021 - "Future of STI: Impacts on Education, Skills, and Work".</li> <li>Purpose - To commemorate the discovery of Raman effect.</li> <li>Indian physicist Sir C V Raman discovered the Raman effect on 28 February 1928 and was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930 for it.</li> </ul>

## 1.2 DEFENCE, NATIONAL SECURITY AND TERRORISM

### Tejas Mark II to roll out next year

- A more potent version of the indigenous Tejas multi-role combat jet featuring a much powerful engine, greater load-carrying capability and next-generation electronic warfare system is expected to be rolled out next year and its first high-speed trials will start in 2023.
- Tejas Mark II is likely to roll out by August-September of 2022. After that, the first flight will take some time. The first high-speed trial of the jet will start in 2023 and we expect the production to start somewhere around 2025.

### Indo-U.S. joint military exercise 'Yudh Abhyas' to begin in Rajasthan on February 8

- The exercise near the India-Pakistan border aims at enhancing cooperation and interoperability between the two armies and will focus on counter-terrorism operations under the United Nations mandate.
- The 16th edition of Indo-U.S. joint military exercise 'Yudh Abhyas' will be held in Rajasthan between February 8 and 21.
- The exercise near the India-Pakistan border aims at enhancing cooperation and

interoperability between the two armies and will focus on counter-terrorism operations under the United Nations mandate.

- As part of military-to-military exchange programmes, U.S. Army troops will be arriving in India on February 5 for the 16th edition of Exercise 'Yudh Abhyas' with Indian Army troops.
- The bilateral training exercise will be conducted at the Foreign Training Node at Mahajan Field Firing Ranges.

### Defense (MSME)

- A three-day defence expo, which will see the participation of more than 400 micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), will be held between March 19 and 21 at the Chennai Trade centre.
- The expo is being organised by Swatantra Foundation, a Chennai based policy research and advocacy institution, and the Aerospace Industry Development Association of Tamil Nadu (AIDAT).
- The 'Defence Expo Empowering MSME '21' is aimed at connecting MSMEs with end users in the defence services, Indian defence manufacturing majors and the various R&D institutions under the DRDO and DPSUs.



**MSME**

- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Founded: 2007
- Ministers responsible: Nitin Gadkari, Cabinet Minister, Pradap Chandra Sarangi, Minister of State

**Robust stance led to stability at border: Rajnath**

- India's robust stance, immediate and calibrated response and its soldiers' unrelenting spirit on the border led to the stabilisation of the situation and showed the resolve to defend its sovereignty and integrity.
- "The Indian Ocean Region (IOR) Defence Ministers' conclave would reinforce the relevance of the region and its continued importance for stakeholders, from the perspective of trade, security and freedom of navigation,".
- The deal for 83 LCA for the Indian Air Force (IAF) to cost around ₹47,000 crore is set to be signed at Aero India.

**Rs 48,000 crore Tejas aircraft deal to be signed**

- The government is set to formally seal on February 3 the Rs 48,000 crore deal to procure 83 Tejas light combat aircraft from state-run aerospace major Hindustan Aeronautics Limited for the Indian Air Force.

**34 CRPF women personnel join CoBRA force**

- 34 Women personnel of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) on Saturday joined the Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA), the elite CRPF component specializing in jungle warfare and counter-Naxal operations.
- The chosen women personnel from the 6 Mahila Battalions of CRPF will undergo a strenuous CoBRA pre-induction training of 3 months.
- The Central Reserve Police Force (cRPF) for the first time inducted 34 women commandos in its elite Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA) unit, which was raised in 2009.

**'Yudh Abhyas' begins in Rajasthan**

- The 16<sup>th</sup> edition of the Indo-US joint military training exercise 'Yudh Abhyas' commenced at the Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in the western sector of Rajasthan.

**INS Virat**

- The Supreme Court stopped further dismantling of decommissioned aircraft carrier INS Virat.
- It served in the British Navy as HMS Hermes from November 1959 to April 1984 and after refurbishment, was commissioned into the Indian Navy.
- The centaur-class aircraft carrier, INS Viraat, was in service with the Indian Navy for 29 years before being decommissioned in March 2017.

**China and India Border issue**

- The rising footprint of China in India's neighborhood and its attempts to unilaterally alter the status quo along India's disputed borders have created an environment of confrontation and mutual distrust.
- Army chief- General Manoj Naravane.

**PM hands over Arjun Mk-1A tank to Army**

- The Arjun Mk-1A has superior firepower, high mobility, excellent protection and crew comfort, with 14 major upgrades from Arjun Mk1. It also uses indigenous ammunition.

**National Security Advisor of India- Ajit Doval****100<sup>th</sup> K-9 Vajra**

- Chief of Army Staff Gen MM Naravane flagged off the 100th K-9 Vajra tracked self-propelled howitzer from a production facility of its maker Larsen and Toubro at Hazira near Surat.

**ICG ship C-453 commissioned**

- Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICG) C-453, the 17<sup>th</sup> of the 18 Interceptor Boats being

indigenously built by Larsen & Toubro Ltd., was commissioned in Chennai. ICGS C-453, the 27.80-m-long interceptor boat with a displacement of 105 tonnes and a maximum speed of 45 knots (85 kmph) is capable of undertaking multifarious tasks, including surveillance, interdiction, closecoast patrol and search and rescue.

### **Indian Navy Ship Pralaya Participates in NAVDEX 21**

- The Indian Naval Ship Pralaya reached Abu Dhabi in UAE to participate in the Naval Defence Exhibition (NAVDEX 21) and International Defence Exhibition (IDEX 21) from February 20 to 25, 2021.
- NAVDEX 21 and IDEX 21 is one of the leading international naval and defence exhibitions of the region.

### **Anti-Tank Guided Missile Systems 'Helina' and 'Dhruvastra'**

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully carried out joint user trials of indigenously developed Helina and Dhruvastra Anti-Tank Guided Missiles (ATGM) from the Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) [HAL Dhruv] at the Pokhran deserts in Rajasthan on February 19, 2021.
- Helina is the Army version and Dhruvastra is the Air Force version of the ALH.
- The missile systems have been designed and developed indigenously by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

#### **DRDO**

- Formed - 1958
- Chairman - Satheesh Reddy
- Head Quarters - New Delhi

### **PASSEX Exercise In Arabian Sea**

- The Indian Navy and the Indonesian Navy conducted the Passage Exercise (PASSEX) in the Arabian Sea.

- The military exercise between the navies of both the countries, aims to enhance operational interoperability and overall cooperation among them.
- Indian naval ship INS Talwar and Indonesian Navy's multirole corvette KRI Bung Tomo participated in the exercise.

### **Indian Army celebrates historic 1971 war victory**

- Serving members of India's Armed Forces and war veterans took part in 'Swarnim Vijay Run', an event held by the Indian Army Headquarters Dakshin Bharat Area. The run was held as a part of the year-long celebration of 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of victory in the 1971 Indo-Pak war. The historic military victory is being celebrated with much fanfare all across the country as 'Swarnim Vijay Varsh' (Golden Jubilee Year of Victory).
- Over 700 participants from across age groups ran the under three distance categories - 2km, 5 km and 10 km.
- Col A Krishnaswamy, Vir Chakra, (Retd), a war hero of the 1971 Indo-Pak War flagged off the run, which also saw the participation of war veterans, most of whom are now nearing eighty years of age.

### **DRDO Skill Development Centre for Fire Safety Training at Pilkhuwa in Uttar Pradesh**

- Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh inaugurated Skill Development Centre (SDC) for Fire Safety Training of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) through virtual mode on February 22, 2021, at Pilkhuwa in Uttar Pradesh.
- The first of its kind in India facility has been created by Delhi based DRDO laboratory 'Centre for Fire, Explosive and Environment Safety (CFEES)'.

## 1.3 WORLD ORGANISATIONS – PACTS AND SUMMITS

### World Organization (UN Human Rights Council)

- U.S. to rejoin UN human rights forum The U.S. announced plans to reengage with the much maligned UN Human Rights Council

### UN Human Rights Council

- It is an inter-governmental body within the United Nations system made up of 47 States.
- It was founded in 2006 as a substitute to UN Commission on Human Rights.
- Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.
- The General Assembly elected the following 15 members: Bolivia, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, France, Gabon, Malawi, Mexico, Nepal, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Senegal, Ukraine, United Kingdom and Uzbekistan.

### India accounts for 10% of global road crash victims

- India, which has one per cent of the world's vehicles, accounts for 10 per cent of all road crash victims, the latest World Bank report on road safety.
- Hartwig Schafer, World Bank's Vice President for South Asia announced the Indian government in recent years has taken significant steps to address the issues related to road safety.

### World bank

- President – David Malpass
- Head Quarters - Washington DC
- Founded - 1945

### Regional countries back PM Modi's suggestions to boost cooperation in South Asia

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi proposed five measures to prepare countries in South Asia and the Indian Ocean region to cope

with future medical emergencies, including a special visa regime for medical personnel and technology-driven steps to counter pandemics.

- The workshop was chaired by India's health secretary Rajesh Bhushan. The other countries – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Maldives, Mauritius, Nepal, Pakistan, Seychelles and Sri Lanka.

### BRICS summit

- China's President Xi Jinping visit India in the second half of this year to attend the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) leaders' meeting.

### BRICS - (2006)

- BRICS is an acronym for the grouping of the world's leading emerging economies, namely Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.
- The BRICS Leaders' Summit is convened annually.
- President - Marcos Prado Troyjo

### Indian economist Ligia Noronha appointed as UN Assistant Secretary-General

- UN chief Antonio Guterres has appointed leading Indian economist Ligia Noronha as Assistant Secretary-General and Head of the New York Office of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- Noronha will succeed fellow Indian and development economist Satya Tripathi to whom Secretary-General Guterres is grateful for his leadership and dedicated service during his tenure.



## 1.4 EMINENT PERSONS

### Modi praises Solo effort at lake clean-up

- The untiring efforts of a 69-year-old man, paralysed below his knees, towards cleaning up Vembanad Lake, have earned recognition from the highest office of the country.
- In this month's edition of this radio programme, Mann Ki Baat, Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed the commitment of S. Rajappan, a differently abled man from Kaippuzhamuttu, near Kumarakom, Kottayam.

### India's youngest female pilot - 25-year-old Ayesha Aziz from Kashmir

- Ayesha Aziz, the 25-year-old from Kashmir who is the youngest female pilot in the country acts as a source of inspiration and a beacon of empowerment for numerous Kashmiri women.
- In the year 2011, Aziz became the youngest student pilot to get a license at the age of 15 and underwent training to fly a MIG-29 jet at Russia's Sokol airbase the following year.
- She later graduated in aviation from the Bombay Flying Club (BFC) and obtained a commercial license in 2017.

### New acting chief of staff at NASA

- Indian-American woman Bhavya Lal was roped in as the Acting Chief of Staff of the US space agency NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration).
- Lal brings extensive experience in engineering and space technology, serving as a member of the research staff at the Institute for Defense Analyses Science and Technology Policy Institute (STPI) from 2005 to 2020.
- Lal served as a member of the Biden Presidential Transition Agency Review Team.

### K.S.Thimayya in Madikeri

- The President of India ( Ram Nath Govind) inaugurated the General Thimayya Museum in Madikeri. The museum has been built at Sunnyside, the former residence of General KS Thimayya.

- Thimayya served as the Chief of Army Staff from 1957 to 1961, has been renovated and converted into a museum in Karnataka's Kodagu district.

### Devaneya Bhavanar 119th Birthday

- The 119<sup>th</sup> birthday of Devaneya Bhavanar has been celebrated at Aagara Mudhali Tamil programme.
- On 1974, Devaneya Bhavanar appointed as the Director of Tamil Etymology Agra Kugali.

### Child rights activist Thomas Jeyaraj dead

- Senior child rights activist Thomas Jeyaraj, who was the founder and director of the Centre for Child Rights and Development (CCRD), died of a massive heart attack. He was one of the first persons in the country to start an organisation that had child rights in its name. He is the founder of THOZHAMAI and it was incepted on 23rd November 2006 as a trust under the Indian Trusts Act of 1882.

### Commission for Child Rights

- The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) was set up in March 2007 under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005, an Act of Parliament (December 2005). Serving as the State co-convenor of the Tamil Nadu Child Rights Watch (TNCRW).

### Important Acts

- National Policy for Children, 1974
- Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 (Amended in 1979).
- Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986.
- Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.
- Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000.

### Thirumuruga Kirupanandha Variyar

- Tamil Nadu Government has celebrated

Thirukuruga Kirupanandha variyar's Birthday as its holiday

- He was a Murugan devotee.
- Variyar, popularly known as Variyar Swamigal, was born in 1906 in Kangeyanallur village on the bank of Palar river. This province is referred to as Thondai Nadu in Sangam literature.
- Variyar Swamigal received the award Isai Perarignar in 1967, given to Tamil musicians every year by the Tamil Isai Sangam of Tamil Nadu in Southern India.
- Kirupanandha Variyar on a 2006 stamp of India.
- Born - 25 August 1906, Kangeyanallur, Vellore, India
- Died - 7 November 1993 (aged 87), Other names: Variyar Swamigal, 64th nayanmar
- Parents - Father : Mallayadasan, Mother : Kanagavalli.

### **Annamalai Kavirayar**

- His 130<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day observed near Sankarankoil.

### **Annamalai Kavirayar**

- He is particularly remembered for his Kavadi Chindu, a genre of songs chanted by devotees of Lord Murugan while performing Kavadi Attam.
- He was born in Sennikulam, Sankarankoil taluk, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu, he studied Tamil under Ramaswami Pulavar and U. V. Swaminatha Iyer and was later patronised by the zamindar of Uttrumalai.

### **Maharaja Suheldev Memorial**

- Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone of Maharaja Suheldev Memorial and development work of Chittaura Lake on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at through video conferencing. The event in Bahraich, Uttar Pradesh marks the birth anniversary of Maharaja Suheldev.

### **Maharaja Suheldev**

- Suheldev or Suheldev is an Indian king from Shravasti, popularly known to have defeated and killed the Ghaznavid general Ghazi Saiyyad Salar Masud at Bahraich in 1034 CE.

- He is mentioned in the 17th century Persian-language historical romance Mirat-i-Masudi.

### **'Veeran Pollan's birth anniversary a State event'**

- Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami announced that Veeran Pollan's birth anniversary would be celebrated as a State event. A manimandapam would be constructed in honour of the freedom fighter.

### **162<sup>nd</sup> Birthday of M. Singaravelar Honored by Tamil Nadu Ministers**

- The 162<sup>nd</sup> birthday of 'Singer of Thought' M. Singaravelar was celebrated. On behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, Ministers Jayakumar, Benjamin, Pandiyarajan and Tamil Nadu Textbook Association President P. Valarmati paid floral tributes to the picture which was adorned under his statue located at the Chennai District Collectorate premises.

### **First Indian Chairperson of the Advisory Committee of the UN Human Rights Council**

- Ajai Malhotra has been elected as the Chairperson of the Advisory Committee of the United Nations Human Rights Council [Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland].
- He is the first Indian to be elected to the post.
- Malhotra first joined the Indian Foreign Services in 1977 and has previously served as ambassador to Russia, Kuwait, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations, New York and Romania.

### **UN Human Rights Council**

- It was established in 2006.
- Headquarter: Geneva, Switzerland
- Aim: Promoting and protecting human rights around the globe, as well as investigating alleged human rights violations.
- Features: The UNHRC has 47 members elected for staggered three-year terms on a regional group basis from 5 groups.

## **V.O.C, Ramasamy Chettiyar, Subbarayan Photos**

- V.O.C, Ramasamy Chettiyar, Subbarayan Photos to be opened at Legislative Assembly, announced by CM Panalanisamy.
- Dr.B.R.Ambedkar, Gandhi, Rajaji, quide millath, Muthuramalinga Thevar, Periyar, Kamarajar, Anna, M.G.R, Ramasamy Paadatchiyar Photos are already placed at Legislative Assembly .

### **V.O.C**

- Valliyappan Ulaganathan Chidambaram, popularly known by his initials, V.O.C., also known as Kappalottiya Tamizhan “The Tamil Helmsman”, was an Indian freedom fighter and leader of Indian National Congress.
- Born: 5 September 1872, Ottapidaram
- Died: 18 November 1936, Thoothukudi
- Movement: Indian Independence Movement
- Books: Meyyaram

### **Ramasamy Reddiyar**

- 13<sup>th</sup> Chief Minister of Madras Presidency
- 23 March 1947 – 6 April 1949
- Born - 1 February 1895, Omandur, Madras Presidency, British India
- Died - 25 August 1970 (aged 75) Vadalur, Tamil Nadu, India
- Political party Indian National Congress
- Profession - lawyer

### **Subbarayan**

- Paramasivan Subbarayan Gounder (11 September 1889 – 6 October 1962) was an Indian politician, freedom fighter and diplomat and was the Chief Minister of Madras Presidency, India's ambassador to Indonesia and Union Minister of Transport and Communications in Jawaharlal Nehru's government.

### **Women Pilot is a Kashmir Hero**

- Ayesha Aziz, 25, became the country's youngest pilot when she acquired her flying license at the age of 16. Ms. Aziz was given the First Ladies' Award by the President of India in 2018 and figured among the country's top 100 women achievers.

## **IAEA, Iran agree temporary deal**

- Iran held “fruitful discussions” with UN nuclear watchdog chief Rafael Grossi in Tehran. Mr. Grossi, head of the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

## **21-year-old Jasmine Harrison from UK becomes youngest woman to row solo across Atlantic Ocean**

- A British woman, Jasmine Harrison of England has become the youngest woman to row solo across an Ocean.
- Harrison, who is a swim instructor and bartender by profession, traveled 3,000 miles (4,828km) across the Atlantic Ocean in 70 days, 3 hours and 48 minutes.
- Harrison began her journey in Spain's Canary Islands on December 12, 2020 and arrived in Antigua on February 20, 2021.

## **Indian citizen Kaushik Barua conferred with Royal Order in Cambodia**

- The Cambodian government has conferred its national honour to Indian citizen Kaushik Barua, currently the country director of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in Cambodia and Laos, for rendering distinguished services.
- Barua has been awarded the national medal by the Cambodian government under the Royal Order of Sahametrei, conferred primarily on foreigners who have rendered distinguished services to the King and the people of Cambodia, according to the website of the United Nations in Cambodia.

## **U. Ve. Sa., composer of Tamil keerthanas**

- The relatively lesser-known face of U.Ve. Swaminatha Iyer (U.Ve.Sa.), the grand old man of Tamil, has drawn the attention of Tamil scholars and musicians. He had composed keerthanas on Lord Muruga at Ilanthai Nagar in Sri Lanka and published them in 1891. Author and vocalist T.M. Krishna has set two of them to music and rendered it on the occasion of U.Ve.Sa.'s 166th birth anniversary on February 19

- Those who are familiar with his autobiography would know that U.Ve.Sa., born into a family of musicians, learnt music from Gopalakrishna Bharathiyar, the author of Nanda Charitram, when he was in Mayiladuthurai.
- Kumarasamy Chettiar was cover various genres, including Oosal, Etcharikkai and Mangalam. The Etcharikkai song was set to raga Saveri by U.Ve.Sa. himself. The book was reprinted again in 1944 by U.Ve.Sa.'s son.

#### **U.Ve. Saminadha Iyer**

- He was born on February 19, 1855.
- He is affectionately called Tamil Thatha. (Grandfather of Tamil)
- U.V.Sa has collected more than 90 books and collected more than 3,000 books and manuscripts.
- U.V.Sa is an student of Thiru.Meenakshi Sundaram Pillai.

#### **Books:**

- Kalai magal thuthi
- Tirulokamalai
- Anantavalliyammai
- Pancarattinam

#### **Some of his compilations are:**

- Cevaka Cintamani
- Pattupattu
- Cilappathikaram
- Purananuru
- Manimegalai.

#### **Awards:**

- Mahamagapatiya and Dakshina
- Indian Postal department issued a commemorative postage stamp on 18 February 2006.

#### **Death:**

- He Died on April 28, 1942.

#### **Poet Vishnu Narayanan Namboothiri passes away**

- Vishnu Narayanan Namboothiri, the eminent poet and academic whose verses reflected a serene blend of tradition and modernity, passed away.
- His important poetical works include

Swathantryathe Kurichoru Geetham, Pranaya Geethangal, India Enna Vikaram, 'Ujjayiniyile Raappakalukal,' 'Aranyakam,' Parikramam,' 'Aparajitha,' "Bhoomigeethangal,' and 'Mukhamevide.' Other works include 'Asaahitheeyam,' 'Kavithayude DNA,' and 'Alakadalum Neyyambalukalum,' 'Rithu Samharam' and 'Kuttikalude Shakespeare.'

- Born at Iringolil, Thiruvalla, on June 2, 1939, Vishnu Narayanan Namboothiri taught English at government colleges at Kozhikode, Pattambi, Kollam, Ernakulam, Tripunithura, Chittoor and Thalassery before retiring from service as head of the department at the University College, Thiruvananthapuram.
- A recipient of the coveted literary prizes in Malayalam literature including the Odakuzhal Award, Vallathol Prize, Vayalar Award and the Ezhuthachchan Award, Vishnu Narayanan Namboothiri received the Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award in 1979 for 'Bhoomigeethangal' and the Central Sahitya Akademi Award in 1994 'Ujjayiniyile Raappakalukal.' The nation honoured him with the Padma Shri in 2014.

#### **Senior CPI leader D Pandian passes away in Chennai**

- Senior Communist leader and former Tamil Nadu state secretary of the Communist Party of India (CPI) D. Pandian passed away in Chennai.
- D Pandian was elected to the Lok Sabha as an Indian National Congress's United People Alliance (UPA-1) - United Communist Party of India (UCPI) candidate from North Chennai constituency in 1989 and 1991 elections. He was the Tamil Nadu State Secretary of the Communist Party of India for nearly six years till 2015 when he was succeeded by R. Mutharasan.

#### **PM Modi pays tribute to Saint Ravidas on 644th birth anniversary**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tribute to the mystic poet, Saint Ravidas on the occasion of his birth anniversary, also known as Ravidas Jayanti



- Saint Ravidas belonged to the bhakti movement during the 15th to 16th century and his hymns are included in the Guru Granth Sahib. He is considered the founder of the 21st-century Ravidassia religion. Ravidas Jayanti is celebrated on Magh Purnima, which is the full moon day of the Magh month as per the Hindu calendar.
- The Jayanti is especially celebrated in North India including Chandigarh, Himachal

Pradesh, Haryana and Punjab. Also known by Raidas, Rohidas and Ruhidas - his devotional songs and verses created a lasting impact upon the Bhakti Movement.

- Around 40 of the poems accredited to Ravidas were included in the Adi Granth, the sacred scripture of Sikhism. It is generally believed that Ravidas met Nanak, the first Guru, and founder of the Sikh tradition.

## 1.5 SPORTS AND GAMES

### Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, 2021

- Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy 2021 Final: 'Invincibles' Tamil Nadu overwhelmed third-time finalists Baroda by eight wickets to claim their second Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy (SMAT) title at Sardar Patel Stadium, Ahmedabad.

### India top medals tally with 11 medals at first Asian Online Shooting Championship

- The Indian shooting contingent has topped the medals tally in the first-ever Asian Online Shooting Championship, organised by Kuwait Shooting Federation on 29 and 30 January 2021.
- The 24-member Indian shooting contingent won total 11 medals, which included four gold medals, two silver and five bronze medals.
- 274 shooters from 22 Asian countries took part in the competition.

### Joe Root receives special cap for his 100<sup>th</sup> Test

- Joseph Edward Root (cricketer) received a cap from team-mate Ben Stokes for featuring in his milestone 100th Test and he marked their 100<sup>th</sup> Test with a century.

	Runs	Opponent	Venue	Year
Javed Miandad (Pak)	145	Vs. India	Lahore	1989
Inzamam-ul-Haq (Pak)	184	Vs. India	Bengaluru	2005
Joe Root (Eng)	128*	Vs. India	Chennai	2021

### Devender, Nimisha win gold

- Para athletes Devender Kumar and Nimisha Suresh Chakkungalparambil won a gold medal at the 12th Fazza International World Para Athletics Grand Prix event by winning six medals.
- It was held at UAE
- Pardeep, Pranav bag silver; Vinod, Rakshita clinch bronze.

### India's 5 Medals : World Para Athletics

- Indian para-athletes continued their good show at the 12<sup>th</sup> Fazza International World Para Athletics Grand Prix winning five medals, including two golds.
- Para-athlete Simran got closer to her Paralympic dream as she clinched the



gold medal in women's 100m T13 final, clocking 12.74 seconds. This was her second international medal after the China Grand Prix in 2019.

- 36-year-old Neeraj Yadav hurled the discus to a distance of 35.49m to take the gold in men's discus throw F55.
- In men's long jump final T44, Praveen Kumar (5.95m) and Pardeep (5.73m) claimed the second and third positions with jumps of 5.95m and 5.73m, respectively and finishing Kantinan Khumphong (5.50m in T63). It was a combined T44/63 event.
- Bhagyashri Mahavir Jadhav claimed the bronze medal in women's Javelin F34 with a throw of 11.36m.

### **India claims four more gold medals**

- Indian men's javelin throwers came up with a brilliant show as reigning World champion Sandeep Chaudhary (F44), Ajeet Singh (F46) and Navdeep (F41) won gold on the 12<sup>th</sup> Fazza International World Para Athletics Grand Prix on UAE.
- Pranav Prashant Desai in the men's 200m F64, while World champion javelin thrower Sundar Singh Gurjar (F46) finished with a bronze.

### **Highly Priced IPL Cricket Players**

- India - K. Gautham (CSK)
- South Africa - Chris Morris (Rajasthan Royals).

### **National table tennis championship**

- Manika Batra clinched her second title by defeating Reeth Rishya 4-2 in the women's singles final of the Senior National Table Tennis Championship.
- Commonwealth Games gold medallist Manika, representing Petroleum Sports Promotion Board (PSPB), had won her maiden title in 2015 at Hyderabad Nationals and finished a runner-up at Ranchi in 2017.

### **Rajiv Ram**

- Rajiv Ram won the mixed doubles title at Melbourne Park with Barbora Krejčíková.

### **Alfiya Pathan wins India's first gold**

- Indian women boxers continued their fine run as Alfiya Pathan (81+kg) claimed the country's first gold medal even as five others stormed into the finals of the 30<sup>th</sup> Adriatic Pearl Tournament in Budva, Montenegro.

### **Novak Djokovic and Naomi Osaka wins Australian Open 2021 Tennis Championship**

- In tennis, Japan's Naomi Osaka won her fourth Grand Slam title on February 20, 2021, after she beat American Jennifer Brady in the women's singles game of Australian Open final 2021. The four Grand Slam title for Osaka comes two Australian Open title (2021 and 2019) and two US Open title (2018 and 2020).
- In Men's single final, Novak Djokovic claimed his ninth Australian Open crown and the 18th Major Grand Slam overall, as he defeated Daniil Medvedev.

### **Karnataka to host Khelo India University Games 2021**

- Karnataka will be hosting the second Khelo India University Games (KIUG) 2021, which is scheduled to take place later this year.
- The announcement was made by Karnataka Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa and Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Kiren Rijju.

### **Babyrojisana, Arundhati clinch gold**

- Babyrojisana Chanu (51kg) and Arundhati Choudhary (69kg) triumphed as Indian women boxers ended with five gold medals in the 30<sup>th</sup> Adriatic Pearl tournament in Budva, Montenegro. Lucky Rana (64kg) secured a silver as India emerged as the top team with 10 medals (five gold, three silver and two bronze).

### **FIFA**

- FIFA is a non-profit organization which describes itself as an international governing body of association football, futsal and beach soccer.
- Headquarters: Zürich, Switzerland
- President - Gianni Infantino

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Khelo India National Winter Games in Gulmarg

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi delivered the inaugural address at 2<sup>nd</sup> Khelo India National Winter Games through video conference.
- The second edition of Khelo India-Winter Games has been organised at the world-famous ski-resort Gulmarg in Baramulla district of Jammu and Kashmir.
- The 5 days Games will be held from February 26 to March 02, 2021.

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## 1.6 BOOKS & AUTHORS

### Meghna Pant Pens's new novel

- The award-winning writer, journalist and speaker Meghna Pant has come up with her new novel titled 'The Terrible, Horrible, Very Bad Good News'.

### First Audio Tamil book

- The first novel written in Tamil was Pratapa Mudaliar Charithram published in 1876. It was

written by Mayuram Vedanayagam Pillai . For the first time, the books going to be launch as Audio

### K.R.Rajanarayan's Book Released

- "Micha Kathaigal " book of Former Writer K.R.Rajanarayan has been released.

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## 1.7 AWARDS & HONOURS

### Tamil Nadu Awards Ceremony

- The Government of Tamil Nadu Awards Ceremony is held annually on the 2nd day of the month of Thiruvalluvar Thirunal. In this festival, the following awards are being presented to highlight the Tamil scholars who have been working in Tamil all their lives to uphold the pride of Tamils and to add pride to Tamils.
- Awarding the "Tamilai Award" to the best organization for Tamils living in Tamil Nadu and other states and other countries who have set up various organizations to preserve their cultural roots and carry out works on language, literature and art. (Award Rs. 5.00 Lakhs, Eligibility)
- Providing traditional Tamil / antiquity, history, civilization, culture etc. to the Tamil scholar who invents traditional poems / poems in a way that is visible and adds team to Tamil.
- To provide the scholar who is carrying out the

publishing work in such a way as to enrich the Tamil, after discovering the rare manuscripts of inscriptions, excavations, manuscripts, texts available etc.

- Presenting critiques of Kambar, one of the best in the world of Tamil literature, critics of Kambar's works, Poetry Energy Story show character creation and poetry writers to spread his fame and other charitable Tamil scholars.

### Awards for Women entrepreneurs

- The Working Women's Forum (India), a social organisation, will be giving away founders day awards to women entrepreneurs across South India on the occasion of the 89th birth anniversary of Jaya Aruncachalam, a legendary social worker who spearheaded several women empowerment initiatives.
- A statement by Nandini Azad, president of the Indian Co-operative Network for Women Limited (ICNW) and the Working Women's forum (India).

### **Working Womens Forum**

- The Working Women's Forum is a women's organisation in southern India. It was founded in 1978 by Jaya Arunachalam in Madras. The WWF aims to empower poor women in southern India by providing microcredit, a trade union, health care and training.

### **Turtle conservationist honoured**

- TREE Foundation's founder-chairperson Supraja Dharini has been awarded a place in the inaugural Explorers Club-50 People Changing the World

### **TREE Foundation**

- TREE Foundation was founded in 2002 with the aim of protecting marine turtle population, understanding the interrelatedness between coastal communities and the marine resources upon which the former survive.

### **Miss India 2020**

- Manasa Varanasi, an engineer from Telangana, was named winner of the VLCC Femina Miss India 2020.
- Haryana's Manika Sheokand was declared VLCC Femina Miss Grand India 2020, while Manya Singh was crowned runner-up of the pageant.

### **Nihal Singh welcomed on receiving President Jeevan Raksha Medal**

- Nihal Singh of Chaugan, who saved the lives of the people by putting his life on the palm, will get the President's Survival Medal.

### **Prani Mitra' award**

- S. Chinny Krishna, the co-founder of Blue Cross of India, has been conferred with the 'Prani Mitra' award for 2021 by the Animal Welfare Board of India for his lifetime service to animals.

### **Prani Mitra**

- 'Prani Mitra' is the country's highest award for animal welfare.

### **Ezhuchi Thamizhar Literary Award 2020**

- Ezhuchi Tamizhar Literary Awards (2020) have been announced. Kadirbharati's Best

Poetry Collection "High Bird, Best Short Story Collection Arun.

- Moe's "Injustice Stories", Srinivasan Natarajan's "Thaladi" for Best Novel, Thenmozhi Das for Best Female Writing, Amuthan Pachaimuthu for Best Painting and K. Jayapalan for Best Buddhist Ideal Writing. Prof. Thirumavalavan's book 'Organizational Gathering' has been selected as the best political-ideological work published in the last five years.

### **Govt. announces Kalaimamani awards**

- Veteran cine actors B. Saroja Devi and Sowcar Janaki, noted playback singers P. Susheela and Jamuna Rani and Bharatanatyam artistes Ambika Kameshwar and Parvathi Ravi Ghantasala have been named for the Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalithaa Special Kalaimamani Awards for 2019 and 2020 by the Tamil Nadu government.
- Noted artistes Vani Jayaram and S. Rajeswari have been named for receiving the all-India award the M.S. Subbulakshmi Award (Music) for 2019 and 2020 respectively.
- Artistes Alarmel Valli and Chandra Dhandayuthapani, too, are to receive the all-India award the Balasaraswathi Award (Dance) for 2019. A total of 59 personalities have been named for receiving the Kalaimamani Award for 2019 and another 65 for 2020.
- Pollachi Tamil Isai Sangam and Tamil Isai Sangam at the Raja Muthiah Mandram in Madurai will receive shields for best cultural organisations. Sabari Nadaka Kuzhu in Tiruvannamalai will receive the rolling shield for the best drama troupe. It has also named nine senior Kalaimamani artistes for receiving the Porkizhi (cash award).
- The 'Akkarai Sisters' S. Subhalakshmi and S. Sornalatha Nagaswaram artiste Achalpuram S. Chinnathambi, singer Jolly Abraham, actors Ramarajan, Yogi Babu and Devadarshini, cinema producer Kalaipuli S. Thanu, cine editor Antony and K.N. Ramaswamy of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan will also receive the Kalaimamani Award for 2019.

### **Anantapur bags PM Kisan National Award**

- Anantapur district in Andhra Pradesh has been awarded the PM Kisan National Award for achieving 99.60% of verification of beneficiaries under the Central government scheme meant for the farmers.
- Under the Central government scheme, income support of ₹6,000 per year in three equal instalments is Provided to all farmers.

### **18<sup>th</sup> Chennai International Film Festival**

- Endravadhu oru Naal, directed by Vetri Duraiswamy, was given the best Tamil feature film award in the Tamil film competition held as part of the 18<sup>th</sup> Chennai International Film Festival (CIFF).
- Chiyangal, directed by Vaigarai Balan, won the second-best Tamil feature film award.

Actress Aishwarya Rajesh received a special mention award for her role in the film Ka Pae Ranasingham and cinematographer Shanmuga Sundaram was given the special jury award for his work in the film Endravadhu Oru Naal.

- Around 91 films from 53 countries were screened over the last seven days as part of the film festival organised by the Indo Cine Appreciation Foundation (ICAF) in association with PVR Cinemas.

### **Global energy and environment leadership award**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will receive the CERAWEEK global energy and environment leadership award during an annual international energy conference.

## **1.8 CULTURAL PANORAMA**

### **Discovery of the ancient Perumal Statue**

- Madurantakam Near King temple area behind Srivaratharaja Perumal Temple, about 4 feet high Ancient Perumal stone statue were found.

stones and a slab of stone flattened on them.

### **Discovery of 3,000-year-old stone monuments near Uttiramerur**

- Edamachchi Village is located near Uttiramerur, Salavakkam. Eema symbols were found, such as stone and stone circles dating back to 3000 years have been found on the Chinnamalai village.
- These boulders are a type of monument to the dead based on Paleolithic culture. It is usually a structure consisting of three or more steep

### **Palaniswami to launch 7<sup>th</sup> phase of Keezhadi excavation**

- Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami will inaugurate the seventh phase of excavation in Keezhadi and its cluster villages through video conference.
- The State Archaeology department got permission to conduct the seventh phase excavation in Keezhadi and its cluster villages - Manalur, Agaram and Konthagai - from Centre Advisory Board of Archaeology. Among the six phases of excavations carried out so far, three were conducted by Archaeological Survey of India.



## 1.9 LATEST HISTORICAL EVENTS

### PM Modi to inaugurate 'Chauri Chaura' centenary celebrations on Feb 4

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Chauri Chaura Centenary Celebrations at Chauri Chaura, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh through video conferencing. The day marks 100 years of the Chauri Chaura incident, a landmark event in the country's fight for independence. The

Prime Minister will also release a postal stamp dedicated to the Chauri Chaura centenary during the event. Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath will also be present on the occasion. The centenary celebrations and various events planned by the State government will begin in all 75 districts of the State from Thursday and will continue till 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2022.

## 1.10 APPOINTMENTS – WHO IS WHO?

### Rajeev Ranjan is Chief Secretary

- The Tamil Nadu government named senior IAS officer Rajeev Ranjan as Chief Secretary. It also appointed the outgoing Chief Secretary, K.Shanmugam, as its Adviser for one year from February 1.
- Mr.Ranjan has held various positions in his over three decades of service. He began his over three decades of service. He began his career as Sub-Collector in Tiruvannamalai (1987-89) and became Tiruvannamalai (1987-89) and became Tiruchi Collector in April 1995, a post he held until August 1997. He was one of the handful of Collectors who survived the regime change in May 1996.

### Praveen Sinha takes over as CBI interim chief

- Gujarat cadre IPS officer Praveen Sinha, currently Additional Director of the CBI, was appointed as its interim chief on Wednesday as current chief R.K Shukla's two-year tenure ended. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is the premier investigating agency of India. Formed under Santhanam committee recommendation on 1st April, 1963.
- CBI derives power to investigate from the Delhi special police Establishment Act 1946.
- It Operates under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and

Pensions.

### Current Chairman - Adarsh Kumar Goel

- It is a specialised body set up under the National Green Tribunal Act (2010) for effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources.
- Only two Acts- (Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006) have been kept out of NGT's jurisdiction.

### Leader of Opposition

- Veteran Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge is all set to be the Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha following the exit of another veteran Ghulam Nabi Azad.
- Karke belongs to Gulbarga district of Karnataka.

### WTO head

- Nigeria's Ngozi OkonjoIweala was appointed as the first female and first African head of the beleaguered World Trade Organization (WTO)

### WTO

- Founded - 1<sup>st</sup> January 1995
- President -Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala
- Head Quarters - Geneva, Switzerland



### **Kiran Bedi removed as Puducherry L-G**

- Kiran Bedi was removed as the Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry.
- Telangana Governor Tamilisai Soundarajan has been given additional charge of the Union Territory.

### **Dr Ajay Mathur elected new Director**

- The International Solar Alliance (ISA) has elected Dr. Ajay Mathur as its new Director General on February 15, 2021, at the first special assembly of ISA members. He will take over the leadership of ISA on March 15, 2021.
- Dr. Mathur will replace Mr. Upendra Tripathy, who has served as Director-General since the inception of the ISA in 2015.

### **ISA**

- The ISA, is an Indian initiative that was launched by the Prime Minister of India and the President of France on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2015 in Paris, France on the side-lines of the Conference of the Parties (COP-21), with 121 solar resource rich countries lying fully or partially between the tropic of Cancer and tropic of Capricorn as prospective members.

### **Indian-origin Preeti Sinha appointed to head United Nations Capital Development Fund**

- The UN Capital Development Fund has appointed Indian-origin investment and development banker Preeti Sinha as its Executive Secretary, the highest leadership rank in the institution.

### **UNDP**

- The New York-based United Nations Capital Development Fund is an autonomous UN organization affiliated with UNDP.
- It was established in 1966.
- The organisation provides micro-finance access to the 47 Least Developed Countries (LDCs) of the world, to Help them unlock the full potential of public and private finance.

### **CJI**

#### **Article 124 (1)**

- It provides for the setting up of the Supreme Court which will be composed of one Chief

Justice of India and only seven judges until the Parliament by law prescribes any more judges.

- CJI –Justice Sharad Arvind Bobde
- Formed - 28 January 1950
- First CJI - H. J. Kania
- Term duration- 65 years

### **Siddharth Chatterjee takes over as top UN diplomat in China**

- Senior UN official Siddharth Chatterjee of India has taken over as the United Nations Resident Coordinator in China, a key posting of overseeing the work of 27 agencies, funds and programmes of the global organisation in the world's most populous country.

### **UN**

- Formed on - 24 August 1945
- Chairman- António Guterres
- Head Quarters-Newyork

### **Pranita Gupta**

- Indian-American Pranita Gupta has been named Special Assistant to US President Joe Biden on the Labor and Workers' Domestic Council.

### **Information Commissioners appointed**

- P.Dhanasekaran and M.Sreedhar have been appointed as State Information Commissioners in the Tamil Nadu Information Commission. Their appointment comes after R.Dhakshinamurthy and G.Murugan ceased to hold the posts.

### **SIC**

- The Right to Information Act of 2005 provides for the creation of not only the Central Information Commission but also a State Information Commission at the state level.
- Term Length – 65 years or 3 years.

### **National Sanitary Commission**

- M.Venkatesh appointed as the Chairman of the National Sanitary Commission

### **T. Anand and Ajay Yadav named Joint CEOs**

- The State government posted IAS officers T. Anand and Ajay Yadav as Joint Chief Electoral

Officers in the Public (Elections) Department.

- Mr. Anand has been serving as Joint Secretary in the Agriculture Department.
- Mr. Yadav has been the Joint Secretary in the Health and Family Welfare Department.

### **CEO**

- Election (Part) 324 -329
- Appointed by – President
- Term Length – 65 years or 6 years
- Removed by – He can be removed from his office by the President on the basis of a resolution passed to that effect by both the houses of parliament with a two-thirds majority in both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on the grounds of proved misbehavior or incapacity.

### **First female additional commissioner**

- K.P.Bhavaneeswari assumes as the Chennai Transport Division First Female Additional Commissioner. Tamil Nadu

### **IAEA, Iran agree temporary deal**

- Iran held “fruitful discussions” with UN nuclear watchdog chief Rafael Grossi in Tehran.
- Mr. Grossi, head of the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency
- Founded: 29 July 1957.

### **Gowri Ashokan is head of women’s panel**

- The Tamil Nadu government has reconstituted the State Commission for Women with Gowri Ashokan as its Chairperson.

- The Chairperson and the Members of the Commission will hold office for three years.
- The tenure of other two existing members of the Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women who were nominated by the government among the members of the Legislative Assembly will cease to be the members of the Commission from the day on which they cease to be the members of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly.

### **New chief for National Commission for SCs**

- Vijay Sampla, a former Union Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment and former BJP MP, took charge as the Chairman of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes, a post that was vacant since May 2020.
- Mr. Sampla, the former MP from Hoshiarpur in Punjab and Minister of State from 2014-2019.
- National Commission for SCs comes under Article 338 A of Indian Constitution.

### **Exporters’ body FIEO elects A Sakthivel as its new president**

- Exporters’ body Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) announced it has elected A Sakthivel as its new president.
- Sakthivel, a leading knitwear exporter, is currently chairman of Apparel Export Promotion Council.
- He has replaced S K Saraf, who is a Mumbai-based businessman.

## **1.11 INDIA AND ITS NEIGHBOURS**

### **Sri Lanka Currency Swap with India**

- The Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) settled a \$400 million currency swap facility from the Reserve Bank (RBI) of India.

### **Currency Swap**

- A currency swap is an agreement in which two parties exchange the principal amount of a loan and the interest in one currency for the principal and interest in another currency.

### **RBI**

- Governor - Sir Osborne Smith
- Current Governor ( 25<sup>th</sup>) – Shaktikanta Das
- Head Quarters – Mumbai in Villupuram.

### **Pangong Lake located between China and India**

- According to the consensus reached at the Chinese and Indian Foreign Ministers’

meeting in Moscow and the ninth round of commander-level talks between the two sides, the frontline troops of the Chinese and Indian militaries began to conduct simultaneous and planned disengagement in the Pangong lake on February 10.

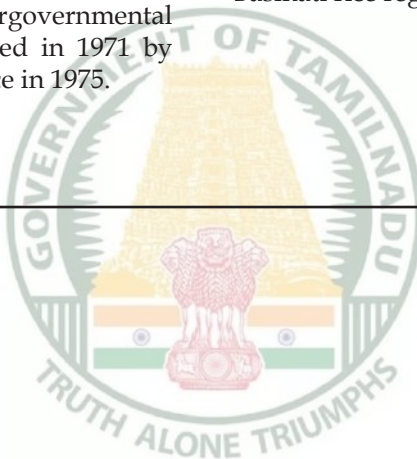
### **Pangong Lake**

- Pangong Tso or Pangong Lake is an endorheic lake spanning eastern Ladakh and West Tibet.
- The lake is in the process of being identified under the Ramsar Convention as a wetland of international importance.
- This will be the first trans-boundary wetland in South Asia under the convention.

### **Ramsar Site**

- The Convention on Wetlands, known as the Ramsar Convention, is an intergovernmental environmental treaty established in 1971 by UNESCO, which came into force in 1975.

- Pakistan has decided to register Himalayan pink salt as Geographical Indications (GI) to prevent its unauthorised use by other countries. A GI tag is a sign used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess origin-based qualities and reputation in the region.
- The precious salt is extracted from the Salt Range in Punjab which extends along the south of the Potohar Plateau and the north of the Jhelum River. The decision was taken in a meeting with the Intellectual Property Organisation (IPO) Pakistan chaired by Commerce Adviser Razak Dawood.
- Pakistan is fighting a case in the 27-member European Union against India's move to get Basmati rice registered as its product.





## 2. POLITICAL SCIENCE

### 2.1 PROBLEMS IN CONDUCT OF PUBLIC ELECTIONS

#### **Election Commission Collaborated with IIT Madras**

- The Election Commission has collaborated with IIT Madras to work on a new technology which will allow electors to vote from far away
- cities without going to the designated polling station of their respective constituencies.
- The “two-way block chain remote voting” process would involve voter identification and authorisation using a multi-layered IT enabled system working on the Election Commission.

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### 2.2 POLITICAL PARTIES AND POLITICAL SYSTEM IN INDIA

#### **Puducherry headed for President’s rule**

- After the resignation of the Congress government of V. Narayanasamy, the Union Territory appears headed for President’s rule as the Opposition parties are not keen on forming a government with the election

#### **President’s Rule**

- Article 356 of the Constitution of India is based on Section 93 of the Government of India Act, 1935.
- Rule can be imposed if any state fails to comply with all directions given by the Union on matters it is empowered to.
- The President’s Rule is initially for a period of six months. Later, it can be extended for a period of three years with parliamentary approval, every six months.
- The 44<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution (1978) brought in some constraints on the imposition of the President’s Rule beyond a period of one year.
- It was used for the first time in 1951 in Punjab. Between 1966 and 1977, Indira Gandhi’s government used it about 39 times against various states.
- In the S.R. Bommai case (1994), the Supreme Court of India put forth strict guidelines for the imposition of Article 356.

#### **This is of two types:**

- If the President receives a report from the state’s Governor or otherwise is convinced or satisfied that the state’s situation is such that the state government cannot carry on the governance according to the provisions of the Constitution.
- Article 365: As per this Article, President’s

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### 2.3 GOVT – WELFARE ORIENTED GOVT SCHEMES, THEIR UTILITY

#### **Water supply, Swachh Bharat 2.0 missions for urban areas**

- The government would launch a mission to provide universal water supply to areas under all the 4,378 urban local bodies and the next phase of the Swachh Bharat Mission
- focusing on management of sludge, waste water and construction and demolition waste in cities, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced in her Budget speech.
- “The World Health Organisation has repeatedly stressed the importance of clean



water, sanitation, and clean environment, as a prerequisite to achieving universal health. The Jal Jeevan Mission [Urban], will be launched. It aims at universal water supply in all 4,378 Urban Local Bodies with 2.86 crore household tap connections, as well as liquid waste management in 500 AMRUT cities.”.

- This mission would be implemented over five years with an expenditure of ₹2.87 lakh crore.
- The Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban), which is being implemented by the Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry, would get a second round.
- The Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) 2.0 would be implemented over five years – 2021 till 2026 – with an outlay of ₹1.41 lakh crore.

### PM KISAN Scheme

- PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana was launched on 24th February 2019.
- Under the scheme, the government has been providing annually Rs. 6000 in three equal installments to all land holding farmers.
- The amount has been transferred directly into the bank accounts of beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode.

### Scheme

- The government's maternity benefit scheme, or Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana, has crossed 1.75 crore eligible women till financial year 2020.
- Under PMMVY, pregnant Women and lactating mothers receive ₹5,000 on the birth of their first child in three instalments, after fulfilling certain conditionalities.
- The scheme was announced on December 31, 2016, by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

### Krishak Bandhu scheme

- Krishak Bandhu scheme has been increased to Rs 6,000 crore from Rs 5,000 crore for the interest of farmers in West Bengal.
- National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) is a poverty alleviation project implemented by Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India. This scheme is focused on promoting self-employment and organization of rural poor.
- This programme is supported by the World Bank with a credit of \$1 Billion.

- The scheme was succeeded by Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana on 25 September 2015.

### Jal Jeevan Mission to help revive urban waterbodies

- The urban water supply mission announced in the Budget would include rejuvenation of water bodies as well as 20% of supply from reused water, the Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry.
- The Ministry said there was an estimated gap of 2.68 crore urban household tap connections that the Jal Jeevan Mission (Urban) [JJMU] would seek to bridge in all 4,378 statutory towns. The Mission would also aim to bridge the gap of 2.64 crore sewer connections in the 500 cities under the existing Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT).

### Govt targets 1,000 routes under UDAN scheme

- Union Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Puri announced ministry has set a target of operationalising 100 unserved and underserved airports and starting at least 1,000 air routes under the UDAN scheme.

### UDAN Scheme

- Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik (UDAN) was launched as a regional connectivity scheme under the Ministry of Civil Aviation in 2016.

### Health Minister Harsh Vardhan launches Mission Indradhanush 3.0

- The Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan launched the Intensified Mission Indradhanush 3.0, (IMI 3.0) on February 19, 2021, to expand immunization coverage across the country.
- The focus of IMI 3.0 will be on children and pregnant women who missed their vaccine doses during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Mission Indradhanush

- The scheme was launched in 2014 to provide affordable and accessible healthcare to all citizens of the country. It aims to immunise all children under the age of 2 years, as well as all pregnant women, against eight vaccine preventable diseases.





# 3. GEOGRAPHY

## 3.1 POLICY ON ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY

### A bullet through an Island's heart

- A plan for the sustainable and holistic development of the 680 sq km, fragile Little Andaman Island in the Andaman and Nicobar group has raised the alarm among conservationists.
- The Sustainable Development of Little Andaman Island – Vision Document' is the NITI Aayog's proposal to leverage the strategic location and natural.

### Three Zones

- The proposal is pivoted along three development anchors and zones.
- Zone 1 -spread over 102 sq km along the east coast of Little Andaman – will be the financial district and medi city and will include and aerocity, and a tourism and hospital district.
- Spread over 85 sq km of pristine forest, Zone 2, the leisure zone, will have a fim city, a residential district and a tourism SEZ.

### New plant species with possible medicinal properties discovered

- Chennai based botanists have discovered a plant species, Hedyotis sithiravaraiensis (Karumthumbai or Senthumbai or Sakkaraitumbai), a critically endangered species of the Rubia-ceae family in Pakkamalai in the Gingee Hills, one of the ranges of the Eastern Ghats.
- The species had been named after its type locality Sithiravarai (Sethavarai), an archaeologically important site, as it has 3,500 year old rock paintings in natural caverns. The etymological meaning of the term is Sithiram (painting) and Varai (hills).

### Green Peace Report

- Air pollution claimed approximately 54,000 lives in Delhi in 2020, according to a

Greenpeace Southeast Asia analysis of cost to the economy due to air pollution.

- Six Indian cities Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad and Lucknow feature in the global analysis.

### GPR

- Greenpeace India is the Indian branch of the global environmental group Greenpeace, a non-profit NGO, with a presence in 55 countries across Europe, the Americas, and Asia. Greenpeace India has legally registered society in 4 locations with Bengaluru has its headquarters and other branches at Delhi, Chennai, Patna.
- The organization states that it receives 60% of its funding from donors in India.

### Red-eared turtle

- It was found in Kerala.
- Scientifically called Trachemys scripta elegans.
- This turtle is considered one of the world's worst invasive species.

### Winter pollution on the rise

- The levels of PM 2.5, the most threatening of particulate matter, worsened in 43 of 99 cities whose winter air in 2020 and 2019 was compared by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE).
- The cities with the worst pollution spikes in 2020 over 2019 include Gurugram, Lucknow, Jaipur, Visakhapatnam, Agra, Navi Mumbai, and Jodhpur. Kolkata is the only mega city in this group.
- 23 of the most polluted cities are from north India. Ghaziabad is the most polluted city in the northern belt.
- Mysuru is the least polluted, followed by Satna in Madhya Pradesh and Kochi in Kerala.



## 4. ECONOMICS

### 4.1 NEW ECONOMIC POLICY & GOVT. SECTOR

#### ₹50,000 cr. for National Research Foundation

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman earmarked ₹50,000 crore over five years for the creation of a National Research Foundation (NRF) – an umbrella body that is expected to fund research across a range of disciplines, from science and technology to humanities.
- Ms. Sitharaman had first announced such a foundation in her 2019 Budget speech after it was proposed in a draft of India's New Education Policy (NEP). It NRF will ensure that the overall research ecosystem in the country is strengthened with a focus on identified national priority thrust areas.

#### e-payments in smaller cities

- The government proposed a Rs.1,500 crore-scheme to promote digital transactions in the country, a move that the industry believes will drive adoption of e-payment in smaller cities and spur innovation by fintech firms.

#### Nirmala Sitharaman quotes Tirukkural

- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman quoted Tamil poet and philosopher Thiruvalluvar in her Union Budget 2020 presentation. In her Budget speech, she mentioned Thiruvalluvar's philosophy on "what a good country is".
- She stated five "jewels" required for a "good country" while quoting Tirukkural's 'Piniyinmai Selvam Vilaivinpam Emam Aniyenpa Naattiv Vaindhu' saying, which translates that a country's jewels are these five: without epidemic or illness, wealth, farm productivity happiness and good defence.
- For these five "Jewels", Sitharaman mentioned that the government took a Bharat' and ease

of doing business rankings while adding that national security is the Centre's top priority.

#### Reserve Bank of India

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) was established on April 1, 1935 in accordance with the provisions of the RBI Act, 1934.
- Management of currency is one of the core central banking functions of the RBI. According to Section 22 of the RBI Act, the Reserve Bank is the sole authority for issue of currency in India. Though the Government of India issues coins, they are put into circulation only through the RBI. This function is carried out by the Department of Currency Management.
- The RBI was nationalised on January 1, 1949.

#### TN gets GST compensation

- The provisional GST compensation due to Tamil Nadu for FY2020-21 (till November) stands at ₹15,475 crore, according to information provided in the Rajya Sabha.

#### GST

- Goods and Services Tax (GST) is a federal tax. GST is an indirect tax, imposed on the sale of goods and services. It is implemented throughout the country since July 1, 2017. There will be no distinction between goods and services for the purpose of taxation. GST will be a destination-based tax. This implies that all State GST collected will ordinarily accrue to the State where the consumer of the goods or services sold resides.
- GST Compensation: Due to a shift from origin based to destination based indirect tax structure, some States might face drop in revenue in the initial years. To help the States in this transition phase, the Centre has committed to compensate all their losses for a period of 5 years.

**Constitution (101<sup>st</sup> Amendment) Act, 2016**

- In order to suitably implement the GST legislation, this Act resulted in the insertion, deletion and amendment of certain Articles of the Constitution.

**Article 246A: Special Provision for GST**

- This Article was newly inserted to give power to the Parliament and the respective State/Union Legislatures to make laws on GST respectively imposed by each of them. However, the Parliament of India is given the exclusive power to make laws with respect to inter-state supplies. The IGST Act deals with inter-state supplies.

**Article 269A: Levy and Collection of GST for Inter-State Supply**

- While Article 246A gives the Parliament the exclusive power to make laws with respect to inter-state supplies, the manner of distribution of revenue from such supplies between the Centre and the State is covered in Article 269A.

**Article 279A: GST Council**

- This Article gives power to the President to constitute a joint forum of the Centre and States called the GST Council. The GST Council is an apex member committee to modify, reconcile or to procure any law or regulation based on the context of Goods and Services Tax in India.

**Article 286: Restrictions on Tax Imposition**

- This was an existing article which restricted states from passing any law that allowed them to collect tax on sale or purchase of goods either outside the state or in the case of import transactions.
- Present Governor- Shaktikanta Das.

**Amazon CEO**

- Jeff Bezos, who founded Amazon as an online bookstore and built it into a shopping and entertainment behemoth, will step down later this year as CEO. Bezos will be replaced by summer by Andy Jassy.

**GDP growth projected at 10.5% in FY22: RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das**

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) projected a GDP growth rate of 10.5 per cent for the financial year beginning 1 April. RBI projects GDP at 10.5% in FY22.
- The economy will rebound to 10.5 per cent in the next financial year.
- India was hit hard by the pandemic, suffering the worst contraction in the June quarter, and the GDP is projected to contract by a record 7.7 per cent in the current fiscal ending March 31, 2021. The Pre-Budget Economic Survey predicted a “V-shaped” recovery, that the Indian economy will rebound, with 11 per cent growth, in the next financial year.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has held policy rates at 4 per cent in monetary policy committee announcement. This is the first monetary policy announcement after the presentation of the Union Budget on February 1.

**Fiscal indicators deteriorated drastically: Finance Commission**

- Tamil Nadu's fiscal indicators have deteriorated drastically from 2012-13 to 2018-19 and most borrowings in the recent years have gone to fund its revenue deficit, instead of capital expenditure.
- Tamil Nadu moved from a “revenue surplus” to a “revenue deficit” State after 2012-13.
- A revenue deficit is the difference between the government's revenue receipts and revenue expenditure and reflects that the government's earnings are not adequate to meet its day-to-day operational expenses.
- Tamil Nadu's Debt-Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) ratio has increased to 22.6% in 2018-19, from 17.2% in 2012-13.
- As per the report, Tamil Nadu's revenue deficit-fiscal deficit ratio has approached 50% in the recent years, implying that most borrowings were being used to finance its revenue deficit.
- Capital expenditure-GSDP ratio has fallen between 2011 and 2019 (except for 2016-17 when the State joined the UDAY scheme)



**Finance Commission**

- The Finance Commissions are commissions periodically constituted by the President of India under Article 280 of the Indian Constitution to define the financial relations between the central government of India and the individual state governments.

**Current Commission- 15<sup>th</sup>**

- 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission led by - N.K.Singh
- Formed: 22 November 1951
- Objectives: Financial relations between the centre and the state
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- First executive: Kshitish Chandra Neogy

**Tamilnad Mercantile Bank reports net profit of Rs 180.81 crore**

- Stepping into their centenary 12 months, the Board of the Thoothukudi(Tuticorin)-based Tamilnad Mercantile Bank (TMB) has revealed the reviewed outcomes for the quarter ended on December thirty first, 2020.
- The Bank has reported a net profit of Rs.180.81cr, with a growth of 95.64%, when in comparison with the 2019-20 determine of Rs.92.42cr.

**FDI to develop infrastructure in Tamil Nadu**

- Tamil Nadu accounts for 7% of the FDI that comes into India.
- The Finance Commission also noted that forestry and tourism were sectors with significant potential for the State.

**FDI Status**

- Highest FDI equity inflows to India - Singapore
- Largest Recipient ( Country ) of FDI -USA
- Largest Recipient ( State ) of FDI - Gujarat

**Global Investors Meet**

- The GIM 2015 was officially inaugurated by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister J Jayalithaa at the Chennai Trade Centre.
- On 23 and 24 January 2019, the second Global Investors Meet was held at the Chennai Trade Centre.

**91 lakh guarantees issued till Jan 25 under ECLG scheme**

- MSME Minister Nitin Gadkari announced under the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee (ECLG) Scheme, around 91 lakh guarantees have been issued till January 25 this year.
- Under Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme, around 91 lakh guarantees have been issued till 25.01.2021.
- The government has announced several measures under Aatmanirbhar Bharat package to increase availability of credit to the MSME sector which include ₹3 lakh crore collateral free automatic loans for business, including MSMEs under Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS).

**Crypto bill being finalised, will be sent to cabinet soon**

- Minister of State for Finance and Corporate Affairs Anurag Thakur proclaimed the Rajya Sabha that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) lack a legal framework to regulate cryptocurrencies which are neither currencies nor securities or commodities.
- In 2018, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had banned banks from processing transactions relating to cryptocurrency. However, in March last year, the Supreme Court had lifted the ban.
- Regulatory bodies like RBI and Sebi etc also don't have a legal framework to directly regulate cryptocurrencies as they are neither currencies nor assets or securities or commodities issued by an identifiable user.

**Inflation down to 4.06 %, IIP rises 1%**

- Inflation and Deflation - Inflation occurs when the prices of goods and services rise, while deflation occurs when those prices decrease.

**Wholesale Price Index WPI**

- It is the most widely used inflation indicator in India.
- Published by the Office of Economic Adviser, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- All transactions at the first point of bulk sale in the domestic market are included.



- The base year of All-India WPI has been revised from 2004-05 to 2011-12 in 2017.

### **Consumer Price Index CPI**

- It measures price changes from the perspective of a retail buyer.
- It measures changes over time in the level of retail prices of selected goods and services on which consumers of a defined group spend their incomes.
- Base Year for CPI is 2012.

### **Index of Industrial Production**

- The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is an index that indicates the performance of various industrial sectors of the Indian economy.
- It is calculated and published by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) every month.

### **Money Bills**

- Article 110 deals with money bills.
- They deal with 'only' provisions mentioned in Article 110.
- Speaker decides whether a bill is a money bill or not.
- They can be introduced only in Lok Sabha.
- President's recommendation is needed to introduce them.
- It cannot be amended or rejected by the Rajya Sabha.
- President can either accept or reject a money bill but cannot return it for reconsideration.
- No provision for joint sitting of both the houses to resolve the deadlock.

### **Financial Action Task Force**

- Pakistan, which continues to remain on the "grey list" of FATF, had earlier been given the deadline till the June 2020 to ensure compliance with the 27-point action plan against terror funding networks and money laundering syndicates, or face "black listing".
- The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is an inter-governmental body established in 1989 during the G7 Summit in Paris.
- The objectives of the FATF are to set standards and promote effective implementation of legal, regulatory and operational measures

for combating money laundering, terrorist financing and other related threats to the integrity of the international financial system.

- Its Secretariat is located at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) headquarters in Paris.
- Member Countries: it consists of thirty-seven member jurisdictions. India is one of the members.

### **FATF has two lists:**

- Grey List: Countries that are considered safe haven for supporting terror funding and money laundering are put in the FATF grey list. This inclusion serves as a warning to the country that it may enter the blacklist.
- Black List: Countries known as Non-Cooperative Countries or Territories (NCCTs) are put in the blacklist. These countries support terror funding and money laundering activities. The FATF revises the blacklist regularly, adding or deleting entries.
- It meets three times per year.

### **SEBI**

- SEBI is a statutory body established on April 12, 1992 in accordance with the provisions of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992.
- SEBI is a quasi-legislative and quasi-judicial body which can draft regulations, conduct inquiries, pass rulings and impose penalties.
- The headquarters of SEBI is situated in Mumbai. The regional offices of SEBI are located in Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Chennai and Delhi.
- A Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) has been constituted to protect the interest of entities that feel aggrieved by SEBI's decision.

### **NABARD Bank**

- NABARD Bank allocated 2978 crore fund for Irrigation Project in Tamilnadu.

### **NABARD Bank**

- It is a statutory body established in 1982 under Parliamentary Act-National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Act, 1981.
- Headquarter –Mumbai

## Reserve Bank of India (RBI) brings State Bank of Sikkim under its regulatory purview

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has brought State Bank of Sikkim under its regulatory purview, on February 22, 2021.
- Till now, RBI had the right and obligation to function as banker to all the state government except for the state government of Sikkim.
- Now the bank will be regulated by the RBI on a par with other banks, however the bank's ownership structure will not change.

### RBI

Year	Event
1934	The British enacted the Reserve Bank of India Act.
1935	Reserve Bank of India was established on 1st of April in Calcutta.
1937	Reserve Bank of India was permanently moved to Mumbai
1949	Got nationalized after independence. The bank was held by private stakeholders before this.

- In the year 2016, the original RBI Act of 1934 was amended and that provided the statutory basis for the implementation of the flexible inflation-targeting framework.

### IRDAI

- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India or the IRDAI is the apex body responsible for regulating and developing the insurance industry in India. It is an autonomous body.
- It was established by an act of Parliament known as the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999. Hence, it is a statutory body.

- The IRDAI is headquartered in Hyderabad in Telangana. Prior to 2001, it was headquartered in New Delhi.
- Chairman- Subhash Chandra Khuntia.

## Moody's forecasts 7% GDP contraction for India in FY21

- Global rating agency Moody's has announced India's economy will shrink by 7 per cent in FY21 and revised India's growth estimate for the next financial year 2021-22 to 13.7 per cent from 10.08 per cent earlier. The agency in its earlier estimates had predicted India's GDP to shrink 10.6 per cent in the current financial year.

## Eight core industries' output up 0.1%

- The output of eight core infrastructure sectors grew marginally by 0.1 per cent in January, mainly due to growth in the production of fertiliser, steel and electricity.
- The core sectors had expanded by 2.2 per cent in January 2020, according to the provisional data released by the Commerce and Industry Ministry.
- The eight core industries constitute 40.27 per cent of the Index of Industrial Production.

### 8 Core Sectors

- The eight core industries include coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilisers, steel, cement and electricity.

## State Bank of India joins 'Liink' blockchain-based payment network of JPMorgan

- The State Bank of India has tied up with JPMorgan to use the blockchain technology "Liink" of the US-based bank to speed up overseas transactions.
- With this, SBI has become the first bank in India to go live on the blockchain-based payment network of JPMorgan.



# 5. SCIENCE

## 5.1 LATEST INVENTIONS ON SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### Garbage-to-power plant in veggie market gets PM's pat

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during his first Mann Ki Baat address for the year, made a mention of the garbage-to-power plant being commissioned inside the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Agriculture Market in Bowenpally. Vegetable and fruit waste is used to generate power to the extent of 500 units a day and 30 kilos of green manure at the plant.
- This is being done by making use of 10 tonnes of left over market waste. The power generated is being used to light up the market and also run the canteen in the premises enabling the market committee to make substantial savings in power bills.

### HAL planning to export light combat air

- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) was actively looking for exports of the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas with interest from countries in South East Asia and West Asia and each LCA (Light Combat Aircraft) MK1A jet would cost ₹ 306 crore.
- At Aero India, HAL received the Request For Proposal (RFP) from the IAF for the basic trainer aircraft HTT-40.

### Unmanned fighter

- HAL also announced an ambitious futuristic project for the development of an unmanned fighter jet, which would be controlled by a manned aircraft called 'manned-unmanned' teaming and be able to strike deep inside the enemy territory called Combat Air Teaming System (CATS).
- It would consist of CATS Hunter, CATS Warrior and Alpha-S, all of which are unmanned systems and would be controlled

by a manned mother aircraft, a fighter jet, being customised around a LCA and Jaguar aircraft. "We will be ready to fly it in four-five years time and have put in ₹ 400 crore of our own money on the CATS warrior."

- The CATS warrior would be armed and be able to strike deep inside the enemy territory, while the mothership would be in the Indian territory. It would be powered by the HAL engine that was powering pilotless target aircraft Lakshya.

### HAL

- Founder: Walchand Hirachand
- Founded: 23 December 1940
- Headquarters: Bengaluru

### ISRO to launch PSLV-C51 on February 28 with 1 Brazil & 20 Indian satellites onboard

- India's first space mission of 2021, the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) announced that it would launch 21 satellites from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) in Sriharikota on February 28, subject to weather conditions. Onboard the PSLV-C51 will be Amazonia-1 of Brazil as the primary satellite along with 20 co-passenger satellites at 10:23 AM on February 28, ISRO stated. The launch will be the first one to mark the entry of private players in space after the Indian government brought in reforms in the space sector last year.
- The Brazilian satellite, which will be the primary one on board the 53<sup>rd</sup> PSLV mission, is an optical earth observation satellite of the National Institute for Space Research (INPE).
- ISRO's last mission was the successful launch of communication satellite CMS-

01 on December 17. CMS-01 onboard the PSLV-C50 was ISRO's second launch during the COVID-19 pandemic and aimed at putting India's 42<sup>nd</sup> communications satellite in orbit.

### **Sputnik V vaccine shows 91.6% efficacy**

- An interim analysis of a Phase-3 trial of Russia's Sputnik V vaccine against COVID-19 shows the vaccine is safe and has 91.6% efficacy.
- The 93.6% efficacy was seen 21 days after the first dose. Although the study was not designed to assess the efficacy of a single dose regimen, the researchers observed a possible partial protective effect of a single dose. The result were published in The Lancet.
- Storage at 2-8°C, a favourable temperature profile for global distribution, has been approved by Russia's Health Ministry.

### **India launched 328 satellites from 33 different countries till date**

- Union Minister Jitendra Singh announced that ₹900 crore was allocated to the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) for the financial year 2020-21 for developing capacity for the launching of satellites.
- The total number of satellites launched till date is 328 from 33 different countries and the revenue earned till date is 25 million US dollars and 189 million Euros.

### **ISRO**

- Formed – 15 August 1969
- Headquarters – Bangalore
- Chairman – Kailasavadivoo Sivan

### **Pakistan successfully test-fires Babur Cruise Missile**

- Pakistan conducted a successful Training Launch of Babur Cruise Missile IA with a range of four hundred and fifty kilometers.
- According to the ISPR, Babar Cruise Missile is capable of engaging targets at land and sea with high precision.
- The missile was launched from a state of the art Multi Tube Missile Launch Vehicle.
- Pakistan already testes a Ghaznavi missile and its (Hatf-III) a solid-fuel, road mobile, surface-

to-surface ballistic missile that has a range of up to 290km.

### **UAE's Hope probe: First photo from Mars mission released**

- The image comes from the spacecraft named Hope, or Amal in Arabic, which swung into orbit around Mars following a seven-month flight.
- It shows Mars' north pole, as well as Mars' largest volcano, Olympus Mons.

### **ISRO to build 'Bhuvan'**

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has entered into an agreement with 'MapmyIndia' to offer an indigenous satellite-based mapping service to the country, as well as give an alternative to widely-used Google maps and similar products.
- MapmyIndia is an an Indian technology company that creates digital maps in India.
- Headquarter- New Delhi

### **ISRO**

- Chairman- K.Sivan
- Head Quarters- Bengaluru
- Founded- 15<sup>th</sup> August 1969

### **IIT-M researchers working on effective drugs against HIV/AIDS**

- Researchers from Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IIT-M), are working on a new idea that could pave the way for developing effective drugs for treating HIV/AIDS by using molecular dynamics simulations.
- The results of their research were recently published in the peer-review Journal of the American Chemical Society – Biochemistry.
- Current inhibitors that target HIVPR make use of the weak forces of attraction called 'van der Waal's forces' to attach themselves to the protease molecule. Given that these forces are weak, the efficacy of the drug is variable and the virus will soon become resistant to them.

### **Indian-American behind NASA rover's Mars landing**

- Indian-American scientist Swati Mohan, who



leads the guidance, navigation, and control operations of NASA's Mars 2020 mission, played a pivotal role in landing the U.S. space agency's historic Perseverance rover on the Martian surface.

### **Chandrayaan-3 launch**

- Chandrayaan-3, India's third mission to Moon, is likely to be launched in 2022, ISRO chief K Sivan.

### **Sonam Wangchuk, The Real-life Phunsukh Wangdu's Innovative Gift For Jawans in Ladakh**

- Sonam Wangchuk, the man behind the character of 'Phunsukh Wangdu' in the Bollywood blockbuster '3 Idiots' has found a solution to keep the Army jawans stationed in the Ladakh region warm. He has built a solar-powered portable military tent for the soldiers that could accommodate 10 jawans at a time. The weight of the tent, he claimed, is less than 30 kilos.
- The innovator and education reformist further said that the military tent could work even under sub-zero temperatures such as -14 degrees Celcius.

### **INCOIS to go for aerial mapping**

- The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) is planning to take the help of the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) for aerial mapping of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshwadeep to get a better picture of the ocean floor, also called 'bathymetric' study.

### **NRSC**

- National Remote Sensing Centre, or NRSC, located in Hyderabad.
- Founder -Vikram Sarabhai

### **INCOIS**

- Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services.
- INCOIS is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES).
- It is located in Hyderabad & was established in 1999. It is a unit of the Earth System Science Organization (ESSO), New Delhi.

### **ISRO tests two satellites developed by private sector for the first time**

- In a first ISRO tested two satellites, SpaceKidz India and Pixxel which have been developed by the private sector.
- The tests took place at the UR Rao Satellite Centre of the ISRO. This is a first for the space agency, which has so far only taken help in manufacturing and fabrication of various parts of satellites and rockets from the Indian industry.
- The 'Sri Sakthi Sat' satellite developed by the college students of Coimbatore for ISRO will be launched on February 28.
- Sri Shakthi College of Engineering and Technology is located on the L & T Bypass Road, Chinniyampalayam, Coimbatore. The college has developed a satellite called 'Sri Sakthi Sat' with its students.

### **Sri Shakthi Sat**

- It is developed by the students of Sri Shakthi Institute of Engineering and Technology
- This is a nanosatellite that weighs only 460 grams
- It will be launched under Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre called IN-SPaCe.
- ISRO would launch the satellite developed by two other institutions from Chennai and Nagpur along with Sri Shakhthi satellite in its UNITYSat.

### **IISER Kolkata scientists simulate Mars on the computer**

- Scientists from Indian Institution for Science Education and Research (IISER) Kolkata suggest that it was the planet's intrinsic magnetic dynamo which, by shielding its atmosphere from the sun's solar wind, protected its atmosphere. When the magnetic dynamo switched off, the atmosphere slowly was eroded by the solar wind and eventually vanished, leaving the thin remnant we see today. These results have been published in the journal Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society.
- The researchers build a computer model of a Marslike planet interacting with the plasma wind from a Sunlike star.

## 5.2 LATEST DISCOVERIES IN HEALTH SCIENCE

### CMC did country's first successful Kidney transplant 50 years ago

- It has been 50 years since a team of doctors at the Christian Medical College (CMC) here performed the country's first successful kidney transplant. Since then, the departments of Urology and Nephrology of the CMC have performed 3,755 transplants and 188 deceased donor transplants.
- Mohan Rao, who was a surgeon at the CMC, recalled the incidents that led to the first transplant on February 2, 1971. In 1965 and 1966, there were three unsuccessful kidney transplantation attempts – two in Mumbai and one in Varanasi.

## 5.3 MASS MEDIA & COMMUNICATION

### Govt orders internet shutdown in areas close to farmers protest sites in Delhi

- The government ordered shut down of internet services in parts of Delhi NCR amid protests by farmers in the national capital.
- Government has invoked Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017 in the interest of maintaining public safety and averting public emergency to suspend internet services in areas closer to farmers protest sites.

### TANGEDCO takes digital route for ease of business

- As a step towards ease of doing business for customers, Tangedco has launched an automation and steam-lining procedure to assign new services for both domestic (low tension) as well as industrial consumers (high tension) without much human intervention.
- Tangedco has finalized the procedure for making name transfer for electricity connections through online mode. The online facility for domestic consumers is proposed to be launched on April 1.

### TANGEDCO

- Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (TNEB) was formed on July 1, 1957 under section 54 of the Electricity (Supply) Act 1948 for power generation, transmission and distribution.
- As per the provisions under the section 131 of the Electricity Act, 2003 TNEB was restructured on 1.11.2010 into TNEB Limited; Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Limited (TANGEDCO); and Tamil Nadu Transmission Corporation Limited (TANTRANSCO).

### CoWIN App

- CoWIN is a Grand Challenge to strengthen the COVID Vaccine Intelligence Network (CoWIN) system. CoWIN is a digital platform that can be used to effectively promote and expand the mechanism of the COVID vaccine distribution system nationwide.
- It was launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) and the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

### Kerala's first human milk bank

- Health Minister K K Shailaja inaugurated the state's first human milk bank Nectar of Life at Ernakulam General Hospital via videoconferencing.
- 3,600 babies are born in the general hospital a year and out of those, 600 to 1,000 sick babies are admitted into the Neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). The breast milk from the bank will reduce the risk of infections and boost the immunity of the newborn babies.

### Oxford names Aatmanirbharta as Hindi Word of 2020

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi's emphasis on Aatmanirbharta in the wake of the novel coronavirus pandemic, this particular word has been named by Oxford Languages as its Hindi Word of the Year 2020 as it validated the day-to-day achievements of the countless Indians who dealt with and survived the perils of a pandemic.
- Previous Hindi words of the year are Aadhar (2017), Nari Shakti (2018) and Samvidhaan (2019).

## **Ambitious BharatNet all set to be rolled out**

- The 'BharatNet Project' will be rolled out to one-third of the revenue villages in Tamil Nadu by March 31, 2021, and to the remaining villages by November 30, 2021. This was announced by Governor Banwarilal Purohit in his customary address to the State Assembly.
- The Rs 1,815-crore project will benefit 12,524 villages, which will be connected through optical fiber network and will be provided with not less than 1 GBPS high speed network connectivity in each village.

## **Kiran Service Helpline**

- The 'Kiran' service was set up by the Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry. The Kiran helpline (18005990019) of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) of the Ministry was launched on September 7 by SJE Minister Thaawarchand Gehlot.

## **C-DAC**

- Cybercrime investigations are set to scale new heights in Tamil Nadu with the State police identifying as many as 185 young sub-inspectors, mostly graduates in Electronics and Communications Engineering, and hundreds of graduate police constables for deployment in cybercrime police stations in all cities/districts.

## **C-DAC**

- C-DAC was created in November 1988, originally as the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing Technology (C-DACT).
- This was in response to issues purchasing supercomputers from foreign sources.
- Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) is the premier R&D organization of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) for carrying out R&D in IT, Electronics and associated areas.

## **Koo App**

- Koo is an app like Twitter which was launched on March 2020.
- It had won the Aatmanirbhar App challenge.

- The app was developed by Aparameya Radhakrishna and Mayank Bidawatka.
- The app is available in several languages, including Hindi, Telugu, Kannada, Bengali, Tamil, Malayalam, Gujarati, Marathi, Punjabi, Odiya and Assamese.

## **Mobile app developed by TNeGA**

- A mobile application developed in house by the Tamil Nadu eGovernance Agency (TNeGA) based on artificial intelligence techniques is being tested in a few districts by Tamil Nadu State Blind Control Society (TNSBCS) for screening the public for cataract.

## **TNeGA**

- CM has launched the 'Namadhuarasu' portal. This portal is created with help of National e-Governance Division. The portal will help people engage with the Government and give their feedback and suggestions.

## **e-Chhawani portal for online civic services**

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh recently launched an online portal 'e-Chhawani' and mobile app, to facilitate 'ease of living' and 'ease of doing' for the residents of the Cantonment Boards across the country. The 'e-Chhawani' portal will provide online municipal services to more than 20 lakh citizens across all 62 Cantonment Boards of India while sitting at home.

## **e-Kuber payments system launched in J&K**

- Jammu and Kashmir formally rolled out e-Kuber payments system of Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The system is capable of making 50,000 transactions at a time, while all government-related financial transactions would be dealt directly with RBI, without any intermediary bank.

## **Sandes App**

- Sandes, which is the Indian government's instant messaging app, is now accessible to everyone. The app, which has been launched by the National Informatics Centre (NIC), gives a boost to PM Narendra Modi's Digital India and Aatmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India) initiative.





## 6. NATIONAL – DIARY OF EVENT

### Centre likely to postpone Census to 2022

- The Centre is on track to push the 2021 Census to 2022 on account of the country's continuing pre-occupation with the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Census exercise was to be conducted in two phases-House Listing and Housing Census from April to September 2020 and Population Enumeration from February 9 to February 28, 2021.
- The first phase of the Census and the updating of the National Population Register (NPR) were initially to be rolled out in some States on April 1, 2020, but were postponed due to the pandemic.

### 3-language policy is not applicable to Central govt. offices

- The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has announced that the three language policy is not applicable to offices of the Union government. The ministry gave this response to a question filed under the Right to Information (RTI) Act on the recent CRPF event at Bhadravati in Shivamogga district, where the plaques unveiled to mark the foundation stone-laying ceremony were only in English and Hindi.
- The reply furnished by the ministry on January 29 stated that "as per the provision of the Official Language Act, 1963, and the Official Language Rules, 1976, the provision of bilingual policy is applicable in the offices of the Central government".
- Home Minister Amit Shah laid the foundation stone for the 97th battalion of the Rapid Action Force in Bhadravati on January 16.

### India delivers 2 cranes for Chabahar

- In its latest push to develop Iran's Chabahar port project, India handed over two 140-tonne

cranes for loading and unloading equipment to the Iranian government.

- The cranes, part of a full consignment of six Mobile Harbour Cranes (MHC) worth about \$25million were sourced from Italy and formally released at a ceremony at Chabahar's Shahid Beheshti port after official talks between India and Iran.
- India's plans to invest further in the port project are seen as an indicator that the government expects some easing up in U.S. sanctions in the upcoming months, once the new Biden administration begins to address its policy on re-entering the Iran nuclear deal.

### Vasuki Train

- The South-East Central Railways (SECR) zone in Chhattisgarh breaks its own previous record by successfully operating the longest ever freight train by amalgamating five rakes of goods trains as one unit of around 3.5 km.
- Named as 'Vasuki', it covered the distance of 224 km between the railway stations of Bhilai and Korba and took about seven hours.
- The 'Vasuki', comprising of 300 wagons of long haul rake of five goods trains, ran with the help of one pilot, one assistant loco pilot and a guard.
- The nation's most profitable railways zone SECR had earlier operated 177 loaded wagons "Super Anaconda" of 2 km long freight train on 29 June 2020, then connecting three goods trains using the latest technology of Distributed Power Control System (DPCS).

### Textile Minister Smriti Irani inaugurates 8<sup>th</sup> India International Silk Fair

- The Union Textiles Minister Smriti Irani inaugurated the 8th India International Silk Fair on Virtual Portal on 31st January 2021.



- The five days event is being held on Indian Silk Export Promotion Council's virtual platform due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- The fair is considered to be India's biggest silk fair.
- More than 200 overseas buyers and equal number of their representatives in India are participating to interact with more than 100 renowned and big Indian companies manufacturing and trading silk and silk blended products.
- India is the only country in the world which produces all the four major varieties of silk, which are Mulberry, Eri, Tassar, and Muga.

### **Uttarakhand sets up Botanical Garden to conserve 210 species of trees of Shivalik range**

- In Nainital district of Uttarakhand, a first of its kind botanical garden named 'Shivalik Arboretum' has been inaugurated, for conserving over 210 species of trees found in the Shivalik range of Himalayas.
- Shivalik Arboretum aims to spread nature education among people so that they are able to feel an emotional connect with the trees, and make them more active towards conservation.
- The facility will showcase information like scientific information about particular species, cultural significance, medicinal use, country of origin, type of habitat in which it is found and all possible uses including as timber, dyes or any other peculiar use.

### **Maharashtra tops 2<sup>nd</sup> India Justice Report for delivering justice to people**

- Maharashtra has retained its top rank in the second edition of the India Justice Report – 2020, which judges states in terms of delivery of justice to people.
- Maharashtra retained its number one position among 18 large and mid-sized states (where population is over one crore each).
- Tamil Nadu and Telangana were second and third respectively in the same category.
- Among the 7 small states (where the population is less than one crore each), Tripura has topped the list followed by Sikkim and Goa.

- The India Justice Report (IJR) is launched by Tata Trusts in collaboration with Centre for Social Justice, Common Cause, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, DAKSH, TISS-Prayas, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy and How India Lives.

### **Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju launches first Reference Material synthesized by NDTL and NIPER to strengthen anti-doping measures**

- The Union Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports Kiren Rijiju recently launched a Reference Material, for use in the anti-doping field for chemical testing.
- This RM is jointly synthesized by the National Dope Testing Laboratory (NDTL) and the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Guwahati.

#### **About RM**

- This first-of-its kind RM is a rarely available substance globally and while testing of a sample, the RM will provide identity confirmation for prohibited substances which do not have threshold limits.
- This would be used to strengthen anti-doping measures in all World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) accredited labs.
- It is one of the 20 RMs, that will be produced by NDTL and NIPER-G.
- NDTL and NIPER-G had signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) in August 2020 to synthesize 20 rare RMs over three years.

### **'One Nation, One Ration Card' scheme in 32 states, UTs**

- 'One Nation, One Ration Card' scheme of the Union Government is being implemented by 32 States and Union Territories, reaching about 69 crore beneficiaries, announced Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman while announcing the Union Budget.
- The Finance Minister informed that the scheme has covered 86 per cent of the beneficiaries, adding that the remaining four states and UTs will be integrated into the scheme.

## India has highest number of new leprosy cases annually: WHO

- India needs to take special measures to ensure economic security for people with leprosy as situations like the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic have jolted the ostracised community, making them rely merely on handouts to survive.
- People with leprosy had been ignored during these trying times and not many had come forward to check on their well-being, Sasakawa, who was awarded the Gandhi Peace Prize in 2019 for his fight against leprosy, especially in India.
- According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), India has the highest number of new cases of leprosy in the world annually, followed by Brazil and Indonesia.
- India reported 1,35,485 new cases in 2016, which is 63 per cent of the 2,14,783 new cases reported globally.

## First Ultraviolet ray to sanitize train coaches

- Lucknow Metro has become the first metro in India to use ultraviolet (UV) rays to sanitise train coaches, a senior official of the Lucknow Metro Rail Corporation (LMRC) said on Friday.
- For this, the LMRC has procured UV sanitization apparatus from M/s FB TECH, an Indian firm in Jaipur, Rajasthan.
- The Uttar Pradesh Metro Rail Corporation (UPMRC) has taken inspiration from the New York Metro's experiment to sanitise trains with UIV lamp rays.
- The apparatus, which was certified by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in October 2020, sanitizes the entire coach in just seven minutes.

## Apollo Hospitals launches hand print campaign

- Apollo Hospitals decided to recognize this effort and celebrate the work put in by patients, cancer survivors and doctors. World Cancer day 4th February.

- The objective of the event was to encourage all agencies involved and show appreciation to all in the process of treatment and care.

## Jamtara turns a new page with public library movement

- A library movement developed in a short span of time in Jharkhand's Jamtara district is receiving a steady flow of students and helping them turn a new page.
- The district love for books assumes huge significance as it has the dubious distinction of being the "phishing capital of India".

### Public library movement

- The public library movement began in mid-nineteenth-century New England, building upon a wide range of enabling social conditions and individual motivations.

## Indian Air Force

- Founded: 8 October 1932
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Commander-in-Chief: President Ram Nath Kovind
- Current Air Chief Marshal - Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhaduria

## National Investigation Agency

- The National Investigation Agency (NIA) was constituted under the National Investigation Agency (NIA) Act, 2008.
- It's objective is also to combat terror in India.
- It acts as the Central Counter-Terrorism Law Enforcement Agency.
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Branches: Hyderabad, Guwahati, Kochi, Lucknow, Mumbai, Kolkata, Raipur and Jammu.
- Governing body: Ministry of Home Affairs
- Chief: Yogesh Chander Modi

## Association For Democratic Reforms (ADR)

- The contribution reports of only 78 (3.39%) of the total 2,301 registered unrecognised political parties are available in the public domain for 2018-19, while the reports of only 82 such parties (3.56%) for 2017-18 are uploaded on

the respective State Chief Electoral Officers' websites, according to the Association For Democratic Reforms (ADR).

- The number of these parties increased two-fold in the last 10 years, from 1,112 in 2010 to 2,301 in 2019.
- There are 2,360 political parties registered with the Election Commission of India and 2,301 or 97.50% of them are unrecognised.

#### **ADR**

- The Association for Democratic Reforms is an Indian non-partisan, non-governmental organization which works in the area of electoral and political reforms.
- Founded: 1999
- Founders: Rajesh Agarwal, Ajit Ranade, Brij Kothari

#### **Mega Food Parks**

- About 22 mega parks are operational out of 37 approved across the country, Minister of State for Food Processing Industries Rameshwar Teli informed Parliament.
- The operational mega food parks are located in 15 states including Assam, Punjab, Odisha, Mizoram, Maharashtra, among others.
- The Minister providing data in his written reply to the Rajya Sabha. Under the Mega Food Park Scheme, the government had given approval for 42 mega food parks in the country.
- The Ministry has accorded final approval to 37 mega food parks and in-principle approval to two mega food parks in the country under the Mega Food Parks Scheme.

#### **IIT-M's 'Saarang' to be held as online event**

- 'Saarang', the Indian Institute of Technology-Madras's annual cultural festival, will be an online event this year. 'Vintage Vogue' is the theme of the festival that is slated to be held from February 4 to 7.

#### **Metro transport live heart for transplant**

- For the first time in Telangana, the Metro Rail was used to transport an organ from one hospital to another for transplantation. The

Hyderabad Metro Rail (HMR) created a green corridor to facilitate the nonstop transport of a heart from the Kamineni Hospitals to save a patient admitted to the Apollo Hospital,

- A special train was arranged at Nagole, which picked up the heart at around 3.30-4 p.m., and raced through the entire stretch of 21 km and crossing 16 stations. It took less than 30 minutes for it to reach Jubilee Hills, at an average speed of 40 kmph.

#### **Impact on Green Verdicts**

- The NITI Aayog the government's apex think tank has commissioned a study that seeks to examine the unintended economic consequences of judicial decisions that have hindered and stalled big ticket projects on environmental grounds.

#### **NITI Aayog**

- NITI Aayog was established on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015, which was a replacement of the Planning Commission.
- It serves as an advisory body or a "Think Tank" of the government of India to advise on social and economic issues.
- Chairperson:-Shri Narendra Modi ( Prime Minister ). Vice Chairperson:-Dr. Rajiv Kumar

#### **FSSAI**

- The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has amended its rules to cap trans fatty acids (TFAs) in food products. Food products in which edible oils and fats are used as an ingredient shall not contain industrial trans fatty acids more than 2% by mass of the total oils/fats present in the product, on and from 1st January, 2022.

#### **Trans fatty acids**

- Trans fatty acids (TFA) or trans fats are a form of unsaturated fat and come in both natural and artificial forms.

#### **FSSAI**

- The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) was established in 2008 under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 as a statutory body.
- Current CEO - Shri Arun Singhal.
- Head Quarters- New Delhi.

## Kurubas Tribes

- Kurubas seek ST tag At Karnataka leaders of the Kuruba community urged the State government to recommend to the Centre inclusion of the Kuruba community in the ST list.
- The word Kuruba means “warrior.”
- They live in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, and Karnataka.
- Traditionally they have been farmers and shepherds. In addition to farming, they weave rough blankets made of wool. They are not vegetarians, and they eat grains such as rice and wheat.

## Assam

- Capital- Dispur
- Chief Minister (CM)- Sarbananda Sonowal (14<sup>th</sup>)
- Governor- Jagdish Mukhi
- Important National Parks (NP)- Kaziranga NP, Manas NP, Dibru Saikhowa NP, Nameri NP, Orang NP

## Glacial burst in Uttarakhand

- Seven persons were killed and over 125 reported missing after a “glacial burst” on Nanda Devi triggered an avalanche and caused flash floods in Rishiganga and Dhauliganga rivers in Chamoli District of Uttarakhand.
- Tapovan hydel project was washed away after the glacial burst in Uttarakhand.
- Rishiganga River - Originates from Vasundhara Tal and its located on Nanda Devi. Vasundhara Tal is the largest glacial lake in Uttarakhand.
- Dhauliganga River - The Dhauliganga is one of the six source streams of the Ganges river. It meets the Alaknanda River at Vishnuprayag at the base of Joshimath mountain in Uttarakhand. It emerges from Deovan Himani Glacier.

## Nanda Devi

- Nanda Devi is the second highest mountain in India after Kangchenjunga and the highest located entirely within the country.
- It is part of the Garhwal Himalayas, and is

located in Chamoli district of Uttarakhand, between the Rishiganga valley on the west and the Goriganga valley on the east.

## Tributaries of Ganga

- The important tributaries of Ganga are the Ramganga, the Gomati, the Ghaghara, the Gandak, the Kosi, Mahanada and the Yamuna.

## Undersea Metro Rail To see Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's memorial

- Maharashtra's Public Works Department (PWD) is exploring the option of building an undersea metro rail for Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Memorial in the Arabian Sea to reach the memorial site.
- The work on the 212-metre-tall Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj memorial in the Arabian Sea commenced in 2016.

## Medicity

- Medicity is being setup at a cost of 2000 crore in Karaikkal.
- Allopathy, Siddha, Homeopathy, Ayurveda, Unani Medicine, Yoga, Naturopathy and Herbal Cultivation are the major projects of this project

## Sustainable Development (SDG)

- In January 2015, the General Assembly began the negotiation process on the post-2015 development agenda. The process culminated in the subsequent adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with 17 SDGs.
- It has three main goals. That are Universality, Integration and Transformation.
- SDG 3<sup>rd</sup> Goal - To ensure health and well-being for all, including a bold commitment to end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other communicable diseases by 2030.

## Five Indian colleges in top 100 FT Global MBA ranking 2021

- Five Indian business schools including four Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) have found a place in the top 100 schools in Financial Times' Global MBA Ranking 2021.
- According to the rankings released on Monday, Indian School of Business (ISB) has been ranked 23 in the world, IIM Bangalore 35,



IIM Calcutta and IIM Ahmedabad 44 and 48, and IIM Indore 94.

- While IIM Indore entered the top 100 list for the first time, ISB improved four positions and IIM-A climbed 13 places. But IIM Calcutta dropped two spots and IIM Bangalore dropped eight spots.

### **Govt's helpline for women from Apr-Jun 2020**

- Over 2.47 lakh phone calls were registered by the government's women helpline from April to June last year when the country was under lockdown due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Women and Child Development Ministry.
- Women and Child Development Minister Smriti Irani announced the scheme of 'Universalisation of Women Helpline (WHL)' through toll free number 181 is operational in 33 states and Union Territories.

### **Mullaperiyar dam is protected from quakes**

- The Mullaperiyar dam is located on the confluence of the Mullayar and Periyar rivers in Kerala's Idukki district.
- Mullaperiyar dam was Constructed between 1887 to 1895 by John Pennycuik
- It is operated and maintained by the Tamil Nadu for meeting the drinking water and irrigation requirements of five of its southern districts.
- According to a 999-year lease agreement made during the British rule the operational rights were handed over to Tamil Nadu.
- The dam intends to divert the waters of the west-flowing river Periyar eastward to the arid rain shadow regions of the Tamil Nadu.

### **Periyar River**

- The Periyar River is the longest river in the state of Kerala with a length of 244 km.
- It is also known as 'Lifeline of Kerala' as it is one of the few perennial rivers in the state.
- Periyar River originates from Sivagiri hills of Western Ghats and flows through the Periyar National Park. The main tributaries of Periyar are Muthirapuzha, Mullayar, Cheruthoni, Perinjankutti.

### **Parliament House: 100 Years Ago, On This Day, Foundation Stone Was Laid**

- Exactly a hundred years ago, on 12<sup>th</sup> February, the foundation stone of Parliament House was laid. 26 years before India became Independent, Britain's Duke of Connaught laid the foundation stone and said it would stand "as the symbol of India's rebirth to yet higher destinies".
- The building, with a diameter of 560 ft and circumference of one-third of a mile, was designed by Sir Herbert Baker, who along with Sir Edwin Lutyens was chosen to design the new imperial capital in Delhi in the Raisina Hill area.
- The architectural masterpiece, which was originally called Council House, was inaugurated six years later in 1927, 20 years before India attained its freedom on August 15, 1947, by then Viceroy, Lord Irwin.
- The sprawling edifice covering an area of nearly six acres and its creamy sandstone colonnade of 144 pillars on the first floor is one of the most distinctive parliament buildings anywhere in the world. In 1929, Bhagat Singh hurled a bomb into its chambers.

### **Koozhangal wins Tiger Award**

- Director PS Vinodraj's Koozhangal (Pebbles) won the coveted Tiger Award at the 50<sup>th</sup> International Film Festival Rotterdam 2021. Koozhangal becomes the first Tamil film to win the prestigious award at the film festival.

### **Dekho Apna Desh Webinar**

- The Ministry of Tourism's Dekho Apna Desh Webinar series held its 76<sup>th</sup> webinar titled "Vocal for Local : Empowering Local Communities : Gujarat Experience" on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

### **India's first full-fledged international cruise terminal in Kerala**

- The Prime Minister also inaugurated the country's first full-fledged international cruise terminal, Sagarika at Cochin Port and Marine Engineering Training Institute of Cochin Shipyard Ltd.
- Prime Minister announced Thanjavur and Pudukkottai will be specially benefited after

the foundation for the extension, renovation and modernization of six hundred and thirty six kilometre long Grand Anicut Canal System was laid.

- It will improve irrigation facilities for 2.27 lakh acres of land in the delta districts.

### **Tesla Selects Karnataka for Electric Vehicle Plant**

- Tesla Inc. chose the state of Karnataka for its first plant in India as the electric vehicle maker sets its sight on Asia's third-biggest economy.
- Head Quarters - USA

### **PM Modi to address Nasscom event**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address the NASSCOM Technology and Leadership Forum (NTLF) via video conferencing.
- The 29th edition of NTLF is being organised from February 17 to 19 and it is the flagship event of the National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM).

### **Education Ministry to train 56 lakh school teachers through NISHTHA**

- The Union Ministry of Education is planning to train about 56 lakh school teachers from across the country in the current year 2021-22. The Education Ministry's decision is in line with the announcement made by the Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and mentioned that about 56 lakh school teachers will be trained from across the country.
- The budget announcement had also mentioned that the training of teachers will be conducted through NISHTHA.

#### **NISHTHA**

- NISHTHA which expands to National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement is a teacher training initiative that aims at equipping teachers to provide better learning outcomes. NISHTHA was launched by the Department of School Education and Literacy.

### **The country's first Paperless Cabinet cabinet**

- The state government has turned the entire functioning of the Himachal Pradesh cabinet

into a paperless work. The Himachal Pradesh Cabinet is proud to be the first Paperless cabinet in the country.

### **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs launches Pilot Pey Jal Survekshan in 10 Cities**

- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has launched the Pilot Pey Jal Survekshan under Jal Jeevan Mission- Urban.
- The Pilot Pey Jal Survekshan has been launched in 10 cities, which are **Agra, Badlapur, Bhubaneswar, Churu, Kochi, Madurai, Patiala, Rohtak, Surat and Tumkur.**
- **Objective:** to ascertain equitable distribution of water, reuse of wastewater and mapping of water bodies with respect to quantity and quality of water through a challenge process.

#### **Jal Jeevan Mission**

- **Launched on** - August 15, 2019.
- **Aim** - To provide to all households in rural India safe and adequate water through individual household tap connections by 2024.

### **Centre approves projects worth ₹363 crore in food processing sector**

- The Centre has approved projects worth ₹363.4 crore in the food processing space. The nod was given by the Inter-Ministerial Approval Committee chaired by the Union Minister of Food Processing Narendra Singh Tomar.
- The proposals were received under the scheme for creation for infrastructure for Agro-Processing Cluster (APC) and the scheme for Creation/ Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities (CEFPPC) under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY).

#### **'Snakepedia' mobile**

- Kerala have launched a mobile application named "Snakepedia", that will present all relevant information on snakes, to help the public as well as doctors in treating snake bites.

#### **Nathu la Pass**

- Nathu La on the India China border in Sikkim
- Nathu La, meaning "listening ears", is in

East Sikkim district and is one of the highest motorable roads in the world at 14,450 feet above sea level.

### **Kambala**

- Kambala is an annual buffalo race held in the southwestern Indian state of Karnataka.

### **India inaugurates its first digital university at Thiruvananthapuram District, Kerala**

- The Indian state of Kerala recently inaugurated the country's first Digital University, the Kerala University of Digital Sciences, Innovation and Technology (KUDSIT). The launch is part of the state's resolve to embrace new technologies and become a global hub for higher learning and technology.
- Sprawled across the 10-acre campus in Technocity, the first phase of the university has been completed with an academic and a hostel block. Once fully developed, it will provide education to 1,200 residential scholars from its campus.

### **India's First Skill University in Darrang District, Assam**

- The Chief Minister of Assam, Sarbananda Sonowal laid the foundation of the first skill university of eastern India in Darrang district in Assam.
- The state-of-the art skill university would be built with a financial outlay of Rs 1,000 crore.
- It will impart training to over 10,000 students in 12 disciplines.
- The university is expected to be completed by 2026. It will have "understandings" with countries like Germany, Taiwan, South Korea, Israel, Japan, England.

### **PM Modi to chair 6th Governing Council**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will chair the sixth meeting of the Governing Council of NITI Aayog via video conferencing.
- According to a notification of the Cabinet Secretariat, chief ministers of all states and those of the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir, Delhi and Puducherry are full time members of the council.

- The Lieutenant Governors of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Ladakh, and the administrators of Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu and Lakshadweep will be special invitees of governing council.

### **NITI Aayog**

- Planning has been in Indian psyche as our leaders came under influence of the socialist clime of erstwhile USSR.
- Planning Commission was replaced by a new institution – NITI Aayog on January 1, 2015 with emphasis on 'Bottom -Up' approach to envisage the vision of Maximum Governance, Minimum Government, echoing the spirit of 'Cooperative Federalism'.
- Chairperson: Prime Minister
- Vice-Chairperson: To be appointed by Prime-Minister

### **Telangana achieves 100% tap water connections to schools**

- Telangana has joined a group of States that has ensured tap water connections to all schools and anganwadi centres (AWCs).
- The State was the first to provide tap water connections to all households and the achievement was acknowledged by the Central government a few days ago. Work on providing connection to schools, AWCs and ashramshalas was taken up under the 100-day special campaign of the Ministry of Jal Shakti under the Jal Jeevan Mission.

### **Another City Renamed Madhya Pradesh's Hoshangabad**

- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has announced that Hoshangabad city in the state would be renamed as Narmadapuram and a proposal to that effect would be sent to the Centre.

### **Reliance Industries to set up 'world's largest zoo' in Gujarat**

- Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) is set to build what it claims to be the world's largest zoo in Gujarat's Jamnagar. The zoo will house close to 100 different species of animals, birds and reptiles from India and across the world.



- It will be built on about 280-acre land, close to the company's refinery project at Moti Khavdi near Jamnagar.
- The zoo will host a variety of species including barking deers, slender loris, sloth bears, fishing cats, komodo dragons, Indian wolves and Rosy pelicans as per the proposal.

### **PM to inaugurate virtual maritime summit**

- The Chennai Port Trust will sign more than 15 MoUs with various institutions ahead of the Virtual Maritime Summit 2021 being held from March 2 to 4. The summit will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The Sagarmala is a series of projects to leverage the country's coastline and inland waterways to drive industrial development. It was originally mooted by the Vajpayee government in 2003 as the waterways equivalent of the Golden Quadrilateral.

### **Indo - Pak War**

- The Suryakiran aerobatic team of the IAF flew over Chennai and Puducherry as part of the celebrations of the 50-year anniversary of the Indo-Pak War of 1971.

### **War**

- The Government of India decided on 3rd December 1971, that India would go for war with Pakistan to save Bengali Muslims and Hindus.
- This war was fought between India and Pakistan for 13 days.
- Mukti Bahini refers to the armed organizations that fought against the Pakistan Army during the Bangladesh Liberation War. It was a guerrilla resistance movement.

### **The World Largest Cricket Stadium**

- The refurbished Sardar Patel stadium, now renamed Narendra Modi stadium, in Ahmedabad.
- The world's largest cricket arena can accommodate 1.1 lakh spectators.
- The stadium will be a part of the larger planned Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Sports Enclave in the city.

### **Eat Right Campus' tag**

- The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has begun certifying private institutions, including colleges and hospitals in the city that have in-house canteens, as "Eat Right Campuses".
- The Madras Veterinary College Hostel and Apollo Hospitals, Greaves Road, have been given such certification by the department based on the guidelines issued by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).

### **FSSAI**

- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is an autonomous statutory body established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 (FSS Act).
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India is the administrative Ministry of FSSAI.
- Headquarters: Delhi.
- CEO - Arun Signhal

### **Free NEET coaching started for students of Corporation Schools**

- Greater Chennai Corporation Commissioner G. Prakash launched free NEET coaching for students of Corporation schools.
- The civic body will train the students for 100 days under the 'NEET, Ennal Mudiya' (I can) programme. The smart classrooms will have modern digital boards with internet connectivity.

### **National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC)**

- NCDRC is a quasi-judicial commission in India which was set up in 1988 under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.
- Headquarter -New Delhi.
- Head - Justice R K Agrawal

### **Lok Adalat**

- The term 'Lok Adalat' means 'People's Court' and is based on Gandhian principles.
- As per the Supreme Court, it is an old form of adjudicating system prevailed in ancient India and its validity has not been taken away even in the modern days too.



- It is one of the components of the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) system and delivers informal, cheap and expeditious justice to the common people.
- The first Lok Adalat camp was organised in Gujarat in 1982 as a voluntary and conciliatory agency without any statutory backing for its decisions.
- In view of its growing popularity over time, it was given statutory status under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. The Act makes the provisions relating to the organisation and functioning of the Lok Adalats.

### **TRIPS**

- To approve the COVID-19 waiver for equitable access to medicines under the Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement could dent global economic output by trillions of dollars at the cost of protecting vaccine makers' business worth just \$30-40 billion, India's ambassador to the World
- India and South Africa have jointly moved a proposal at the WTO's TRIPS council for a waiver to help more countries get access to medicines and vaccines during the pandemic.

### **Intellectual Property Rights**

- These rights are outlined in Article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which provides for the right to benefit from the protection of moral and material interests resulting from authorship of scientific, literary or artistic productions.

- The importance of intellectual property was first recognized in the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property (1883) and the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works (1886). Both treaties are administered by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

### **India**

- India is a member of the World Trade Organisation and committed to the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property (TRIPS Agreement).
- India is also a member of World Intellectual Property Organization, a body responsible for the promotion of the protection of intellectual property rights throughout the world.

### **National Policy**

- The National Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Policy 2016 was adopted in May 2016 as a vision document to guide future development of IPRs in the country.
- It's clarion call is "Creative India; Innovative India".

### **Achievements**

- Improvement in GII Ranking: India's rank in the Global Innovation Index (GII) issued by WIPO has improved from 81st in 2015 to 52<sup>nd</sup> place in 2019.

### **WTO**

- Founded on – 1995
- Head Quarters – Switzerland
- President - Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala



# 7. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

## **Myanmar: Military stages coup, declares a state of emergency for one year**

- Myanmar's military staged a coup on February 1, 2021, detaining de-facto leader Aung San Suu Kyi and declaring it had taken control of the country for one year under a state of emergency. The military recently made allegations of fraud in general elections by the civilian government. Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy (NLD) party won the elections held in November 2020 easily. Along with Suu Kyi, President Win Myint has also been detained in capital Naypyidaw.

## **World Economic Forum**

- The World Economic Forum is a non-governmental organization, which was founded in 1971. The forum aims to improve the state of the world by bringing together key leaders from political, business and academic backgrounds to redefine global, regional and industry agendas. The forum comprises some of the world's largest corporations.
- The World Economic Forum holds its annual meeting in January every year at Davos. This year is its 50th meeting.

### **WEF**

- Current President - Borge Brende
- Headquarters - Cologny, Switzerland

## **Iran's President Rouhani rules out changes to nuclear deal**

- President Hassan Rouhani ruled out changes to Iran's nuclear accord with world powers and dismissed calls to broaden the terms of the deal and include regional countries.
- Iran's Capital - Tehran

## **Israel**

- Capital - Jerusalem
- President - Reuven Rivlin
- Geographical Importance - Israel is located at the eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea in Western Asia. It is bounded to the north by Lebanon, the northeast by Syria, the east by Jordan and the West Bank, and to the southwest by Egypt.

## **India's vaccine lands in Caribbean Island**

- Dominican Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit showered praises on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the people of India for New Delhi's swift response to his request for 35,000 Covid-19 vaccines that can shield nearly half his country's 72,000-strong population from the deadly virus.
- Capital - Roseau

## **Italy's new PM**

- Prime Minister - Mario Draghi
- President - Sergio Mattarella
- Capital - Rome

## **Discovery of the world's oldest distillery**

- Archaeologists have unearthed a distillery in Egypt that dates back 5,000 years. The distillery may have been built during the reign of King Naom, who created the first empire from 3150 BC to 2613 BC.

## **Quad**

- It known as the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, the Quad was created in 2004.
- Nations- India, Japan, Australia, USA and now including Myanmar
- Aim - To ensure and sustain an open, free and prosperous Indo-Pacific region.

### TIME's 100 Emerging Leaders List

- Bhim Army Chief Chandra Shekhar Aazad and five Indian-origin personalities have been featured in the 2021 TIME Next List 100.
- TIME100 Next 2021 is the second edition of the annual list of Time magazine's 100 'emerging leaders who are shaping the future.'
- The five Indian-origin persons in Time100 Next list are:

1. *Twitter lawyer Vijaya Gadde*
2. *UK's Finance Minister Rishi Sunak*

3. *Instacart founder and CEO Apoorva Mehta*
4. *Get Us PPE executive director and doctor Shikha Gupta*
5. *Founder of nonprofit Upsolve's Rohan Pavuluri*

### **Bhim army**

- It is a dalit rights organisation based in Uttar Pradesh to help Dalits escape poverty through education. It was founded by Satish Kumar, Vijay Ratan Singh and Chandrashekhar Azad in 2015.





## 8. TAMILNADU AFFAIRS

### City's first Miyawaki forest

- As the first Miyawaki forest in Chennai turns one this week, the Greater Chennai Corporation wants the residents' associations to notify details about unused spaces in their neighbourhood for raising a similar forest.
- The Corporation aims at raising 1,000 such plantations. It has already raised Miyawaki forest in about 20 locations in the last one year in the city.
- The first Miyawaki forest was created in Kotturpuram near the MRTS station after clearing 1,600 tonnes of debris one year ago.

### Govt. will form a Valaiyar Reclamation Board

- Tamilnadu Stated Government will take steps to establish a Valaiyar Reclamation Board, Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami.
- PM announce, the government was also taking steps to protect the memorials for the rulers of the Mutharaiyar community. The government, as announced in the Assembly, laid the foundation for the statue of Perarasar Perumbidugu Mutharaiyar in Tiruchi.
- The Mutharaiyar community members are mostly farmers who feed the people of the State.
- The government had introduced several pro-farmers schemes, including the 'kudimaramathu' scheme.

### CM launches free internet data card scheme

- Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami launched the distribution of free 2 GB internet data cards to students of government, aided colleges and polytechnics across the State to help them attend online classes till May this year.

### Operation Smile to rescue missing kids

- A special camp Operation Smile aimed at rescuing missing children was inaugurated at Trichy railway junction. Superintendent of police, government railway police (GRP), Trichy T Senthilkumar proclaimed that the camp will be held under the jurisdiction of 24 government railway police (GRP) stations and six outposts in Trichy railway police limit from February 1 to 15.

### Tamil Nadu drops disciplinary action and cases against govt employees, teachers

- Tamil Nadu chief minister Edappadi K Palaniswami announced dropping of disciplinary proceedings initiated against 7,898 government employees and teachers and 408 cases registered against 17,686 staff and teachers for holding indefinite protests in 2019.
- The government employees and teachers' associations held indefinite agitation in January last year urging a charter of demands, including pending 21-month arrears as per the Seventh Pay Commission recommendations, reverting to the old pension scheme, elimination of wage discrepancies, regular pay for all those under consolidated and special time scale pay and revoking a government order setting up staff rationalisation committee.

### Metro Lite

- The Finance Minister added that the government will raise the share of public transport in urban areas through the expansion of the metro rail network and the city bus service will be strengthened. A new scheme will be launched at a cost of ₹ 18,000 crores to support the expansion of public bus transport services.



### **₹400 victims of sexual assault benefited from Thozhi scheme'**

- City Police Commissioner Mahesh Kumar Aggarwal announced around 400 victims of sexual assault were given counselling and other support from women police personnel, who have been functioning under a scheme called 'Thozhi' in the city since its launch last year.
- 'Thozhi' was launched as a special wing last November to provide counselling to victims and their parents and guide them through legal procedures.

### **CM GIVES ₹75 lakh cheque to CIFF organisers**

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami handed over a cheque of ₹75 lakh to the organisers of the Chennai International Film Festival (CIFF)
- The 18th edition of the film festival is scheduled to be held from February 18 to 25, 2021
- In 2019, the State government had handed over ₹75 lakh to conduct the film festival.

### **APEDA opens regional office in Chennai**

- The facility in the premises of the Tamil Nadu State Agricultural Marketing Board was jointly inaugurated by Gagandeep Singh Bedi, Tamil Nadu Agriculture Production Commissioner and M Angamuthu, Chairman of APEDA.
- APEDA has provided financial assistance to the State department of Agriculture and Marketing for setting up of common infrastructure facility (cold storage, sorting and grading facility) at Dindigul, Villupuram and Coimbatore districts to facilitate exports of fresh vegetables.

### **Supreme Court to examine plea against T.N.'s 69% quota in colleges, govt. jobs**

- The Supreme Court agreed to examine a petition seeking an immediate stay on the implementation of a Tamil Nadu law that allows 69% quota in educational institutions and government jobs in the State.
- A three-judge Bench led by Justice Ashok Bhushan issued notice and gave the Tamil Nadu government two weeks to file its response to a

writ petition filed by a student, C.V. Gayathri, through her father, S. Vaitheeswaran, challenging the constitutionality of the Tamil Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Reservation of seats in Educational Institutions and of appointments or posts in the Services under the State) Act of 1993.

- Section 4 of the Act provides 30% reservation to the Backward Classes, 20% for Most Backward Classes and de-notified communities, 18% for Scheduled Castes and 1% for Scheduled Tribes. Thus, a total of 69% reservation is provided.

### **TN BharatNet tender re-jigged in October 2020**

- The Centre has not cancelled the implementation of the ₹1,950-crore BharatNet project in Tamil Nadu but the tender was re-floated in October 2020, clarified Sanjay Dhotre, Minister of State for Communications, Education and Electronics and IT in the Rajya Sabha.
- The State government signed an MoU with Universal Service Obligation Fund and Bharat Broadband Network (BBNL) in 2017, for implementing the BharatNet project.

### **TANFINET**

- State Legislative Assembly under Rule 110 that "BharatNet" scheme will be implemented in Tamil Nadu through State led model and a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) namely Tamil Nadu FibreNet Corporation (TANFINET) will be incorporated for the same.
- BharatNet project ensures connecting Gram Panchayat to block-level offices situated within the district.
- It was started on 14.7.2017.

### **Tamil Nadu to soon have five more airports being built under UDAN scheme**

- Union Minister for Civil aviation Hardeep Singh Puri told Rajaya Sabha (February 3) that five airports in Tamil Nadu — Salem, Neyveli, Vellore, Ramnad and Tanjore — are being built under the 'Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik' (UDAN) programme of the Modi government.

**UDAN Scheme**

- It was started on 2017 at Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.
- UDAN-RCS (Regional Connectivity Scheme), UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik) is a regional airport development and "Regional Connectivity Scheme" (RCS) of Government of India, with the objective of "letting the common citizen of the country fly".

**CM inaugurated marriage assistance scheme**

- 95,000 peoples get benefits under Marriage assistance Scheme.
- Under this scheme 1,791 crore 5 lakhs fund has been allotted for 12, 50,705 peoples.
- Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Ninaivu Marriage Assistance Scheme, 1989
- Objective : To improve the educational status of the poor girls (only one girl from a family is eligible).
- Annual income limit : ₹72,000
- Age limit
- Bride – 18 years.
- Bridegroom – 21 years
- Educational Qualification: Minimum – std. X pass or fail; For ST – Std. v.
- Time for submitting application: Within 40-45 days before the date of marriage.

**TN CM announces ₹12,110 crore crop loan waiver**

- Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami announced a major decision to waive ₹12,110 crore farm loans from cooperative banks to relieve farmers of the state.
- The AIADMK government in Tamil Nadu has stated that 16.43 lakh farmers will benefit from the farm loan waiver and the decision was taken as farmers suffered huge losses due to Cyclone Nigar and Burevi and also due to the novel coronavirus pandemic.

**Kattupalli port expansion project**

- According to the company's own environment impact assessment (EIA), the coast on which the project is to be located is eroding at 8.6 m/year due to the existing Kattupalli and Kamarajar Ports.

- The project is prohibited under the Environmental Protection Act 1986.
- Kattupalli Port is a large shipyard/port project in Tamil Nadu, India. It was built by Larsen & Toubro (L&T) in 2013.
- Kattupalli is located in between Ennore, Pazhaverkadu and Minjur in North of Chennai.

**CRZ**

- The coastal areas of seas, bays, creeks, rivers, and backwaters which get influenced by tides up to 500 m from the high tide line (HTL) and the land between the low tide line (LTL) and the high tide line have been declared as coastal regulation zone (CRZ) in 1991.
- The coastal regulation zones have been declared by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change under the Environment Protection Act 1986.

**CM opens cancer centre at Tirunelveli hospital**

- Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami unveiled various infrastructure projects through video conference.
- He opened the new regional cancer centre set up at the Government Medical College Hospital in Tirunelveli at a cost of ₹24.35 crore and also the new buildings constructed at a cost of ₹31.78 crore.
- The Chief Minister launched work on the radiology oncology block in the Mohan Kumaramangalam Government Medical College Hospital in Salem.
- The Chief Minister unveiled the new building in Saidapet, built at a cost of ₹27.79 crore, to house the Tamil Nadu Information Commission. He also inaugurated new buildings for the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department.

**First Cancer Institute**

- The Cancer Institute (WIA), also known as the Adyar Cancer Institute, is a non-profit cancer treatment and research centre based in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. The Cancer Institute (WIA) was established in the year 1954 under the leadership of Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy.

### **Dr.J.Jayalalithaa University in Villupuram**

- The Tamil Nadu assembly passed the Dr.J.Jayalalithaa University Bill 2021 to establish a new university. The Bill would give effect to chief minister Edappadi K Palaniswami's announcement on September 16 last year that Thiruvalluvar University would be bifurcated and a new university would be established in Villupuram.

### **City to get fourth integrated bus terminus soon**

- The industrial belt of the Chennai-Bengaluru Highway beyond Poonamallee is set to become busier in the coming years once the Thirumazhisai bus terminus is thrown open to the public.
- The Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) is planning to build the integrated mofussil bus terminus at Kuthambakkam village, near Thirumazhisai.
- Spread over 25 acres of land on an outlay of ₹314 crore, the terminus will achieve the twin objectives of easing traffic congestion in Koyambedu and provide the much-needed public transport facility to nearly 40,000 people working in the industrial complexes, including SIPCOT.

### **TIIC to get fresh capital of ₹1,000 crore over three years, Governor announces in Assembly**

- The registration fee was reduced to 0.1% from 1% for agreements for micro and small enterprises. To further ease access to formal credit, the government will amend the Registration Act, 1908, to permit online registration of agreements relating to the memorandum of deposit of title deeds for term loans and working capital loans and do away with the need for the physical presence of borrowers and lenders for the execution of such deeds.

### **Segregate waste, win gold and silver coins**

- Segregate waste and get a chance to win gold and silver coins. This is the latest

initiative taken by the Vellore City Municipal Corporation.

### **Thekkampatti elephant camp from February 8**

- The annual rejuvenation camp for temple elephants for the year 2021 is being held at the banks of Bhavani river in Thekkampatti. The camp was started from 2003.

### **Sorkkuvai Thittam**

- It has been very well received among the World Tamilians. The 'Sorkuvai Student Ambassador' training program for college students from Chennai was held under Agara Mudhali Programme Movement.

### **Megamalai Tiger Reserve**

- The Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger Reserve is officially the fifth tiger reserve in Tamil Nadu. Grizzled Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuary, Srivilliputhur, and the Megamalai Wildlife Sanctuary have been combined to create the reserve.
- Periyar and Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserves, the water needs of several southern districts have mostly been taken care of. With the new Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger Reserve.
- In Tamil Nadu, the Anamalai Tiger Reserve provides one of the largest habitats for the tigers and other co-predators. Tiger reserves in Tamil Nadu.
- 4 Tiger Reserves viz. Anamalai, Kalakkad-Mundanthurai, Mudumalai and Sathyamangalam.
- These Protected Areas have been established under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- Further Tamil Nadu also has the distinction of having 3 Biosphere Reserves viz. Nilgiris, Gulf of Mannar and Agasthiar malai.
- Mudumalai Tiger Reserve is located in the Nilgiris District of Tamil Nadu state at the tri-junction of three states, viz, Kamalaka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.
- Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve (KMTR) lies in Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari District of Tamil Nadu.]
- Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve (STR) is

located at the confluence region of Western and Eastern Ghats.

- Aaainmalai Tiger Reserve is located between Valparai to Udumalaipettai (Pollachi) in Tamil Nadu.

### **e-challan system inaugurated**

- The Chief Minister inaugurated the system of paying money through e-challan and obtaining e-receipts under Integrated Finance and Human Resource Management System (IFHRMS). E-receipts can be obtained from [www.karuvoolum.tn.gov.in](http://www.karuvoolum.tn.gov.in)

### **CM opens 30.5 km Nemilichery-Minjur section of ORR**

- The road forms the second phase of Chennai Outer Ring Road project in which the road from Nemilicheri connects Padiyanallur, Tiruvottiyur, Ponneri and Panjeti.

### **Kudi Maramathu Scheme**

- It aims to restore the water bodies of Tamil Nadu such as dams, lakes and reservoirs with the help of local farmers.
- It was Launched on 13 March 2017 by Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami at Manimangalam village in Kancheepuram district.
- It included maintenance works in canals, tanks, shutters and reconstruction works.
- It has been allocated an amount of 100 crores in its first phase.
- The scheme has also received financial assistance from the World Bank.
- It aims to remove weeds from water bodies and strengthen their water-banks.

### **Slavery abolition Day Feb 9**

- Chennai Promising to eradicate bonded labour for good, the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu announced it would ensure strict enforcement to root out a form of slavery that persists, despite being banned 45 years ago.

### **GI tag sought for fragrant 'Madurai marikolunthu'**

- Geographical indication (GI) tag for the famous 'Madurai marikolunthu' (davana),

traditionally used during religious ceremonies and to make garlands, has been submitted by the Madurai Meenakshi Sundareswarar Malar Motha Vyabarigal Nala Sangam.

- Karnataka has the highest number of GI tags i.e. 47 products followed by Tamil Nadu (39).

### **GI Tag**

- A GI or Geographical Indication is a name or a sign given to certain products that relate to a specific geographical location or origins like a region, town or country.
- The GI tags are given as per the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999. GI tags are issued by the Geographical Indication Registry under the Department of Industry Promotion and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- Darjeeling tea was the first product that got GI tag in 2004-05 in India, since then 365 goods had been added to the list as of May 2020. Recently Kashmir saffron and black rice Manipur got this GI tag.

### **Tamil Nadu**

- Salem Fabric
- Kancheepuram Silk
- Kancheepuram Silk
- Madurai Sungudi
- Coimbatore Wet Grinder
- Thanjavur Paintings
- Temple Jewellery of Nagercoil
- Thanjavur Art Plate
- East India Leather
- Salem Silk known as Salem Venpattu
- Kovai Kora Cotton Sarees
- Arani Silk
- Swamimalai Bronze Icons
- Eathamozhi Tall Coconut
- Thanjavur Doll
- Nilgiri (Orthodox)
- Virupakshi Hill Banana
- Sirumalai Hill Banana
- Madurai Malli
- Pattamadai Pai ("Pattamadai Mat")



- Nachiarkoil Kuthuvilakku (“Nachiarkoil Lamp”)
- Chettinad Kottan
- Toda Embroidery
- Thanjavur Veenai
- Thanjavur Art Plate (Logo)
- Swamimalai Bronze Icons (Logo)
- Temple Jewellery of Nagercoil (Logo)
- Mahabalipuram Stone Sculpture
- Erode Manjal (Erode Turmeric)
- Thirubuvanam Silk Sarees
- Kodaikanal Malai Poondur
- Palani Panchamirtham
- Dindigul Locks
- Kandangi Saree
- Srivilliputtur Palkova
- Kovilpatti Kadalai Mittai
- Thanjavur Pith Works
- Arumbavur Wood Carvings

### **Tamil Nadu sets up TALMEDCO under Companies Act**

- The State government has set up the Tamil Nadu Linguistic Minorities Social and Economic Development Corporation (TALMEDCO) under the Companies Act, 2013, to cater to the requirements of notified linguistic minorities who are not included or covered by the religious minorities.
- It is aimed at benefiting linguistic minorities in Tamil Nadu groups of people whose mother tongue is different from the principal language of the State - Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, Urdu and Saurashtra speakers, among others.
- As per the 2011 Census, the population of linguistic minorities in Tamil Nadu is 83.84 lakh, which is 11.63% of the State's population.

### **Washermenpet-Wimco Nagar stretch of Chennai Metro Phase 1 Extension**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate Washermenpet-Wimco Nagar stretch on Feb 14, 2021. This 9-km stretch of Chennai Metro Rail's phase I extension has been built at a cost of ₹3,770 crore.

### **Tab for school students**

- 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> standard school students will get Tab and its was announced by Education Minister Senkottaiyan.

### **Govt. seeks Rotary Club's support for vaccination drive**

- The Rotary Club of Madras (RCM) will be partnering with the State government in its COVID-19 vaccination drive.
- The Rotary Club of Madras will serve as the nodal agency in Tamil Nadu and coordinate with the State government on behalf of Rotary Clubs in the State and as a channel for raising CSR funding for the vaccination drive.

### **High level committee approves ₹3,113cr for 5 states as disaster relief**

- A high-level committee headed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah approved around Rs 3,113 crore to five states that faced natural disasters and pest attacks in 2020.
- The states and union territory that will get the additional central assistance from the National Disaster Risk Management Fund (NDRMF) are Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Madhya Pradesh.
- The committee, under the chairmanship of the home minister, has approved the additional central assistance to the five states and UT, which were affected by floods, cyclones (Nivar and Burevi) and pest attack during 2020.

### **143 federal Government Awards in 10 Years**

- The Tamil Nadu Local Government Department has received 143 Central Government Awards in the last 10 years. Of these, the Department of Rural Development alone has received 122 awards.
- Based on the Rural Cleanliness Survey, Tamil Nadu emerged as the best state in the overall category in 2019 and was awarded by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- Under the Department of Municipal Administration and Drinking Water Supply, Trichy Corporation has won the National Electricity Saving Award for Power Saving,

the Clean City Award 5 times and the Digital India Award Coimbatore and Madurai Corporation.

- The Metropolitan Corporation of Chennai has received national awards from 5 departments namely, Central Government's Progressive Capital, Central Housing and Rural Development Corporation, Ministry of Rural Development, Central Department of Housing and Rural Poverty Alleviation and Somigu City Council.

### **Tamil Nadu CM launches helpline no '1100' for redressing people's grievances**

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K Palaniswami launched a helpline service for expeditious redressal of people's grievances under which public may register their complaints by calling a toll free number '1100.'

### **Ather Energy announces Rs 635 crore investment**

- Ather Energy started operations at its new 1,23,000 sq ft production facility in Hosur, Tamil Nadu starting 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2021. The Bengaluru-based start-up has already begun deliveries of its electric scooters in cities like Mumbai, Pune, Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Chennai, and Hyderabad with more deliveries planned in a phased manner across 21 other cities by Q1.

### **PM Modi Quoted Avvaiyar and Bharathiyar Quotes**

- Quoting Tamil poet Avvaiyar, Mr. Modi underscored the need for water conservation. "When water levels rise, cultivation rises, people prosper and the state prospers. We have to do whatever we can to conserve water. This is not only a national issue. It is a global subject. Always remember the mantra of 'per drop more crop' and also he quoting Tamil Poet Bharathiyar "Aayudham seivom nalla kaakidham seivom aalaigal seivom kalvi saalaigal vaippom, ooyudhal seiyom thalaisayudhal seiyom".

### **PM Modi lays stone for IIT Madras' Rs 1,000-cr scientific discovery campus**

- The Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) is setting up a Discovery Campus at a cost of around Rs 1,000 crore near Chennai.
- The institute aims to develop the facility as a key destination for global scientific discovery.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the Discovery Campus of IIT Madras, which will be located at Thaiyur near Chennai, to accommodate the growing research infrastructure requirements of students and faculty.
- IIT Madras allotted 163 acres of land in 2017 at Thaiyur, which is located about 36 km from the main campus at Guindy.

### **Operation Smile plan Completed**

- 'Operation in collaboration with the Department of Social Security to help roadside children, missing children and children in need of care and maintenance in Chennai.
- The 'Operation Smile' project is nearing completion. More than 300 children have been rescued and placed in orphanages in Chennai due to the formation of special forces.

### **44 more Corpn schools to get Montessori classes**

- The Chennai Corporation schools will have 100 Montessori education classes as the civic body has decided to create more such facilities under the Smart City Mission.
- According to a Corporation source, 66 Corporation schools have Montessori classes now. To create new Montessori environments in 44 more Corporation schools.
- With the newest addition, the Corporation will have 100 Montessori classes.
- The new Montessori classes would be developed at a cost of Rs 9 crore under City Investments to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain (CITIIS) initiative, which is a part of Smart City Mission.

### **Smart City Mission**

- The Government of India has launched the Smart Cities Mission on 25 June 2015. The objective is to promote sustainable and

inclusive cities that provide core infrastructure and give a decent quality of life to its citizens, a clean and sustainable environment and application of 'Smart' Solutions.

### **PM to lay foundation stone for a ₹31,500-cr refinery in TN**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will dedicate two oil and gas projects to the nation and lay the foundation stone for a ₹31,500 crore refinery project in Tamil Nadu on February 17.
- The Prime Minister will also dedicate the Ramanathapuram - Thoothukudi section (143 km) of the Ennore-Thiruvallur-Bengaluru-Puducherry-Nagapattinam-Madurai-Tuticorin Natural Gas pipeline pipeline, which has been set up at the cost of about ₹700 crore.

### **Chief Minister's Girl Child Protection Scheme**

- Social Welfare officials said maturity amounts had been paid into the bank accounts of 1,598 beneficiaries of the chief minister's girl child protection scheme.
- The Chief Minister's Girl Child Protection Scheme was introduced by the Government of Tamil Nadu in 1992.
- Under this scheme, if there is a girl child in the family, an initial investment of Rs. 50,000 will be paid on behalf of the Social Welfare Department to the Tamil Nadu Electricity Fund and Infrastructure Development Corporation.

### **CM unveils industrial, MSME policies**

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K Palaniswami launched new industrial and MSME policies aimed at providing further impetus to the industrial growth by attracting more investments and also offering sops for development in the industrially backward districts.

### **Objectives of Industrial Policy 2021:**

- Achieving an annual growth rate of 15% in the manufacturing sector
- Attracting investments worth ₹10 Lakh crore and create 20 lakh jobs by 2025.

### **Objectives of MSME Policy 2021:**

- Attracting new investments worth ₹2 lakh crore in the sector by 2025.
- Creating employment opportunities for 20 lakh people.
- 28 MoUs signed, entailing investments worth ₹28,053 crore with the potential for creating 68,775 jobs. These investments would be spread across sectors like electric vehicles, wind energy, auto components, city gas and textiles.
- Foundation stones laid for four Sipcot industrial parks at Manapparai, Maanallur, Orgadam and Dharmapuri, with the aim of creating one lakh jobs.
- Foundation stones laid for six industrial estates of the Tamil Nadu Small Industries.
- Development Corporation Limited, with the aim of generating 13,300 jobs.
- TICEL Bio Park inaugurated in Coimbatore.
- Completed projects worth ₹3,469 crore inaugurated by the CM.

### **CIFF 2021**

- Chennai International Film Festival has begun.
- It is the 18<sup>th</sup> CIFF and its going to be held at Chennai.

### **Over Rs. 50,000 Crore worth oil and gas projects have been approved for implementation in Tamil Nadu**

- The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi dedicated to the nation and laid the foundation of key projects of the oil and gas sector in Tamil Nadu today via video conferencing. Prime Minister dedicated to the nation the Ramanathapuram - Thoothukudi natural gas pipeline and Gasoline Desulphurisation Unit at Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited, Manali. He also laid the foundation stone of Cauvery Basin Refinery at Nagapattinam.
- The Prime Minister raised the issue of India importing over 85 percent of oil and 53 percent of gas to meet the demand in 2019-20.

### **Asia's biggest Rs 1,022-crore cattle park**

- Animal husbandry minister Udumalai Radhakrishnan announced chief minister

Edappadi K Palaniswami would inaugurate the cattle park at Thalaivasal in Salem district on February 22.

- Touted to be the Asia's biggest cattle park, the chief minister had laid foundation stone for the Rs 1,022-crore project on February 9, 2020.

### **Pugalur-Thrissur Power Project Inaugurated**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 320 kV 2000 MW Pugalur (Tamil Nadu) - Thrissur (Kerala) HVDC project through video conference and also dedicated a 50 MW Kasaragod solar power project to the nation.
- The cost of the project is Rs.5,070 crores, according to the government. The minister added that as the demand increases, it is expected to touch 5,000 MW by the year 2022.

### **TN urges Centre to declare Godavari-Cauvery river link plan a national project**

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K Palaniswami urged the Centre to declare the Godavari-Cauvery river link initiative as a national project and said if it was done, it would benefit people in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.
- The NITI Aayog being chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Palaniswami noted that Tamil Nadu stood first in the country in coverage under micro irrigation in 2019-20 and 2020-21
- State had been ranked Number One in the Good Governance Index released by the Government of India and had bagged the 'Best Performing State' title in the National Water Award, 2019.

### **Cauvery-Gundar river link work set to take off**

- Tamil Nadu is all set to launch its ambitious intra-State river linking project by building a canal from the Cauvery to the Vaigai through Gundar. The massive project seeks to divert surplus flows from the Cauvery to the water scarce southern parts of the State.

### **National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)**

- The Tamil Nadu State government and the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for a multi-modal logistics park at Mappedu.

#### **NHAI**

- Formed - 1998
- Head Quarters -New Delhi
- Chairman - Sukhbir Singh Sandhu

### **CM announces cross-breeding cattle research centre in Salem**

- Inaugurating the Veterinary Science College and buildings for Asia's biggest Advanced Institute for Integrated Research in Livestock and Animal Science in (AIIRLAS) Thalaivasal
- A cross-breeding cattle research centre will be established in Karumandurai at Rs 100 crore.
- The AIIRLAS, which also accommodates the State's fifth veterinary college, was constructed at a cost of Rs 1,022 crore on 1,100 acres at Thalaivasal.

### **T.N. debt burden to cross 5 lakh crore in 2021-22**

- The interim Budget was largely devoid of populist announcements, barring schemes providing accident-cum-life insurance cover for 55.67 lakh breadwinners from Below the Poverty Line (BPL) families and enhanced medical insurance cover for government employees.
- Around 32.51 lakh beneficiaries in rural areas and 23.15 lakh in urban areas will be brought under the Puratchi Thalaivi Amma Comprehensive Accident-cum-Life Insurance Scheme.
- The scheme has been formulated on the lines of the Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana and the Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana of the Central government.
- Tamil Nadu is set to buck the national trend and register a 2.02 per cent GSDP growth in 2020-21 even as the country's GDP shrinks by 7.7 per cent.
- For 2021-22, Rs 2,634 crore has been provided for the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), an Indian government scheme that



focuses on providing food, primary education and healthcare to children under age six and their mother.

### **Interim Budget**

- A full budget gives the government of the day spending rights until the end of the financial year (which ends on 31st March).
- It is not practical for the government to present a full budget when there are elections nearing, so the government presents an interim budget, which is like a budget for the transition period (few months remaining in power).
- State's Own Tax Revenue expected to fall by about 18% to ₹1,09,968.97 crore.
- Total revenue receipts expected to fall by around 18% to ₹1,80,700.62 crore.
- Total revenue expenditure in 2020-21 estimated at ₹2,46,694.69 crore.
- Tamil Nadu's Gross State Domestic Product expected to grow by 2.021% in 2020-21 at constant prices.
- Agriculture grew by 5.23%
- Overall outstanding debt estimated to be ₹4,85,502.54 crore as on March 31, 2021, and ₹5,70,189.29 crore as on March 2022.
- ₹5,000 crore provided for the crop load waiver scheme.
- Computer science to be taught as a separate subject to students of Classes 6 to 10 at all government high and higher secondary schools.
- Allocation of ₹19,420.54 crore for the Health and Family Welfare Department.

### **Tangedco**

- A total of 4,563 crore has been provided towards the fifth and final instalment for converting Tangedco's debt into a grant over a five-year period under UDAY, in the interim Budget estimates for 2021-22.

### **TANGEDCO**

- TNEB was formed on 1 July 1957 as the Madras State Electricity Board according to the Electricity Supply Act of 1948.
- In October 2008, the Government of Tamil Nadu decided to divide TNEB into two subsidiaries.

- On 1 November 2010, TNEB Limited became a holding company with two subsidiaries, Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Limited (TANGEDCO), responsible for power generation, and Tamil Nadu Transmission Corporation Limited (TANTRANSCO), responsible for power transmission.

### **UDAY**

- Ujjwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana is the financial turnaround and revival package for electricity distribution companies of India.
- Launched on – 2015

### **Chief Minister inaugurates infrastructure projects in T.N.**

- Mr. Palaniswami launched the boiler light up, a key step towards the commissioning of the 800 MW North Chennai Thermal Power Station Stage III, which is being set up at a cost of ₹6,376 crore at Athipattu, in Tiruvallur district.

### **National Technology Awards 2020**

- A total of 12 companies have been selected for the National Technology Awards 2020 for commercialization of successful commercialization of innovative indigenous technologies.
- They have been selected under three categories –indigenous technologies, MSME, and startups.

### **VP Laser Technologies Private Limited, Chennai**

- The company has indigenously developed mission critical Digital Manufacturing technologies like MultiCNCTM CNC controller, AutoCAM2D CAM software, and various CNC controlled machines for applications.

### **M/s AlgaIR NutraPharms Private Limited, Thanjavur**

- AlgaIR has developed a Green Technology to produce Docosahexaenoic acid (DHA), an important omega-3 fatty acid, from microalgae. DHA extracted from microalgae is 100% Vegan and is currently marketed in the name of "AlgaIR's DHA".

## **Tamil Nadu becomes 11<sup>th</sup> State to complete 'One Nation One Ration Card' reform**

- Tamil Nadu has become the 11<sup>th</sup> state in the country to successfully undertake the Public Distribution System (PDS) reforms stipulated by the Department of Expenditure.

## **CM unveils slew of infrastructure projects**

- Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami unveiled several infrastructure projects via videoconference at the Secretariat.
- He also laid the foundation for several projects, including hospital buildings and a food park.
- He unveiled new buildings constructed for the Social Welfare Department at a total cost of over ₹ 25 crore.
- He launched the social media services of the '181' helpline set up under the Nirbhaya Fund Scheme.
- He laid the foundation for the construction of an office for the Commercial Taxes Department at Avalpoonthurai, near Modakkurichi, in Erode, at a cost of ₹14.3 crore
- The Chief Minister unveiled the foundation for a food park at the Gangaikondam SIPCOT in Tirunelveli district.

## **Nirbhaya Fund Scheme**

- Nirbhaya Fund was announced by the Finance Minister in his 2013 budget speech, with Government contribution of Rs. 1000 crores for empowerment, safety and security of women and girl children. The fund is administered by Department of Economic Affairs of the finance ministry.

## **World Thirukkural Conference**

- The Third World Thirukkural Conference will be held in Thanjavur for 3 consecutive days starting.
- The conference will be held on behalf of the World Tamil Research Institute, Government of Tamil Nadu, Thanjavur Bharat College of Science and Management, Australia Melbourne Tamil Association, Ilangadu Narthamilch Association, Thanjavur Tamil Thai Foundation.

- The conference was held at Thanjavur Bharat College of Science and Management.

## **Mettur surplus water scheme launched**

- Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami announced 24-hour three-phase electricity supply would be provided to farm pumps from April 1.

## **Mettur Dam**

- The Stanley Reservoir, Salem District, was opened in 1934 by Sir George Stanley, the then Governor of Madras. The Mettur Dam was constructed by the Madras Presidency Public Works Department to capture the water and create the Reservoir from the Cauvery River (now named Kaveri) where the river enters the plains.

## **Bill to provide 10.5% special quota to Vanniyars passed in Assembly**

- Legislation to temporarily provide for 10.5% special reservation for the Vanniakula Kshatriyas within the quota for the Most Backward Classes (MBCs).
- The Bill provides for internal reservation for the MBCs and Denotified Communities. The Most Backward Class of the Vanniakula Kshatriyas will get 10.5%, the Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities 7% and the Most Backward Classes 2.5%. This quota will be created from within the 20% reservation for the Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities.
- This Act is based on the recommendations made by the committee led by Justice M.S. J.

## **Opening of Dr.J.Jayalalithaa University at Villupuram**

- Dr.J.Jayalalithaa University has been opened in Villupuram.
- The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu had announced in the Assembly that the university would be separated from Thiruvalluvar University and would be headed by Villupuram.

## **Anti-Sterlite protest: Judicial commission**

- Judicial commission probing the police firing

during the anti-Sterlite protest in 2018. The team led by retired judge Aruna Jagadeesan.

### **Bharat Net Project**

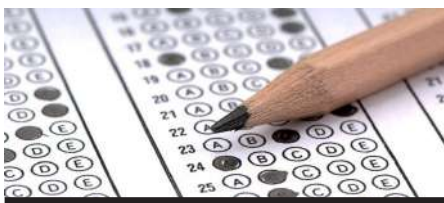
- BharatNet is a flagship mission implemented by Bharat Broadband Network Ltd. (BBNL).
- It is a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) set up by the Government of India under the Companies Act, 1956 with an authorized capital of Rs 1000 crore.
- Initially, it was under the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, which was bifurcated into the Ministry of Communications and the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology in July 2016.
- Currently, it is being implemented by the Department of Telecommunication under the Ministry of Communications.

- National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) was launched in October 2011 and was renamed as Bharat Net Project in 2015.

### **Sitharaman inaugurates CCI's south regional office in Chennai**

- Union Minister Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated Competition Commission of India's (CCI) south regional office in Chennai.
- The regional office will cater to the requirements of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and the union territories Puducherry and Lakshadweep.
- The Chennai Office of CCI will act as an office to facilitate enforcement, investigation, advocacy function in coordination with Delhi office.





# 9. PRACTICE QUESTIONS

1. Which state's Forest Department conducted a water birds census for the first time in January-February 2021?  
(A) West Bengal (B) Maharashtra  
(C) Assam (D) Tripura
2. Which city is hosting the Aero India International air show?  
(A) Pune (B) Bengaluru  
(C) Delhi (D) Hyderabad
3. Which state has unveiled a system of issuing a unique 16-digit Unicode to mark all kinds of landholdings in the state?  
(A) Madhya Pradesh (B) Kerala  
(C) Uttar Pradesh (D) Haryana
4. Which state was launched Kudi Maramathu Scheme?  
(A) Kerala (B) Andhra Pradesh  
(C) Tamil Nadu (D) Goa
5. When was C-DAC (Centre for Development of Advanced Computing) created?  
(A) 1988 (B) 1977  
(C) 1989 (D) 1978
6. Which state has the third highest number of cybercrimes?  
(A) Karnataka (B) Tamil Nadu  
(C) Uttar Pradesh (D) Maharashtra
7. Which app had won the Aatma Nirbhar App Challenge?  
(A) Koo App (B) CoWIN App  
(C) Your Quote (D) Chingari
8. When was the Kudi Maramathu project launched in Tamil Nadu?  
(A) 2016 (B) 2017  
(C) 2018 (D) 2019
9. Which state government has resolved to move Centre for implementation of Swaminathan Committee recommendations?  
(A) Jharkhand (B) Karnataka  
(C) Odisha (D) Rajasthan
10. The National Horticulture Fair 2021 has been organised in which city?  
(A) Mumbai (B) Bengaluru  
(C) Chennai (D) New Delhi
11. Who is the author of the book titled "Parliamentary Messenger in Rajasthan"?  
(A) K N Bhandari (B) M V Naidu  
(C) Chinmay Tumbe (D) Suman Dubey
12. Where is the World's tallest swing ride Bollywood Skyflyer located?  
(A) Mumbai (B) London  
(C) Paris (D) Dubai
13. What is India's rank in the Innovation Index 2021 released by Bloomberg?  
(A) 40 (B) 48  
(C) 50 (D) 60
14. Who is the author of the book titled 'BY MANY A HAPPY ACCIDENT: Recollections of a Life'?  
(A) M Hamid Ansari  
(B) Bhairon Singh Shekhawat  
(C) M Venkaiah Naidu  
(D) Krishan Kant
15. Who has won the prestigious "Wildlife Photographer of the Year People's Choice Award" for 2021?  
(A) Sergey Gorshkov (B) Brent Stirton  
(C) Tim Laman (D) Robert Irwin
16. Name the author of the book "Platform Scale: For a Post-Pandemic World"?  
(A) Nandan Nilekani  
(B) Sangeet Paul Choudary  
(C) N. S. Raghavan  
(D) Romesh Wadhvani



17. Who sang the song 'Kavidi Sindhu'?  
(A) Maraimalaiyadigal (B) Ayodhidasar  
(C) Annamalai Kavirayar  
(D) Bhavanar
18. The standard 'Tab' next to the computer is provided to Tamil Nadu students. It is to be given to students belonging to which class?  
(A) 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> std (B) 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> std  
(C) 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> std (D) 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> std
19. Who won the Miss India 2020 award?  
(A) Abarshakthi Kurana (B) Manasa  
(C) Manish Bowl (D) Ritish Desh Mukh
20. Vijayanagara has become which state's 31<sup>st</sup> district?  
(A) Andhra Pradesh (B) Telangana  
(C) Tamil Nadu (D) Karnataka
21. When is the second unmanned flight of Gaganyaan is expected to be launched as announced by the government?  
(A) 2024-25 (B) 2021-22  
(C) 2022-23 (D) 2023-24
22. Who is the author of the novel "kotti"  
(A) Aadhavan (B) Pa. Raghavan  
(C) Kazhaniyuran (D) Karuthudaiyaan
23. Who won gold in discus throw at World Para Athletics Championships?  
(A) Devender Kumar (B) Neeraj Yadav  
(C) Praveen Kumar (D) Pradeep
24. Where is the headquarters of the World Trade Organization located?  
(A) Paris (B) Geneva  
(C) Norway (D) Basel
25. Which airport has won the 'Voice of the Customer' award?  
(A) Chennai (B) Mumbai  
(C) Kanpur (D) Bangalore
26. The memoir titled 'Unfinished' is written by which Indian celebrity?  
(A) Anuska Sharma (B) Priyanka Chopra  
(C) Kareena Kapoor (D) Shilpa Shetty
27. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has laid the foundation stone of the Grand Anicut Canal System in which state?  
(A) Andhra Pradesh (B) Kerala  
(C) Rajasthan (D) Tamil Nadu
28. Who is the recipient of Jeevan Raksha Padak Award?  
(A) Abdul Asi (B) Bagathur  
(C) Nihal Singh (D) Suler
29. What is Arjun Mark 1?  
(A) Cannon (B) Warship  
(C) Warplane (D) Gun
30. Who is the author of the novel 'The Terrible, Horrible, Very Bad Good News'?  
(A) Nikita Singh (B) Samhita Arni  
(C) Meghna Pant (D) Anita Desai
31. Mario Draghi was recently sworn-in as Prime Minister of which country?  
(A) Vietnam (B) Italy  
(C) France (D) Indonesia
32. India to start the trials of which air-to-air missile this year?  
(A) Astra Missile (B) Trishul Missile  
(C) Nag Missile (D) Agni Missile
33. Where is going to be set up the crude oil refinery located?  
(A) Mayiladudurai (B) Nagapatna  
(C) Sivaganga (D) Tutukorin
34. When was the CM's Girl child protection scheme launched?  
(A) 1992 (B) 1994  
(C) 1996 (D) 1999
35. Which state recently become India's first e-state status?  
(A) Uttarkhand (B) Uttar Pradesh  
(C) Haryana (D) Himachal Pradesh
36. Who has been elected as the new Director-General of the International Solar Alliance?  
(A) Dr. Ajay Mathur  
(B) Upendra Tripathy (C) Arun Kumar  
(D) Madhur Dipankar

37. PM Narendra Modi laid the foundation of Maharaja Suheldev Memorial in which state?  
(A) Maharashtra (B) Madhya Pradesh  
(C) Uttar Pradesh (D) Bihar
38. Which corporation has won the Clean City Award for 5 times?  
(A) Trichy (B) Chennai  
(C) Madurai (D) Coimbatore
39. When was the SIPCOT launched?  
(A) 1969 (B) 1971  
(C) 1982 (D) 1991
40. The Government of Tamil Nadu has received 143 awards from the Central Government in the last 10 years. Which of the following awards has been received only by the Home Department?  
(A) 136 (B) 115  
(C) 122 (D) 106
41. Who is the Vice Chancellor of Universities?  
(A) President (B) Vice President  
(C) Prime Minister (D) Governor
42. Name the online portal launched by the Government to provide online civic services to residents of 62 Cantonment Boards  
(A) e-Basti (B) e-Chhawani  
(C) e-Samuh (D) e-Padaav
43. Karlapat Wildlife Sanctuary is in which state?  
(A) Odisha (B) West Bengal  
(C) Madhya Pradesh (D) Kerala
44. The Galathea National Park is in which of the following State/UT?  
(A) Nagaland  
(B) Andaman & Nicobar Islands  
(C) Lakshadweep  
(D) Goa
45. Who has been won the Mitra Shaurya award?  
(A) Kalpana Vasudevan  
(B) Chinny Krishnan  
(C) Sangeerthan  
(D) Giriraj Singh
46. Which state has got 100% drinking water pipe connection?  
(A) Karnataka (B) Goa  
(C) Kerala (D) Tamil Nadu
47. Which year did Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act come into force?  
(A) 2016 (B) 2017  
(C) 2018 (D) 2019
48. The sustainable electric two-wheeler, named 'PiMo' has been developed by which institution?  
(A) IIT Madras (B) IIT Delhi  
(C) IIT Kanpur (D) IIT Kharagpur
49. Which country is not a part of Quad?  
(A) USA (B) China  
(C) India (D) Australia
50. Who is also known as the Thinker Specialist (Sinthanai Sirpi)?  
(A) Maraimalai aadigal (B) Bhavanar  
(C) M. Singaravelar (D) Periyaar
51. What is Sandes?  
(A) Software (B) Portal  
(C) Vaccine (D) Currency
52. Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Advisory Committee of the United Nations Human Rights Council?  
(A) K. Raghunath  
(B) Shivshankar Menon  
(C) Brajesh Mishra  
(D) Ajai Malhotra
53. Which Indian ship is participating in the Naval Defence Exhibition (NAVDEX 21) and International Defence Exhibition (IDEX 21) in Abu Dhabi?  
(A) INS Vibhuti (B) INS Veer  
(C) INS Nirghat (D) INS Pralaya
54. In which year was the Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme launched?  
(A) 2014 (B) 2017  
(C) 2015 (D) 2016
55. Himalayan Pink salt is extracted from which region?  
(A) Southern states  
(B) Northern states  
(C) North-east states  
(D) Western states

56. Who wrote the book titles "Amaippaai Thiruvom"?  
 (A) Thirumavalavan (B) Natarajan  
 (C) Srinivasan (D) Arun
57. When is the international mother language day observed?  
 (A) February 20 (B) February 21  
 (C) February 23 (D) February 24
58. Where is the largest zoo is going to set up?  
 (A) Maharashtra (B) West Bengal  
 (C) Gujarat (D) Odisha
59. Which country hosted a workshop on COVID-19 Management: Experience, Good Practices and Way Forward?  
 (A) India (B) Sri Lanka  
 (C) Nepal (D) China
- Which campaign was launched by central government to ensure energy security in the country?  
 (A) In Electric (B) Save Energy  
 (C) Go Energy (D) Go Electric
60. Which country successfully test fired antitank guided missile "Helena" and "Dhruvastra" recently?  
 (A) India (B) Pakistan  
 (C) Nepal (D) Japan
61. Where is the Head Quarters of United Nation Human Rights Council?  
 (A) Vienna (B) Geneva  
 (C) Rome (D) Paris
62. The Chitaura Lake is in which of the following State/UT?  
 (A) Uttar Pradesh (B) Odisha  
 (C) Andhra Pradesh (D) Uttarakhand
63. Giant Leatherback turtle nests is located in which state of India?  
 (A) Goa (B) Odisha  
 (C) Andaman & Nicobar (D) Gujarat
64. Who wrote the book titled "Remaining Stories"?  
 (A) Ki. Ra (B) Srinivasan  
 (C) Natarajan (D) Arun
65. When was the Prime Minister's Agricultural Financial Assistance Scheme launched?  
 (A) 2017 (B) 2018  
 (C) 2019 (D) 2020
66. In which year did ISRO announce the launch of Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft?  
 (A) 2022 (B) 2023  
 (C) 2024 (D) 2025
67. The foundation stone of the first ever 'Skill University of the Eastern India' has been laid in which state?  
 (A) Assam (B) West Bengal  
 (C) Jharkhand (D) Sikkim
68. Who won Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2021 in the 'Critic's Best Actor' category?  
 (A) Sushant Singh Rajput  
 (B) Akshay Kumar  
 (C) Ajay Devgun  
 (D) Kay Kay Menon
69. Which state has become the first one to table a paperless budget?  
 (A) Kerala (B) Delhi  
 (C) Madhya Pradesh (D) Uttar Pradesh
70. Where is the Indian Maritime Summit to be held?  
 (A) Bengaluru (B) Chennai  
 (C) Kochi (D) Hyderabad
71. Who is the recipient of the Best Female Athlete Award in Youth Tournament?  
 (A) Priyansi (B) Preeti  
 (C) Sahia (D) Vinka
72. Which state is celebrated the cultural Kambala festival?  
 (A) Telangana (B) Karnataka  
 (C) Odisha (D) Tamil Nadu
73. The central government aims to eliminate which disease by 2025?  
 (A) Hepatitis (B) Dengue  
 (C) Malaria (D) Tuberculosis
74. Who becomes youngest woman to row solo across Atlantic Ocean?  
 (A) Jasmine Harrison (B) Avani Saturvedi  
 (C) Arunima Sinha (D) Juliana Helan
75. When was the Food Security Act launched?  
 (A) 2004 (B) 2005  
 (C) 2000 (D) 2013

76. On which day is Vijay Divas celebrating India's victory in the war?  
 (A) December 10 (B) December 16  
 (C) January 10 (D) January 16
77. Where will be the 800 MW Thermal Power Station to has opened recently?  
 (A) Mettur (B) Thuthukudi  
 (C) Athipattu (D) Karakudi
78. Who won the 8<sup>th</sup> National Senior Table Tennis Championship in Haryana?  
 (A) Sathyan (B) Sarathkamal  
 (C) Pankaj kumar (D) Raveendran
79. Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar used which language for the first time at UNSC debate on climate change?  
 (A) Sanskrit (B) Urdu  
 (C) Hindi (D) Bhojpuri
80. The world's first human case of H5N8 virus has been reported by which nation?  
 (A) France (B) Ireland  
 (C) Russia (D) Germany
81. Who has written the book titled "Agriculture Acts 2020"?  
 (A) A.K. Rajan (B) T.S. Sarthi  
 (C) Umesh Rai (D) Vipin Awasthi
82. Where the Third World Thirukkural Conference to be held?  
 (A) Tanjore (B) Tiruvarur  
 (C) Madurai (D) Kumbakonam
83. Who has recently been appointed as the Chairman of Export Development Authority of India?  
 (A) Dr. A. Sakthivel (B) K. Gunasekaran  
 (C) Sunil Agarwal (D) Suresh Chandran
84. Which country was the largest trading partner of India in the year 2020?  
 (A) Japan (B) UAE  
 (C) United States (D) China
85. Who has been appointed as the new Chairman of National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC)?  
 (A) Mahendra Nath Pandey  
 (B) Ram Shankar Katheria  
 (C) Dharmendra Pradhan  
 (D) Vijay Sampla
86. Which film won 'Best Film' at the Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards 2021?  
 (A) Chhapaak (B) Laxmii  
 (C) Dil Bechara (D) Tanhaji
87. The first undersea tunnel of India will be built in which city?  
 (A) Bengaluru (B) Mumbai  
 (C) Kochi (D) Hyderabad
88. National Schedule caste commission has been set up under which Article?  
 (A) 333% (B) 338A  
 (C) 335 (D) 334A
89. Where will be the Food park opened in Tamil Nadu?  
 (A) Udumalpet (B) Thalaivasal  
 (C) Karumamdurai (D) Gangaikondan
90. Indian social activist Anjali Bhardwaj was honoured with an anti-corruption award by which nation?  
 (A) USA (B) UK  
 (C) France (D) Canada
91. The book titled 'Stories I Must Tell: The Emotional Journey of an Actor' is a memoir of which actor?  
 (A) Kabir Bedi (B) Shatrughan Sinha  
 (C) Amitabh Bachchan (D) Dilip Kumar
92. Who presided over the first convention of the Communist Party of India?  
 (A) S. Singaravelan (B) Thiru.Vi.Ka  
 (C) Pandiyan (D) Jeevanandham
93. Where did the Southern Regional Branch of the Trade Competition Authority of India start?  
 (A) Hyderabad (B) Chennai  
 (C) Kochin (D) Bengaluru



94. Where is Dr. J. Jayalalithaa University started?  
 (A) Viluppuram (B) Karur  
 (C) Thoothukudi (D) Kanyakumari
95. Which is one of the oldest dams in India?  
 (A) Kallanai Dam (B) Azhiyar Dam  
 (C) Manimuthar Dam (D) Mettur Dam
96. Who receive global energy and environment leadership award?  
 (A) Prime Minister Modi  
 (B) Lakshmi Agarwal  
 (C) Kailash Sathyarathi  
 (D) Metha Patcha
97. Which planet may have lost its atmosphere due to solar wind?  
 (A) Mars (B) Venus  
 (C) Jupiter (D) Saturn
98. Which bank in India has recently tied with JPMorgan to go live on the blockchain technology "Link" of the US-based bank?  
 (A) ICICI Bank  
 (B) State Bank of India  
 (C) Punjab National Bank  
 (D) HDFC Bank
99. Which day is observed as the National Science Day in India?  
 (A) 28 February (B) 25 February  
 (C) 26 February (D) 27 February

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A	B	C	C	A	B	A	B	C	B
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
A	D	C	A	D	B	C	D	B	D
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
C	D	A	B	D	B	D	C	A	C
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
B	A	B	A	D	A	C	A	B	C
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
D	B	A	B	A	B	A	A	B	C
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
B	D	D	C	B	A	B	C	A	D
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
A	B	A	C	A	C	A	A	A	D
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
B	D	B	D	A	D	B	C	A	A
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
C	A	A	A	D	D	D	B	B	D
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
A	A	A	B	A	D	A	A	B	A