



SIVARAJAVEL IAS ACADEMY

# SANGAMAM

Monthly Current Affairs for TNPSC

APRIL-2023



21<sup>st</sup> APRIL

## NATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE DAY

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### Geographical Indication Tag for 11 more items in Tamil Nadu

- 11 products including Manapparai murukku, Manamadurai honey, Athur betel leaf have been given geographical indication.
- Geographical indication tags are assigned by the Union Government to unique items belonging to a particular place.
- It can prevent the use of geographically derived products for commercial purposes and under false names.
- 45 food, agricultural and traditional products including Dindigul Phootu, Salem Sungidi Saree, Kanji Pattu, Madurai Mallikai, Thanjavur Kalaitattu, Tiruvilliputhur Palgoa, Kovilpatti Kudlai Candy, Palani Panchamirtham, Kodaikanal Malaipundu, Ebenkudi Panangkandu, Cholavanthan Betel, Marthandam Honey in Tamil Nadu have received the GI tag



- At this stage, 11 products have been given geographical recognition: Manapparai murukku, Marthandam honey, Mayiladuthurai Thaikal rattan work, Athur betel leaf, Kampam paneer grape, Cholavanthan betel leaf, Nakamam cotton saree, Mayiladi stone sculpture, Salem jawarisi, Manamadurai earthenware, Ooty Varki.
- With this, the total number of Tamil Nadu products with Geographical indication recognition has increased to 56.

### World Bank funded Tamil Nadu Health Rehabilitation Project

- The Government of Tamil Nadu is implementing the Tamil Nadu Health Reform Project with the support of the World Bank in order to improve the quality of health of the people of Tamil Nadu.
- The World Bank approved the Sanitation Rehabilitation Project on 19.03.2019 by

agreeing to finance the project.

- The main objectives of the program are improved quality of care, improved management of infectious diseases and injuries, elimination of deficiencies in the obstetric and child health programme.

#### About

- The World Bank is an international financial institution that provides loans for investment projects in developing countries.
- The operational objective of the World Bank is to reduce extreme poverty.
- All its results should be involved in promoting foreign investment, international trade and setting up investment funds.

### Tamil Nadu Wants To Be A \$1 Trillion Economy, Govt Hires BCG For Developing Road Map

- The government of Tamil Nadu has chosen Boston Consulting Group to create a strategy and plan for achieving a \$1 trillion economy in the state.
- With a strong manufacturing base and large services sector, Tamil Nadu is the second largest State economy in India and ranks third in GDP per capita. It boasts the highest level of urbanisation and industrialisation in the country.
- Its export industry is also significant, as it accounts for over 9% of India's total exports, making it the third largest exporting State.
- The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, M.K. Stalin wants to make the state a \$1-trillion economy by 2030 to contribute significantly to India's goal of reaching a \$5-trillion economy.
- This would require enhancing the current growth rate, an increase in investment, and better infrastructure.
- The Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Board, responsible for infrastructure development, selected Boston Consulting Group after a worldwide bid to develop a comprehensive plan and road map, according to sources.
- The assignment aims to create a vision and strategy for economic development and identify key factors necessary to achieve it.
- The priority sectors and sub-sectors, along with their GDP and job targets until 2030

will be determined. The task is expected to be completed within six months.

- Tamil Nadu ranks second in India for computer, electronics, and optical products manufacturing accounting for 18 per cent of national production;
- It ranks fourth in terms of electronic exports, which were worth 2.2 billion dollars in 2021-22.
- Tamil Nadu sees semiconductors as a 1 trillion-dollar market opportunity. The semiconductor value chain requires high-quality infrastructure.

### Thirunarivu thervu thittam

- The Chief Minister launched a new program called Aptitude Test Scheme Thirunarivu Thervu thittam to motivate government school students in a program at IIT Chennai.
- According to this scheme, 1,000 people will be selected, 500 male students and 500 female students of class 10. Linkage will be established with leading educational institutes etc. and guidance will be provided. 1,000 per month to complete their 12th standard.
- Students selected under this scheme will be given a stipend of Rs.12 thousand every year while pursuing their undergraduate and postgraduate studies.



### IITM for All

- Government of Tamil Nadu started this scheme to create an opportunity for students studying in government schools to study in IITM
- IITM program for all was launched by the Minister of School Education on 5.1.2023 at the IIT Chennai campus and from that date till 8.2.2023 500 teachers from 250 schools were trained in 6 phases.
- As part of this programme, about 250 students from government schools were given a one-week residential training in basic mathematics and science at IIT Chennai last year.

### TN REACH

- The Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (Tidco) has developed a mechanism called Tamil Nadu Regional Aerial Connectivity through Helicopters (TN REACH), which aims to utilize over 80 unused helipads across the state to provide intercity and town connectivity.

### Digital House project

- While the paperless Legislative Assembly feature is already in effect in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, a new project called Digital House has been implemented from today.
- Accordingly, an application called electronic book has been installed on the computer on the member's desk.
- Through this, the information of the questioner, the answerer and their photos can now be found electronically.

### Uttaramerur Inscription

- India is the oldest democracy in the world as we know from the 1100 year old Uttaramerur Tamil inscription which talks about the rules of local bodies.

### About



- UttaraMerur Inscriptions refers to the inscriptions at Uttara Merur located near Kanchipuram in Tamil Nadu.
- There are more than 100 inscriptions of Pallavar, Pandyar, Chola, Vijayanagara dynasties.
- These inscriptions contain information about the life of the people living a thousand years ago and the Panchayat system.
- The inscriptions are written in 10th century Tamil and Grantha.
- There are inscriptions detailing the terms of Kudavolai elections held in the tenth century and the qualifications of the candidates.
- The rule of the Chola period is known from UttaraMerur.
- The Uttaramerur inscription, which tells

about the local government system, belongs to the Chola period.

## Adichanallur excavation report to be released soon



- The survey has been going on since last year in Adichanallur.
- In a study carried out in a 125-acre crematorium there, 90 body parts from old people's talismans have been sent to research centers in Madurai and New Delhi. Information on this research will be released soon.
- This area is associated with the civilization before 1600 BC.
- The archaeological site was first extensively excavated in 1903-04 by Alexander Rio.
- Then in 2004-2005 the Sathyamurthy carried out the excavation.

## Tamil Nadu's Cumbum grapes get GI tag

- The famous Cumbum Paneer Thratchai or Cumbum grapes from Tamil Nadu have recently been granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- The Cumbum valley in Tamil Nadu is popularly known as the 'Grapes City of South India' and is known for cultivating the Paneer Thratchai or Muscat Hamburg variety, which constitutes around 85% of the grape-growing regions in Tamil Nadu.

## VP. Singh

- Chief Minister M.K.Stalin announced in the Legislative Assembly today that a full-length statue of former Prime Minister VP Singh will be erected in Chennai. He served as the 7th Prime Minister of India.

### About

- VP Singh was the Finance Minister in the Rajiv Gandhi Cabinet from 1984 to 1987 and became India's Defense Minister in 1987.
- In 1987, VP Singh left the Congress party and founded a party called Jan Morcha.
- In 1988, VP Singh merged Jan Morcha,

- Janata Party, Lok Dal and Congress (S) to form a new party called Janata Dal.
- The National Front was formed along with the state parties DMK, Telugu Desam and Asom Gana Parishad.
- 1989 Formed the National Front, won the Lok Sabha elections and became the 7th Prime Minister of India.
- VP Singh accepted the recommendations of the Mandal Commission on reservation for the backward classes and implemented the reservation.
- The Cauvery Tribunal was set up in 1990 when VP Singh was the Prime Minister to decide which states should share how much of the Cauvery river water.
- The honor of giving 'Bharat Ratna' to Baba Saheb Ambedkar and placing his picture in Parliament belongs to social justice VP Singh.
- In 1990, the VP Singh government fell as the BJP withdrew its support.
- He was passed away in the year 2008.

## Factories Act Amendment for longer work hours

- The Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly has passed an amendment to allow employees of private companies in Tamil Nadu to work 12 hours a day.
- An amendment was tabled in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly to increase the working hours of workers in private companies from 8 hours to 12 hours.

### About

- The name of this Act is the Factories (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Act, 2023.
- As far as this Act is concerned, it is based on the Central Government's Factories Act, 1948.
- It adds a new provision under section 65 of the 1948 Act. This rule is known as 65-A. It gives power to exempt in special cases.
- Accordingly, the amendment provides for exemption from some or all of the provisions of sections 51, 52, 54, 56 and 59 of the 1948 Act.

## White Spot Disease

- Over the past month, white spot disease has affected over 100 acres of shrimp farming in Nagapattinam district, Tamil Nadu.

### About

- It is a highly contagious viral infection that affects crustaceans such as prawns, yabbies and crabs.
- When found in high-intensity production

areas, such as prawn farms, white spot disease results in the rapid mortality of prawns.

- It has the potential to cause a significant financial impact on the farmed prawn industry.



- When infected with White Spot Disease, the prawns may,
  - have loose shells;
  - show numerous white spots (0.5–2.0mm in diameter) on the inside surface of the shell;
  - be discoloured pink-to-red;
  - have unusual mortality;
  - come to the edge or water surface;
  - demonstrate unusual swimming patterns;
- How it is spread:
  - It is primarily spread through the movement of infected animals or contaminated water.
  - Birds that feed on and move infected animals can spread the disease.
  - Marine worms have been implicated as potential carriers of the disease.

### Manamadurai pottery

- Recently, the Manamadurai pottery from the state of Tamil Nadu earned a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

#### About



- Manamadurai in the Sivagangai district of Tamil Nadu is known for pottery making.
- How are these pots made?
- The Vaigai River enriches the clay used for the Manamadurai pottery.
- Pot making requires expertise as the bottom has to be perfectly round.
- The circumference of the pot and the neck

should be proportionate so that the pot sits flat on the ground.

- The right proportion of mud, clay and heating makes this product very strong.
- The main raw materials for making these pots are soil and water.
- The sand, collected from different places in the district, is used for making pottery and dried for two days. The particles of the mud get separated by sieving.





### Foreign Trade Policy- 2023

- The Union Government yesterday released the Foreign Trade Policy 2023 to increase the country's exports to Rs 164 lakh crore by 2030.



- A 5-year foreign trade policy came into force on 1st April 2015. It has since been extended several times. That policy has ended yesterday. Thus the Foreign Trade Policy 2023 was released yesterday by Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal.
- It is planned to increase exports to 2 trillion dollars (Rs. 164 lakh crore) by 2030.
- It has been informed that this will not be a permanent policy for 5 years but will be adjusted according to the need as per the time.
- It also plans to make the Indian rupee a global currency.
- In this, the maximum limit for export through courier service has been raised from Rs.5 lakh to Rs.10 lakh.
- 4 additional cities namely Faridabad, Moradabad, Mirzapur and Varanasi have been added to the existing list of 39 Special Export Cities.
- The new policy also calls for restructuring measures to prepare the business sector for the future.

### 100% electrified railway network

- The railway network in the state of Haryana in India was completely electrified by Indian Railways, making it the first state in the country to achieve 100% electrification of its railway network.

### New India Literacy Programme

- New India Literacy Programme launched to

cover a target of 5 crore non-literates in the age group of 15 years and above.

#### About

- The government has introduced a new program called the "New India Literacy Programme" (NILP), which is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme that will be implemented for five years from FY 2022-23 to 2026-27.
- The scheme has a financial outlay of Rs. 1037.90 crore, with the Central government contributing Rs. 700.00 crore and the State governments contributing Rs. 337.90 crore.
- The primary objective of the program is to provide literacy to 5.00 crore individuals in the age group of 15 years and above who are currently unable to read or write.

### RBI Foundation Day 2023

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) was established on April 1, 1935, in accordance with the provisions of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. The Central Office of the RBI, initially set up in Kolkata, was permanently moved to Mumbai in 1937.
- Sir Osborne Smith the first Governor of the Bank.
- The Bank was constituted as a shareholders' bank.
- The RBI is the central bank of India and is responsible for regulating the country's monetary and credit system.
- It is also responsible for issuing currency and managing the country's foreign exchange reserves.
- The RBI works closely with the government of India to formulate and implement monetary and fiscal policies that promote economic growth and stability.
- It was set up as a private shareholder's bank with a capital of Rs. 5 crores.

### Odisha Day or Utkal Divas is celebrated on 1st April 2023

- Odisha Day or Utkal Divas is a significant day for the people of Odisha, India as it marks the formation of the state on April 1, 1936

- It is the first state to be created on the linguistic basis.

### CBI's diamond jubilee

- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
- The Central Bureau of Investigation was established by a resolution of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India dated 1st April 1963.

### Indian Space Policy 2023

- Cabinet approves Indian Space Policy 2023
- This policy will provide opportunities for private participation in the sector.
- The government will allow the private sector to participate in space activities, including the development of satellites, rockets and missiles, data collection and dissemination.

### United Nations Statistical Commission

- India has been elected to the highest statistical body of the United Nations for a four-year term beginning January 1, 2024.

#### About :

- It was established in 1947(HQ: New York) and is the highest body of the global statistical system.
- It brings together the Chief Statisticians from member states from around the world.
- It is the highest decision-making body for international statistical activities, responsible for setting statistical standards and the development of concepts and methods, including their implementation at the national and international levels.

### Tiger census

- Prime Minister Modi released details of tiger census in India. On the completion of 50 years of the country's tiger conservation program, the golden jubilee was celebrated in Mysore, Karnataka.
- Prime Minister Modi participated in this and announced that according to the 2022 census, there are 3167 tigers in the country.

### Rare Earth Elements (REE)

- Hyderabad based National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI) has found large

deposits of 15 rare earth elements (REE) in Andhra Pradesh's Anantapur district.

#### About

- REE are a set of seventeen elements in the periodic table. These include the fifteen lanthanides on the periodic table plus scandium and yttrium.
- REE are all metals, and the group is often referred to as the "rare earth metals."
- Although called "rare", they are actually found relatively abundantly in the Earth's crust.

### National Party Recognition

- National party recognition of Trinamool Congress, Nationalist Congress and Communist Parties of India has been revoked. Aam Aadmi Party has got national party recognition.
- Rules
- The Chief Election Commission has laid down certain rules for national party recognition.
- 4 States should have secured 6 percent of the votes cast in the state assembly elections.
- Must have won 2% seats in at least 3 states in Lok Sabha elections.
- Must have regional party recognition in 4 states.
- National recognition is granted to a party that fulfills at least one of these 3 criteria.

### Ramakrishna Movement

- Recently, the Prime Minister of India participated in the 125th Anniversary celebrations of Sri Ramakrishna Math at Vivekananda House in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.



#### About Ramakrishna Movement:

- It was initiated by Swami Vivekananda to spread the universal message of Vedanta in the light of Sri Ramakrishna Paramhansa (He was a teacher of swami Vivekanand)
- The main motto of this initiative is to work for the alleviating of the poor and the downtrodden with the motto 'for one's liberation and the good of the world'.

- With this aim, Swami Vivekananda founded the Ramakrishna Math and Ramakrishna Mission.
- The Ramakrishna Mission was formed in May 1897 with aims purely spiritual and humanitarian.

### National Party Status

- Recently, The Election Commission grants national party status to Aam Aadmi Party

#### About

- The Election Commission has recognised the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) as a national party and withdrew the national party status of the All India Trinamool Congress, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and the Communist Party of India (CPI).
- Now the country has Six national parties- Bahujan Samaj Party, Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP), National People's Party (NPP), Communist Party of India (Marxist), Congress and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP).
- Criteria for a National Party Status:
- According to the Election Commission, any of these three conditions need to be met if a party is to be called a "national party".
- A party's candidates in a minimum of four states must get at least 6 per cent of the total votes polled in each of those states in the last national election. In addition to this, it should have won four seats in the Lok Sabha.
- A party should win a minimum of 2 per cent of the total seats in the Lok Sabha. The party's candidates should have been elected from not less than three states.
- A party is recognised as a "state party" in at least four states.

### India's first Underwater Metro

- India's first underwater metro recently conducted its trial run under the Hooghly river, Kolkata.

#### About

- It is a part of Kolkata Metro's East-West Corridor.
- It passes under the Hooghly River in the city's northeast, with the tunnel 13 meter below the riverbed and 33 meter below ground level.
- Total length of the tunnel: 520 meter
- It forms part of the 4.8 kms underground section from Howrah Maidan to Esplanade
- Once this stretch is open then Howrah will be the deepest Metro station (33 meters

below the surface) in the country.

- The metro is expected to cover the 520-meter stretch under Hooghly river in 45 seconds.
- The tunnel will exist for emergencies like earthquakes.



### Ambedkar Circuit Tourist Train

- The Indian government recently launched the Ambedkar circuit tourist train under the Dekho Apna Desh initiative, aimed at promoting domestic tourism in the country.
- This eight-day special tour covers eight significant places associated with Ambedkar i.e., New Delhi, Mhow, Nagpur, Sanchi, Sarnath, Gaya, Rajgir, and Nalanda.
- The train is a joint initiative of the Ministries of Tourism and Railways, aimed at attracting not only the wider tourist base but also the Dalit community.



### National Agriculture Market (e-NAM)

- Prime Minister recently said that with the help of the National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) portal, the farmers will be able to decide the place, time and price of selling their products, and reduce the burden on the consumers.

#### About

- It is a pan-India electronic trading portal which networks the existing APMC mandis to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities.
- It was launched on 14th April 2016, and is completely funded by the Government of India.
- Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) is the lead agency for implementing eNAM under the aegis of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India.

- Vision: To promote uniformity in agriculture marketing by streamlining procedures across the integrated markets, removing information asymmetry between buyers and sellers and promoting real-time price discovery based on actual demand and supply.
- Mission: Integration of APMCs across the country through a common online market platform to facilitate pan-India trade in agriculture commodities, providing better price discovery through a transparent auction process based on the quality of produce along with timely online payment.

## In a first, Kerala adopts Water Budget to tackle problem of summer water shortage

### About

- An abundance of rivers, streams, backwaters and a good amount of rainfall contribute to the lush greenery in Kerala, many parts of which yet face acute water scarcity when it comes to the summers
- And this has led to the state adopting a Water Budget — the first of its kind in the country. The details of the first phase of the Water Budget in the state covering 94 grama panchayats in 15 block panchayats were unveiled by Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan.

## Population of India - UN Report

- While China remains the world's most populous country, India's population will surpass China's by mid-2018, according to the United Nations.
- The World Population Status - 2023 report was released today by the UN Population Fund.
- Accordingly, it is indicated that India will overtake China in terms of population this year.
- By the end of this year, India's population is estimated to be 142.86 crores, while China's population is estimated to be 142.57 crores.
- It is reported that the population of the United States, which ranks third in terms of population, will be 34 crores.
- Although India took the last census in 2011, the 2021 census was not conducted due to the crisis of the spread of coronavirus.

## UPI transaction

- Bengaluru is the number one city for digital transactions in India

- Worldline, a French exchange company, has published a report containing details of UPI transactions in Indian cities as well.
- 1. Bangalore
- 2. Delhi
- 3. Mumbai
- 4. Pune
- 5. Chennai

## India Approves National Quantum Mission

- The Union Cabinet approved the National Quantum Mission, aimed at propelling India into a leading position in the quantum technology sector and promoting economic growth through its development.
- The mission seeks to expedite progress in the field and cement India's position as a major player in the industry

## India-Russia Business Dialogue 2023

- On April 17th, the inaugural session of the "India-Russia Business Dialogue" 2023 took place in New Delhi, and it was attended by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Russian Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov.
- The forum discussed enhancing practical cooperation between Russia and India, including the Inter-Governmental Commission (IGC).

## G7 Ministers' Meeting

- The recent G7 Ministers' Meeting on Climate, Energy, and Environment in Sapporo, Japan focused on how advanced economies can make a significant impact on addressing the climate crisis.
- As these economies have a major contribution to the problem, their timely actions are crucial. The meeting aimed to tackle key issues such as steering the global agenda on climate action and proposing solutions for the same.

## Global Buddhist Summit

- The Prime Minister inaugurated the first Global Buddhist Summit in New Delhi.
- The Union Ministry of Culture and the International Buddhist Federation will jointly organize this conference.
- "Response to Contemporary Challenges: From Theory to Practice" is the theme of the conference.
- The summit is held in an effort to bring together global Buddhist leadership and

Buddhist experts to develop policies that are conducive to international nations.

- Addressing contemporary challenges with the help of Buddhist principles and doctrines will be discussed in this summit.

### Shanghai Cooperation Organization

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah said that India is giving special importance to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).
- India is currently chairing the Shanghai Cooperation Organization which includes India, China, Russia, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
- India has played an important role in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization since 2005 as an observer country. Later, India became a full-time member in 2017, a major step in the process of expanding the organization. Now for the first time India is taking the lead.

### India is the number one exporter of seafood

- India is the world's largest exporter of shrimp and seafood. Internationally, India is ranked 5th in terms of economic growth behind England.

### National Quantum mission

- The Union Cabinet, approved the National Quantum Mission (NQM) at a total cost of Rs.6003.65 crore from 2023-24 to 2030-31, aiming to seed, nurture and scale up scientific and industrial R&D and create a vibrant & innovative ecosystem in Quantum Technology (QT).
- This will accelerate QT led economic growth, nurture the ecosystem in the country and make India one of the leading nations in the development of Quantum Technologies & Applications (QTA).

### Integrated e-Gram Swaraj and GeM portal

- The Prime Minister will inaugurate an integrated e-GramSwaraj and GeM portal on National Panchayati Raj Day, 24th April.



- On the occasion of National Panchayati Raj Day and marking 30 years of Panchayati Raj in India, Prime Minister will inaugurate an integrated e-Gram Swaraj and GeM portal for public procurement at the Panchayat level in Rewa, Madhya Pradesh.
- The Objective of Integration:
- The objective of e-Gram Swaraj-GeM Integration is to enable the Panchayats to procure their goods and services through GeM leveraging the e-Gram Swaraj platform.
- It will help the entire buyer-seller ecosystem to flourish thereby giving a major boost to rural economy and entrepreneurship along with strengthening the Digital India Program.

### Water Metro' project

- India's first 'Water Metro' project (tourist boat transport) is to be implemented in Kerala.
- 9 boats are ready for trial run for tourist boat transport service.

### Tuticorin VOC Port

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has congratulated Tuticorin VOC Port for the successful implementation of the Green India project.
- The Green India program was launched to reduce the increasing air pollution and global warming activities.
- The main objective of this program is to increase the number of forests that are being destroyed
- In the same way, 10 thousand saplings have been planted in Tuticorin V.C port in the year 2022.
- Note
- Chidambaranar Port is located in Thoothukudi.
- In 1974, it was declared as the main port of India and last year in 2012
- This port has been functioning since 1868.

### 100 Food Streets in 100 districts

- Recently, the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in collaboration with the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs has requested states/UTs to develop 100 food streets in 100 districts across the country.
- This project aims to encourage safe and healthy food practices among food businesses and community members, thus, reducing foodborne illnesses and improving overall health outcomes.

- Implementation: It will be implemented through National Health Mission (NHM) in convergence with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs & with technical support from Food Safety and Standards Authority of India.

## Operation Cauvery



- The central government has launched 'Operation Cauvery' to rescue Indians trapped in violence-hit Sudan. According to this, 500 Indians are brought by ship
- In October 2021, the country's army seized power in Sudan.
- It is said that the ruling authority was not handed over to the rulers within the specified period.
- As a result, there is a conflict between the army and paramilitary forces in the capital Khartoum.
- About 400 people, including an Indian, have died in the violence that has been going on for the past 11 days.

## Intensive measures taken in India to control the spread of tuberculosis

- The Central Government has formulated the National Statistics Plan (2017-25) to make India TB-free by the end of 2025. Its goals are listed below.



- Diagnosing tuberculosis at an early stage and providing quality treatment with appropriate drugs.
- It has directed the private sector to focus on the treatment of TB patients.
- Precautionary measures to prevent the spread of the disease by persons seriously ill with tuberculosis

- Also Universal Drug Susceptibility Testing (UDST) program has been implemented under NDEP to detect tuberculosis prevalence.
- Prime Minister's DP Mukh Bharat Abhiyan 2022 is being implemented from 9th September.
- Through this individuals can help TB patients.
- Those who want to help diagnose this disease and get treatment for malnutrition can register their names through the online service Nikshay Portal

## 50th Anniversary of Kesavananda Bharati Case

- The Supreme Court dedicated to the public the arguments and judgments of the historic Kesavananda Bharati case in 1973 regarding the amendment of the Constitution.



### Kesavananda Bharati case

- Kesavananda Bharati judgment was delivered on 24 April 1973 by a 13-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court, including Chief Justice Sikri.
- This powerful judgment made it clear that even if all the members of the parliament elected by the people are members of one party and all of them support the government, they cannot change the constitutional laws beyond a certain limit.

## First water bodies census

- The Union Ministry of Jal Shakti has conducted a survey of water bodies across the country.
- In this, a detailed list of India's water resources like ponds, lakes, ponds, water reservoirs and statistics on occupancy has been collected.
- Accordingly, there are 24 lakh water bodies all over India. Out of this, Tamil Nadu has 1.06 lakh water bodies.
- The top three states are Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Himachal Pradesh.
- 1.6 percent of the water bodies across the country and 8,366 water bodies in Tamil Nadu alone are encroached, according to the report

## National Manufacturing Innovation Survey (NMIS)

- Recently, the secretary of the Department of Science and Technology (Ministry of Science & Technology) released the “National Manufacturing Innovation Survey (NMIS) 2021-22: Summary for Policymakers.

### About

- It is a joint study by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
- Aim of the survey: To evaluate the innovation performance of manufacturing firms in India.
- The first National Innovation Survey was held in 2011.
- Key Facts about United Nations Industrial Development Organization
- It is a specialized agency of the United Nations with a unique mandate to promote dynamize and accelerate industrial development.
- It provides support to its 171 Member States through four mandated functions:
  - Technical cooperation
  - Action-oriented research and policy-advisory services.
  - Normative standards-related activities
  - Fostering partnerships for knowledge and technology transfer.
- India is a member of this organisation.

## Anji Khad Bridge

- All 96 cables on the first cable-stayed bridge in India, the Anji Khad bridge, have been fully installed in a record time of 11 months.

### About

- It is an under-construction rail bridge in Jammu & Kashmir on the Indian Railways Jammu – Baramulla rail line.
- It will connect the Union Territory of Kashmir with the rest of the country by train.
- It is constructed over the Anji River, a tributary of the Chenab River between Katra and Reasi.
- Anji Khad Bridge will be the first cable-stayed railway bridge in the country.
- It is an asymmetrical cable-stayed bridge balanced on the axis of a central pylon.
- The total length of the structure is 25 metres.
- It stands at a height of 331 meters above the river bed.
- The bridge has a single-line railway track

and a 3.75-metre-wide service road.

- The project is being executed by Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL) and Hindustan Construction Company.

## INS Tarkash

- INS Tarkash from the Indian Navy recently reached Port Sudan to help in the evacuation of stranded Indians as part of “Operation Kaveri”.

### About

- It is a state-of-the-art stealth frigate of the Indian Navy equipped with a versatile range of weapons.
- Tarkash belongs to the Talwar class of guided missile frigates. These are modified Krivak III class frigates built by Russia.
- It was built by the Yantar shipyard in Kaliningrad, Russia.
- It was commissioned into Indian Navy service on 9 November 2012 at Kaliningrad and joined the Western Naval Command on 27 December 2012.
- Key Facts about “Operation Kaveri”:
- It is a rescue operation being carried out by the Indian Government to bring back Indian citizens stranded in Sudan.
- According to the official data, the number of Indians in Sudan is around 4,000.



## Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)

- The United Kingdom recently agreed to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).



### About

- It is a free trade agreement (FTA) between 11 nations: Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam.
- It was signed in March 2018.
- It succeeded the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) after the United States withdrew from the TPP in 2017.
- All 11 countries of CPTPP are members of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).

## India, Malaysia can now trade in Indian rupee

- The Ministry of External Affairs declared that trade between India and Malaysia can now be conducted using the Indian Rupee (INR) as a mode of settlement, in addition to other currencies
- This announcement follows the launch of the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2023 by the Ministry of Commerce the day before, which reaffirmed the government's determination to establish the rupee as a global currency.
- This move is expected to boost bilateral trade between the two countries and reduce transaction costs for businesses.

## Bastille Day Parade

- France has recently invited Indian Prime

Minister Narendra to visit Paris as a guest at the annual Bastille Day parade.

### About



- The Bastille Day military parade, also known as the 14 July military parade, is a French military parade that has been held on the morning of 14 July each year in Paris since 1880.
- It is also one of the oldest regular military parades in the world.
- July 14 is the anniversary of the storming of the infamous Bastille prison in 1789 - a turning point for the success of the French Revolution.
- This day is marked as the National Day of France.

## G20 Empower Alliance

- The G20 EMPOWER Alliance is dedicated to accelerating women's leadership and empowerment in the private sector.
- This initiative is critical not only for social justice but also for economic growth, given that the G20 represents more than 80% of the world's GDP, 75% of international trade, and 60% of the world's population.
- With its strategic position in the global economy, the G20 has enormous potential to advance gender equality and women's empowerment.



## Saudi Arabia, Iran agree to reopen embassies

- Iran and Saudi Arabia have agreed to open closed embassies as bilateral talks progress.
- In the past, Iran and Saudi Arabia have followed a trend of conflict to gain dominance in the Middle East.



- Now both the countries have started to forget the enmity and engage in friendly relations which is attracting international attention.
- In this, China is acting as a political ambassador to forget the hatred between the two countries and improve mutual relations.

## 5th International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure

- The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) organizes an annual conference that brings together decision-makers, thought leaders, academia, and institutions from across the world to work on solutions for infrastructure resilience.
- The latest conference, the 5th International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (ICDRI) 2023, was held on 4th and 5th of April 2023 in New Delhi, India.

## India, Bangladesh, Japan to hold connectivity meet in Tripura

- Bangladesh, India, and Japan are set to hold a connectivity event in Tripura, India on April 11-12.
- The event is aimed at exploring connectivity initiatives and leveraging the commercial potential of the region.

## UN Commission on Population and Development

- In the 56th session of the UN's Commission on Population and Development, held at New York, deputy Secretary-General warned that the goal of achieving quality education for all by 2030 is "seriously off track".
- Currently around 263 million children and

- young people are out of school in the world.
- Nearly 70 % of children in poorer countries cannot understand a basic text by age 10, mainly due to chronic factors such as poverty and malnutrition.

## International Conference on Defence Finance and Economics

- On April 12, 2023, the Ministry of Defence (Finance) hosted the International Conference on Defence Finance & Economics with the goal of facilitating discussions and partnerships among prominent policymakers, academics, and government officials from both India and other countries.
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## UAE India's second largest export destination and third largest source of imports

- According to recent figures released by the Indian Ministry of Commerce, the UAE remains the second most significant export destination for India.
- The US and UAE held onto their first and second positions, respectively, during the financial year 2022-23.
- The ministry's figures, released two weeks into the new fiscal year, indicate a six percent increase in India's overall exports of goods and services during the financial year that concluded last month.

## Olkiluoto 3 nuclear reactor (OL3)

- Finland's next-generation Olkiluoto 3 nuclear reactor, the largest in Europe, has gone into regular production.
- About

- OL3 is an EPR (European Pressurized Water Reactor) located in Finland.
- It is built by the French-led Areva-Siemens consortium.
- It is the most powerful nuclear reactor in Europe, with a capacity of generating 1,600 megawatts.
- It covers approximately 14% of Finland's electricity demand.

### Nepal becomes founding member of International Big Cats Alliance

- Nepal has become a founding member of the International Big Cats Alliance.
- During the launch of the alliance under India's initiative, Minister for Energy Shakti Bahadur Basnet handed over the letter.

### India-CARICOM

- India's External Affairs Minister co-chaired the 4th India-CARICOM ministerial meeting with his Jamaican counterpart.



#### About

- CARICOM, which stands for Caribbean Community, is the oldest surviving integration movement in the developing world.
- It is an organization of Caribbean countries and dependencies originally established as the Caribbean Community and Commons Market in 1973 by the Treaty of Chaguaramas.

#### Main Purposes:

- Promote economic integration and cooperation among its members;
- To ensure that the benefits of integration are equitably shared;
- To coordinate foreign policy;

#### Members:

- It has 15 members; Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.
- Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, and the

Turks and Caicos Islands have associate member status, and Aruba, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Venezuela maintain observer status.

### India, Iran and Armenia forms new trilateral to deepen regional relations

- The first trilateral consultations between the Foreign Affairs Ministry of India, Armenia, and Iran took place in Yerevan.
- India- Armenia
- Armenia and India marked the 30th anniversary of their bilateral diplomatic relations in 2022.
- The two countries have maintained active political ties and effective cooperation within international organizations.
- The diplomatic relations between Armenia and India were established in 1992.

### India, UK sign agreement to collaborate on science and innovation

- India and the United Kingdom have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for collaboration on science and innovation
- The MOU aims to deepen collaboration between the two countries in science and drive economic growth, job creation, and improve the lives of people around the world

### SCO Summit

- India to host SCO Summit in New Delhi: India will host the SCO Summit in New Delhi On July 3–4, which will be Russian President Vladimir Putin's first visit to India since the conflict in Ukraine
- The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) was founded over twenty years ago and comprises eight member countries, including Russia, India, China, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. This grouping covers over 60% of the Eurasian landmass, 30% of the global GDP, and 40% of the world population



## United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII)

- Recently, the 22nd session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues was held in New York.

### About



- It is a high-level advisory body to the Economic and Social Council.
- It was established on 28 July 2000.
- Mandate: To deal with indigenous issues related to economic and social development, culture, the environment, education, health and human rights.
- The first meeting of the Permanent Forum was held in May 2002, with yearly sessions thereafter.
- It is one of three UN bodies that is mandated to deal specifically with indigenous peoples' issues.
- The others are the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of indigenous peoples.

### PRET Initiative



## World Health Organization

- Recently, the World Health Organization (WHO) has launched the PRET initiative to be better prepared for future outbreaks of a similar scale and devastation as the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Preparedness and Resilience for Emerging Threats (PRET) Initiative is aimed at providing “guidance on integrated planning for responding to any respiratory pathogen such as influenza or coronaviruses”.
- It was announced at the Global Meeting for

Future Respiratory Pathogen Pandemics held on 24-26 April 2023 in Geneva, Switzerland.

- The first module focuses on respiratory pathogens, including influenza, coronaviruses, and respiratory syncytial virus.
- It involves three-pronged approach which includes
-



**India will be third largest economy by 2027-28:**

- In a recent address to the Indian diaspora community in France, Union Minister Piyush Goyal announced that India is set to become the third-largest economy in the world by 2027.
- Currently the fifth-largest economy, India has been experiencing an average annual growth rate of around 7% over the last decade, driven by factors such as a growing middle class and a focus on innovation and entrepreneurship.





## PROGRAMS AND YOJANAS

### PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme:

- The PM SVANidhi scheme was launched by the Government of India in June, 2020.

#### Objective –

- To empower Street Vendors by not only extending loans to them, but also for their holistic development and economic upliftment.
- The scheme intends to facilitate collateral free working capital loans of up to Rs.10,000/- of one-year tenure, to approximately 50 lakh street vendors.
- Nodal Ministry – Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

### Vibrant Village Programme

- Recently, Union home Minister launches vibrant villages program on China border in Arunachal Pradesh.

#### About Vibrant Village Programme:

- It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme implemented over financial Years 2022-23 to 2025-26.
- The programme will provide funds for development of essential infrastructure and creation of livelihood opportunities in 19 Districts and 46 Border blocks of 4 states and 1 UT along the northern land border of the country - Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and UT of Ladakh.
- The programme will help in improving the quality of life of people living in identified border villages and encourage people to stay in their native locations thereby reversing the outmigration from these villages and adding to security of the border.
- Focus Areas: Road connectivity, drinking water, electricity including solar and wind energy, mobile and internet connectivity and healthcare infrastructure and wellness centers etc.

### Ministry of Culture promotes Indian folk arts and culture abroad through Global Engagement Scheme

- The Global Engagement Scheme is one such initiative that organizes Festivals of India in other countries to showcase the country's rich culture, including folk art, exhibitions, dance, music, theatre, film, food festivals, and yoga events.
- This scheme also highlights the diverse culture of North-East India to the world.
- The ministry provides grant-in-aid to Indo-Foreign Friendship Cultural Societies to organize programs and activities that promote the country's culture across the world.

### Amrit Bharat Station Scheme

- South Western Railway (SWR) is all set to revamp two railway stations, Krishnarajapuram and Whitefield stations under Amrit Bharat Station scheme.

#### About

- It envisages development of stations on a continuous basis with a long term vision.
- It is based on Master Planning for long term and implementation of the elements of Master Plan as per the needs and patronage of the station.

#### Broad Objectives:

- Implementation of the Master Plan in phases to enhance the facilities including and beyond the Minimum Essential Amenities (MEA) and aiming for creation of Roof Plazas and city centres at the station in long run.
- The scheme shall aim to meet the needs of the stakeholders, station usage studies as far as possible based on availability of funds and inter-se priority.

### Animal Pandemic Preparedness Initiative (APPI)

- Shri Parshottam Rupala, launched two significant initiatives: the Animal Pandemic Preparedness Initiative (APPI) and the Animal Health System Support for One Health (AHSSOH) project
- The launch event will take place at the

India Habitat Center in New Delhi and will be held under the National One Health Mission.

- The project will be carried out in five states and will focus on enhancing the capacity building of stakeholders involved in animal health and disease management

### Mudra Scheme

- The Prime Minister said that more than 8 crore entrepreneurs have been created through the Mudra scheme.

### Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana Scheme (PMMY)



- The Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) scheme was created by the Government of India for the development of Small, Micro and Medium Enterprises (MSME).
- It is implemented through the Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency (MUDRA).
- Mudra Bank is not a private bank. It is a government scheme. It is implemented by all banks.
- It is a completely new scheme established by the Government of India for the development of small scale industries. Finance Minister released in the financial year 2015-16.
- Its main task is to provide necessary funds to private micro-enterprises. In the financial year 2015-16, around 1.5 crore companies have been given loans under this scheme.

### SATHI Portal

- Recently, the Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister launched the SATHI Portal and Mobile App.

### About

- The Seed Traceability, Authentication and Holistic Inventory (SATHI) portal is a Centralized Online System designed to deal with the challenges of seed production, quality seed identification and seed certification.

- There will be a QR code under this system, through which the seeds can be traced.
- It will ensure a quality assurance system, and identify the source of seed in the seed production chain.

### Animal Health System Support for Health and Animal Pandemic Preparedness Initiative

- Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (FAHD) Minister Mr. Parshotham Rupala initiated the World Bank-funded Animal Health System Support for Health and Animal Epidemic Preparedness Initiatives .



### Animal Pandemic Preparedness Initiative

- The Animal Epidemiology Preparedness Initiative and the World Bank-funded “Animal Health System Support for Health” are comprehensive efforts to address animal epidemiology in a holistic manner.
- The initiative aims to improve India’s preparedness and response to animal epidemics, with a focus on zoonotic diseases that pose a threat to animal and human health.
- This initiative will help in improving awareness among the farmers of veterinary services.

### Animal Health System Support for Health (AHSSOH)

- A World Bank funded project on “Animal Health System Support for Health (AHSSOH)” was launched in India with the objective of creating an ecosystem for better animal health management system using a health approach covering five states.

## Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India (PM-SHRI) Scheme

- A total of 6,448 schools from 28 states and Union territories have been selected for upgradation under the Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India (PM-SHRI) scheme.

### About



- It is a Centrally Sponsored scheme announced in 2022.
- Objective: Development of more than 14500 schools across the country by strengthening selected existing schools being managed by Central Government/ State/ UT Government/ local bodies.
- The duration of the scheme is from 2022-23 to 2026-27, after which it shall be the responsibility of the States/UTs to continue to maintain the benchmarks achieved by these schools.

## SUPREME Initiative

- Recently, the Union Minister of Science and Technology launched the SUPREME initiative to provide financial support for the upgradation and maintenance of analytical instrumentation facilities (AIFs).

### About

- The Support for Up-gradation Preventive Repair and Maintenance of Equipment (SUPREME), is a first-of-its-kind programme by the government.
- It extends financial support for repair, upgradation, maintenance, retrofitting, or acquiring additional attachments to increase the functional capabilities of existing analytical instrumentation facilities.

## Atal Pension Yojana (APY)

- Atal Pension Yojana (APY) Surpasses 5.20 Crore Enrollments: In a recent report, the number of people enrolled in the Atal

Pension Yojana has surpassed 5.20 crore as of March 31, 2023

- The Indian government introduced the Atal Pension Yojana (APY) on 9th May 2015 with the aim of establishing a comprehensive social security system for all Indians, particularly the impoverished, underprivileged, and those in the unorganized sector. The administration of the APY is under the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)





### A reusable rocket or reusable launch vehicle (RLV)

- Earth test success of reusable rocket: Another milestone in ISRO's record



- Rockets used to launch satellites are used only once. Each time a new rocket is produced, the cost increases. Keeping this in mind, they made a serious effort to find a new rocket that could be used again and again
- In this case Falcon type rockets were discovered. It is designed to carry not only satellites but also humans into space and back to land safely. It can be used multiple times.
- It is in that line that India has developed this type of rocket and successfully tested it.
- ISRO scientists have successfully conducted this test at the Aeronautical Test Range at Selakkare, Chitradurga District, 220 km from Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- For the first time in the world, the rocket was lifted to an altitude of 4.5 km by helicopter and released to land on the runway. It landed perfectly.
- It is named reusable rocket or reusable payload vehicle (RLV).

### Artemis II mission

- NASA recently announced the crew that will fly aboard its Artemis II mission

#### About

- It is NASA's program to return astronauts to the Moon, preparing the way for human missions to Mars.
- It aims to "land the first woman and first person of colour on the Moon", explore the lunar surface.
- The Artemis program includes the construction of the Lunar Gateway space

station in orbit around the Moon.

- Artemis I: An uncrewed test flight of the Orion spacecraft, launched on the Space Launch System (SLS) rocket on November 16, 2022.



### European Space Agency's Juice mission launches to search for life on Jupiter's moons

- The European Space Agency (ESA) launched the Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer mission (Juice) on Friday, 14 April, at 8:14 a.m. ET using an Ariane 5 rocket from Europe's spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana. Juice aims to explore Jupiter and three of its largest moons.

### Lucy mission

- NASA's Lucy mission is on a 12-year journey to observe nine Jupiter Trojans and two main belt asteroids, making it the first-ever mission to visit them.
- Despite being more than 330 million miles (530 million kilometers) away from the spacecraft, Lucy was able to capture views of four Jupiter Trojan asteroids recently.
- The asteroids are relatively small in size, but Lucy used its highest resolution imager, L'LORRI, to take the images, which will help the team choose exposure times for close-up observations of the targets.

### China launched Fengyun-3 satellite

- China has achieved a significant milestone by successfully launching the Fengyun-3 meteorological satellite.



- The satellite was launched using the Chang Zheng-4B carrier rocket from the Jiuquan



Cosmodrome, located in Gansu Province.

- The Fengyun-3 satellite has been primarily designed to monitor and provide crucial information on severe weather conditions, including heavy rainfall that can result in natural calamities like landslides and floods.

### Taifa-1

- Kenya Launched Its First Operational Earth Observation Satellite “Taifa-1”
- The launch took place from Vandenberg Base in California. The rocket also carried 50 payloads from different countries, including Turkey, under SpaceX’s rideshare program.

### Starship rocket

- SpaceX’s Starship rocket explodes during test.
- It is considered to be the largest and most powerful rocket ever built by humans.
- About 400 feet (120 meters) tall, the ship has a total of 33 engines.
- It was developed with the aim of sending humans into space as well

### TeLEOS-2

- ISRO successfully launched the PSLV-C55/ TeLEOS-2 mission to send two Singapore-made satellite into space. An Orbital Experimental module was also launched as part of this mission to carry out tests in the space vacuum.
- TeLEOS-2 and Lumelite-4
- TeLEOS-2 and Lumelite-4 are the two Singapore-made satellites that were launched aboard the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.
- TeLEOS-2, weighing 741 kg, is a commercial Earth Observation satellite developed by the Government of Singapore and Singapore Technologies Engineering Limited.
- Lumelite-4, on the other hand, is a small, 16 kg satellite developed by the Singapore-based ST Engineering Geo-Insights Pte Ltd, with the purpose of augmenting the maritime safety of the city-state.

### Emirates Mars Mission - Hope

- Hope is a United Arab Emirates Mars orbiter that arrived in February 2021.
- Hope is studying Mars’ climate to help us understand what Mars was like when its atmosphere could have supported life.
- Hope is the Arab world’s first mission to another planet. More countries exploring our Solar System means more discoveries and opportunities for global collaboration.

### Malaria

- The World Health Organization has called on countries to take action to create a malaria-free world.
- About
- Malaria is an infectious disease transmitted by a vector or parasite. It is caused by protozoan parasites.
- It is widely distributed in tropical and subtropical regions including the Americas, Asia and Africa.
- Malaria can only be transmitted by Anopheles mosquitoes.
- Symptoms - Symptoms of malaria begin to appear 3 to 10 days after being bitten by an infected mosquito. Initially there will be high fever and body aches. Symptoms include headache, chills, fever, jaundice, vomiting, joint pain, convulsions, retinal damage, tremors, and presence of hemoglobin in urine.
- The central government has set a target to eliminate malaria in India by 2030. In this case, a target has been set for Tamil Nadu to achieve that target by 2024



## Capulopsyche keralensis



Recently, researchers from the Zoology Department at St. Thomas College Thrissur have discovered the bagworm moth from the coffee plantations of Kerala.

- Palamau Tiger Reserve (PTR):
- The Palamau Tiger Reserve is in the western side of Latehar district on the Chhota Nagpur plateau in
- This tiger reserve is surrounded by the Auranga River in the North.
- It is one of the first 9 tiger reserves created in the country at the inception of ‘Project Tiger’.
- It is the first reserve in the world in which a tiger census was carried out as a pugmark count, as early as 1932 under the supervision of J.W. Nicholson
- This Tiger reserve zone is the watershed area for 3 important rivers Koel, Burha, and Auranga.
- Many aquifers locally called ‘Chuan’ are also present inside the reserve. A sulfur hot spring ‘Tatha’ is present near Barwadih.
- Flora: The project area is constituted mainly of Sal forests, mixed deciduous forests, and bamboo groves.
- Fauna: The keystone species are Tigers, Elephants, Leopards, Grey Wolf, Gaur, Sloth Bear, etc.

## Eravikulam National Park

- According to Eravikulam National Park (ENP) officials, a Fernarium has been established within the park, and this is the first time such a fern collection has been established in the hill station.



## About Eravikulam National Park:

- It is situated in the Kannan Devan Hills of the southern Western Ghats of
- This is also the land of “Neelakurinji”, the flower that blooms once in twelve years.
- The Anamudi peak is situated on the southern side of the Park.
- Flora: The major part of the park is covered with rolling grasslands, but several patches of shola forests are also found in the upper part of the valley.
- Fauna: The Nilgiri Tahr, Gaur, Sloth Bear, Nilgiri Langur, Tiger, Leopard, Giant Squirrel and wild dog are common
- What is a Fern?
- Ferns are part of the Epiphytic family. They grow naturally in a soilless condition.
- The plants obtain water and nutrients through leaching from trees.
- What are Epiphytes?
- An epiphyte is a plant that does not place roots in the ground to grow but on the surface of other plants.

## Bandipur Tiger Reserve

- Bandipur Tiger Reserve recently completed 50 years as a Project Tiger Reserve.

### About

- It was established in the 1930s as a wildlife sanctuary, which became a tiger reserve in 1973 under Project tiger.
- It is situated in two contiguous districts (Mysore and Chamarajanagar) of Karnataka and located at the tri-junction area of the States of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.
- Bandipur Tiger Reserve is surrounded by:
- Nagarahole Tiger Reserve (Tamil Nadu) in the North West (Kabini Reservoir separates the two).
- Mudumalai Tiger Reserve (Tamil Nadu) in the South.
- Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary (Kerala) in the South West.
- This area has the River Kabini in its north and River Moyar in its south.

## Project Tiger - 50 years anniversary

- Project Tiger is a project established by the Union Government of India in 1973 to protect tigers.

- The Indian Board of Wildlife (IBW) designed the scheme.



- The objective of the project is to ensure and maintain the surviving tiger population in India to maintain its scientific, economic, aesthetic, cultural ecological and ecological value, and to preserve their traditional natural habitats and dedicate them to the education and well-being of the people of India.
- For this, separate sanctuaries are established and the natural environment for tigers to live is maintained.

### History

- The first all-India tiger census conducted in 1972 revealed that only 1872 tigers remained. Project Tiger was launched by our Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi on April 1, 1973 in Corbett National Park in Uttaranchal district to protect the endangered tiger species.
- Tigers in Panna in Maharashtra and Sariska in Rajasthan have been wiped out while the scheme has been in place.
- Realizing the seriousness of the situation, the Union Government legally constituted the National Tiger Conservation Commission (NTCA) under the National Wildlife Conservation Act, 1972.

### Management

- The shelters were established based on the “Core - buffer strategy”. Any human activity was prohibited in the area designated as the womb. Only conservation land use is permitted in the buffer zone. A management plan based on the following principles is drawn up for each refuge:
- Eliminate human-made exploitations and disturbances in the womb. Systematization of human activities in the buffer zone.
- Limiting habitat management to limit human and other disturbance to the ecosystem and helping the ecosystem recover to its natural state

### Prosopis Chilensis

- Recently, an avian distribution study has revealed that an alien invasive plant *Prosopis chilensis* is threatening to pulverise native

vegetation across 21 islands in the Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve (GoMBR)



### About

- The *Prosopis chilensis* is also known as Chilean mesquite.
- It is a small to medium-sized legume tree that grows up to 12 m in height and 1 m in diameter.
- It is a drought-resistant plant native to the arid regions of four South American countries namely Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, and Peru.
- Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve (GoMBR):
- The Gulf of Mannar is one of the biologically richest coastal regions of India.
- It is the first Marine Biosphere Reserve in South and South East Asia.
- In India, the Gulf of Mannar region in Tamil Nadu is one of the four major coral reef areas and the others are the Gulf of Kutch in Gujarat, Lakshadweep and Andaman and Nicobar islands.
- It is designated as a Biosphere Reserve.
- This Biosphere Reserve encompasses a chain of 21 islands (2 islands already submerged) and adjoining coral reefs off the coasts of the Ramanathapuram and the Tuticorin districts.

### Project Elephant

- President Droupadi Murmu marks 30 years of Project Elephant at Kaziranga

### About

- Project Elephant, an effort backed by the Central Government, was started in February 1992.



- Under the Project Elephant strategy for the conservation and management of elephants, the government provides assistance to the states that have a population of wild elephants living in the wild.
- The project has three main objectives: the preservation of the well-being of domesticated elephants through the protection of elephants, their habitats, and elephant corridors. minimising and avoiding conflict between people and elephants.
- Note- National Heritage Animal - Elephant
- The Indian government selected the elephant as the country's national heritage animal in 2010 in accordance with the recommendations of the standing committee of the national board for wildlife
- Elephant Reserves
- In order to protect elephants, their habitat, and migration routes, address issues relating to man-animal conflict and ensure the welfare of elephants kept in captivity, the Government of India established Project Elephant as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme in 1992.
- Elephant reserves were established towards this end. In 16 of India's 28 states, the Indian Elephant is frequently sighted, with a concentration in the Southern Western Ghats, North-Eastern India, Eastern India, Central India, and Northern India.
- There are 33 elephant reserves in India.

### International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA)

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA) during his visit to Karnataka on April 9, 2022. The IBCA aims to conserve seven species of big cats, including tigers, lions, leopards, cheetahs, jaguars, snow leopards, and clouded leopards
- The alliance seeks to bring together countries, conservationists, and experts from around the world to collaborate on conservation efforts for these seven big cat species.
- Through IBCA, India hopes to share knowledge, expertise, and best practices in conserving these species with other countries that have significant big cat populations, such as Indonesia, Brazil, and South Africa.
- The alliance also aims to facilitate collaborations between governments, NGOs, and the private sector to create sustainable solutions for conservation.

### Periyar Tiger Reserve

- The Periyar Tiger Reserve in Kerala is the country's best-maintained tiger reserve, according to the 5th cycle of Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) carried out by the Centre.



#### About

- Location: It is located in the Western Ghats of Kerala.
- It was declared a Tiger Reserve in 1978.
- It gets its name from the River Periyar, which has its origin deep inside the reserve.
- Two main rivers, Pamba and Periyar, drain the reserve.
- It is home to many tribal communities, including the Mannans and the Palians.
- Vegetation: It consists of tropical evergreen, semi-evergreen and moist deciduous.

### Asian King Vulture conservation and breeding center

- The world's first conservation and breeding center for the critically endangered Asian king vulture is set to open in Uttar Pradesh's Maharajganj district.
- The center, named Jatayu Conservation and Breeding Centre (JCBC), is spread over 1.5 hectares and is designed to maintain a sustainable population of the species by breeding king vultures in captivity and releasing them into the wild.



### Amolops siju

- Recently, researchers from the Zoological Survey of India have discovered a new species of frogs from deep within the Siju cave system in the South Garo Hills district of Meghalaya.

### About:

- It has been named after the Suji cave where it was discovered.
- It belongs to the cascade Ranidae family and genus Amolops.
- Genus Amolops is among the largest groups of ranid frogs (family Ranidae) with 73 known species widely distributed across India's North East and north, Nepal, Bhutan, China, the Indochina region and the Malaya Peninsula.
- Cascade frogs are named so because they prefer small waterfalls.
- It is the second time that a frog was discovered from inside a cave in the country, the first being the discovery of the *Micrixalus spelunca* in 2014 from a cave in Tamil Nadu.

### Key facts about the Suji caves

- It is one of the longest cave systems in the world situated in the state of Meghalaya.
- It is a 4 km long natural limestone cave.

### Toque Macaque

- Cash-strapped Sri Lanka is exploring the possibility of exporting 1,00,000 endangered Toque Macaque monkeys to China, one of its largest bilateral lenders.



### About

- It is a reddish-brown-coloured Old World monkey endemic to Sri Lanka, where it is locally known as the "rilewa" or "rilawa".
- Scientific Name: *Macaca sinica*
- Distribution: They are native and endemic exclusively to Sri Lanka.
- Habitat: They generally occupy three types of habitat; hence can be divided into three subspecies. These are
  - the Common toque macaque (*Macaca sinica sinica*), occurring in dry habitat;
  - the Pale-fronted toque macaque (*Macaca sinica aurifrons*), inhabiting wet areas;
  - the Hill-zone toque macaque (*Macaca sinica opisthomelas*), found at high elevations
- Conservation Status
- IUCN: Endangered

- Barnawapara wildlife sanctuary
- Recently, the Chhattisgarh forest department has carried out a successful translocation of four sub-adult wild buffaloes from Assam to Barnawapara wildlife sanctuary.
- Chhattisgarh High Court cleared the hurdles as part of the state's ongoing efforts to protect and conserve the state animal.
- In February 2023, the Chhattisgarh forest department team surveyed the Manas Tiger Reserve in Assam before the translocation of the wild buffaloes.
- The team sent DNA samples to the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) in Dehradun for necessary tests such as breed accuracy and suitability.
- Key Facts about Barnawapara wildlife sanctuary
- It is located in the district of Raipur in Chhattisgarh.
- The rivers Balmedhi, Jonk and Mahanadi are the lifeline river which runs along the sanctuary.
- River Balamdehi forms the western boundary and Jonk River forms the northeastern boundary of the Sanctuary.
- Flora: The sanctuary contains major vegetation of Teak, Sal and Mixed forest.
- Fauna: Cheetal, Sambhar, Nilgai and Wild Boar, Sloth Bear, Wild Dog, are commonly seen.

### Sea cucumber

- Recently, nearly 105 kilograms of sea cucumber was seized by the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) near Attangarai in the Ramanathapuram district of Tamil Nadu.

### About

- These are part of a larger animal group called echinoderms and are invertebrates that live on the seafloor.
- Their body shape is similar to a cucumber, but they have small tentacle-like tube feet that are used for locomotion and feeding.



- There are about 1,250 species of sea cucumber, all of which belong to the taxonomic class Holothuroidea.
- They are found in all marine environments throughout the world, from shallow to deep-sea environments. Sea cucumbers are benthic, meaning they live on the ocean floor.

- Conservation status
- Wildlife Protection Act of 1972: Schedule I
- CITES: Appendix II

### Mangrove pitta

- Odisha forest officials have recently sighted 179 mangrove pitta birds in the first ever census conducted of these exotic and colourful birds in the country.



#### About

- It is a species of passerine bird in the Pittidae family native to Southeast Asia and South Asia.
- Scientific Name: *Pitta megarhyncha*
- Distribution: Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, and Thailand (primarily the west coast of the southern Thai peninsula).
- Habitat: It is found in mangrove and nipa palm forests where it feeds on crustaceans, mollusks and insects.
- Features: They are colourful birds which have black head with brown crown, white throat, greenish upper parts, buff underparts and reddish vent area.
- Conservation Status:
- IUCN: Near Threatened.

### Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary

- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister recently announced that Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary will be developed as a second home for cheetahs within six months.

#### About

- Location: It is situated in northwestern Madhya Pradesh, with one of its boundaries running along the border of Rajasthan.
- River Chambal flows through the sanctuary, dividing it into two parts.

### Mexican Giant Turtle

- The Mexican Giant Turtle, also known as the Red Eared Slider, was recently found in West Bengal's Howrah district.

#### About

- Mexican Giant Turtle, also called the Red Eared Slider, is the most destructive among the seven turtle species found in the world.
- It is considered as one of the world's 100 worst invasive non-native species.
- It occurs in a wide variety of aquatic habitats, but it prefers a mud bottom, plenty of aquatic plants, and abundant basking sites.
- It lives in both natural waters (including rivers, sloughs, and oxbow lakes) and human-made waters (such as ditches, ponds, and reservoirs).



### Lesser flamingo

- Recently, after a six-year absence, the lesser flamingos have finally found their way back to Pulicat Lake.

#### About:



- It is the smallest of all flamingos but has the largest population.
- It possesses the "hallux" or hind toe that some other flamingos do not have.
- Males are a little taller than females.
- Habitat: It inhabits coastal and inland wetlands.
- Geographical distribution: Africa, Asia continents and in that especially Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, North Africa
- They mostly eat blue-green algae but occasionally will take crustaceans and small insects.
- It is serially monogamous, meaning they form pairs that remain together while they are raising the young
- Conservation status
- IUCN: Near Threatened

## Pulicat Lake

- It is the second-largest brackish water lake in the country.
- It lies at the border of the states of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. (Majorly lies in Andhra Pradesh)
- The long and narrow Sriharikota Island, which separates Pulicat Lake from the Bay of Bengal,
- It is popular as a flamingo-watching site and for water activities.
- Both the South West and North-East monsoons provide rain to the area where Pulicat Lake is located.

## Pygmy hog

- According to an article in the journal Science, African Swine Fever (ASF), the livestock illness that has decimated porcine populations across Asia since its advent in China in 2018, could deal a lethal blow to the pygmy hog.

### About



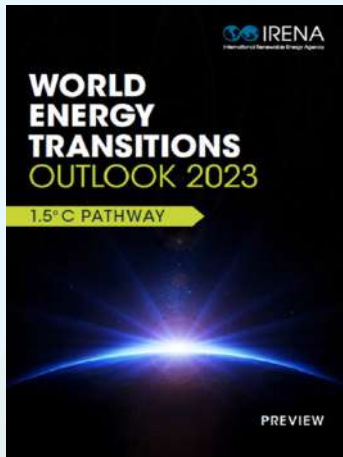
- It is the smallest and rarest species of wild pig in the world.
- It is one of the very few mammals that build its own home, or nest, complete with a 'roof'.
- It is an indicator species as its presence reflects the health of its primary habitat, tall and wet grasslands.
- Habitat: It prefers undisturbed patches of grassland dominated by early successional riverine communities, typically comprising dense tall grass intermixed with a wide variety of herbs, shrubs and young trees.
- Currently, the viable population of this pig in the wild is in the Manas Tiger Reserve in Assam.
- Conservation status:
- IUCN Red List: Critically Endangered
- Wildlife Protection Act, 1972: Schedule I



## REPORTS AND INDICES

### World Energy Transitions Outlook report

- Recently, the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) released the World Energy Transitions Outlook report.



#### About

- The global energy transition is still “off-track” and falls short of the 1.5 degrees Celsius pathway.
- To keep 1.5°C alive, deployment levels must grow from some 3,000 gigawatts (GW) at present to over 10,000 GW in 2030, an average of 1,000 GW annually”.
- Public sector intervention is required to channel investments towards countries more equitably.
- Global investment in energy transition technologies reached a new record of \$1.3 trillion in 2022, yearly investments must more than quadruple to over \$5 trillion to stay on the 1.5 degrees Celsius pathway.
- By 2030, cumulative investments must amount to USD 44 trillion, with transition technologies representing 80 per cent of the total, or \$35 trillion, “prioritising efficiency, electrification, grid expansion and flexibility”.
- Current pledges and plans fall well short of IRENA’s 1.5°C pathway and will result in an emissions gap of 16 gigatonnes (Gt) in 2050.

### State Energy Efficiency Index Report 2021-22

- Recently, the Union Minister of Power and New & Renewable Energy released the

report of the State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2021-22 in New Delhi.

#### About

- It is developed by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) in association with Alliance for an Energy-Efficient Economy (AEEE).
- SEEI 2021-22 has an updated framework of 50 indicators aligned with national priorities. Programme-specific indicators have been included this year to track outcomes and impacts of state-level energy efficiency initiatives.
- Key highlights of the report:
- 5 states - Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan and Telangana - are in the Front Runner category (>60 points)
- 4 states - Assam, Haryana, Maharashtra, and Punjab - are in the Achiever category (50-60 points).
- Further, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Assam and Chandigarh are the top-performing states in their respective state groups.
- Telangana and Andhra Pradesh showed the most improvement since the last index.

### India ranks 5th in countries with most AI investment

- Stanford University’s AI Index report states that India is ranked fifth in terms of investments received by startups offering AI-based products and services in 2022.
- AI startups in India received a total investment of \$3.24 billion, surpassing countries such as South Korea, Germany, Canada, and Australia. However, India is still behind the US, China, the UK, and Israel in terms of AI investments received.

### Global Food Policy Report 2023



- Recently, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) published



Global Food Policy Report, 2023 which said that investing in early warning systems is essential to save lives, livelihoods and money.

#### About

- The report called for a more proactive response to food system shocks with a focus on three key areas:
- Crisis prediction and preparation
- Building resilience before and during crises
- Making crisis response supportive and inclusive of women, forced migrants and other vulnerable groups.
- It advocated for strengthening agrifood value chains to support livelihoods and food security during crises.
- It advised governments to maintain a business environment that fosters flexibility, and technical and financial innovation.

#### FAO report on the status of women in agri-food systems

- ● Status of women in agri-food systems: This FAO report was developed by FAO's Inclusive Rural Transformation and Gender Equality Unit (ESP).
- ● It provides a comprehensive overview of the situation of women working in agri-food systems.
- ● In which aspects from production to distribution and consumption are based on the purpose of agriculture.

#### Logistics Performance Index (LPI) 2023

- India's rank in the recently released World Bank's Logistics Performance Index 2023 has improved by six places.

#### Note

- Singapore and Finland are the most efficient and highest-ranked LPI countries as per the 2023 LPI.
- India is ranked 38 out of 139 countries, climbing six places from the previous index.
- It is released by World Bank.
- It is an interactive benchmarking tool created to help countries identify the challenges and opportunities they face in their performance on trade logistics and what they can do to improve their performance.
- It measures the ease of establishing reliable supply chain connections and structural factors that make it possible, such as the quality of logistics services, trade and transport-related infrastructure, as well as border controls.

#### The State of the Global Climate report

- The State of the Global Climate report is an annual publication from the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) that presents the latest findings on the state of climate change worldwide.
- The report combines observations from global networks of weather and climate stations, ocean buoys, and satellites, as well as modeling studies, to provide a comprehensive assessment of the Earth's climate system.
- The most recent report, released ahead of Earth Day 2023, reveals several alarming trends that highlight the urgent need for climate action.



#### Indian Start-up Unicorn Companies- Indiac ranks 3rd

- India ranks 3rd in the field of innovation (start-up) after USA and China.
- Unicorns are startups worth a billion dollars (Rs. 8,000 crore) that are not listed on the stock market.
- As of last year, there are 662 unicorn companies in the US, 312 in China, and 115 in India.

#### India Ranks Fourth in Global Military Expenditure: SIPRI Report

- SIPRI report shows global military spending at a new high, with India ranking fourth in the world.
- Released by: – Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)
- The theme of the report: – Military Spending across the Globe.
- Global – According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), global military expenditure has reached a new record high of \$2240 billion, increasing by 3.7% in real terms in 2022.
- India specific – India's military expenditure in 2022 amounted to \$81.4 billion, which is the fourth-highest in the world. This represents a 6% increase compared to the previous year's spending
- Top 5 ranks:-
- United States
- China

- Russia
- India
- Saudi Arabia

## World Development Report 2023

- Recently, World Bank released the World Development Report 2023: Migrants, Refugees, and Societies



### Key Highlights of the Reports:

- About 2.3 per cent of the world's population—184 million people, including 37 million refugees—live outside their country of nationality.
- It found that low-skilled Indians who migrated to the United States tended to see a significant gain in their income of around 500%.
- The gains for highly-skilled workers such as engineers or doctors are much higher, however, low-skilled workers are also finding themselves having a multi-fold jump in their income.
- It categorised the migrants into four types – Refugees with skills in demand, economic migrants with skills that match with demand, distressed migrants and
- India-US, India-Bangladesh and India- Gulf Cooperation Council have been considered among the top migrant corridors.

### World Bank

- It is an international financial institution that provides loans and grants to the governments of low and middle-income/developing countries to pursue capital projects.
- It was established along with the IMF at the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference.



### **Madrid Spain Masters Badminton**

- Gregoria Mariska Dunjung defeated PV Sindhu in straight games to win the Madrid Spain Masters Cup.
- PV Sindhu won the second place in the competition

### **Miami Open Tennis**

- Daniil Medvedev won the men's singles title at the Miami Open tennis tournament.
- 33-year-old Czech Republic's Petra Kvitova won the women's singles.

### **First female umpire to officiate men's T20I match**

- On April 5th, during the second T20I match between Sri Lanka and New Zealand in Dunedin, Kim Cotton became the first woman to serve as an on-field umpire in a men's international match

### **Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh Wins Title At World Chess Armageddon Asia And Oceania Event**

- In the World Chess Armageddon Asia & Oceania event, Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh, who is a teenager, pulled off a major upset by defeating former world rapid champion Nodirbek Abdusattorov of Uzbekistan in the final.

### **World Cup Archery Competition**

- India won the silver medal in the Aadhaar recurve teams category at the Archery World Cup.
- Archery World Cup held in Turkey
- India's Jyoti Surekha won the bronze medal in the event



## AWARDS

### Young Urologist of the Year Award

- An Indian-American physician and professor Dr. Nitya Abraham has been honoured with the Young Urologist of the Year Award conferred by the American Urological Association (AUA).

### 2023 International Prize in Statistics

- Noted Indian-American statistician Calyampudi Radhakrishna Rao has been awarded the 2023 International Prize in Statistics, often referred to as the Nobel prize of statistics.
- The prize is awarded biennially by a collaboration among five leading international statistics organizations and recognizes any major achievement by a person or any team.
- Rao, in his research paper published in the Bulletin of the Calcutta Mathematical Society in 1945, had demonstrated three fundamental results that paved the way for the modern field of statistics and provided statistical tools heavily used in science today



### Bharat Biotech wins award at World Vaccine Congress 2023

- At the World Vaccine Congress 2023 held in Washington, USA from April 3-6, Bharat Biotech was awarded the Best Production/Process Development award as a part of the Vaccine Industry Excellence (ViE) awards

### Nandini Gupta wins Femina Miss India 2023

- Nandini Gupta from Rajasthan has been crowned Femina Miss India World 2023 in a grand ceremony held recently, making her the winner of the 59th edition of the beauty pageant.

- The first runner-up was Shreya Poonja from Delhi, and the second runner-up was Thounaojam Strela Luwang from Manipur.

### Pravasi Bharatiya Samman

- Raj Subramaniam, the CEO of FedEx, a renowned global transportation company, and an Indian-American, was recently honored with the distinguished Pravasi Bharatiya Samman award.

#### About

- The Pravasi Bharatiya Samman is an award presented by the Government of India to individuals of Indian origin and diaspora who have made significant contributions in their respective fields and have enhanced India's image in the international community.
- The award was instituted in 2003 to coincide with the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (Non-Resident Indian Day) celebrations.
- Recipients of this award are chosen based on their achievements in various fields, including science, business, arts, and philanthropy, among others.
- It is considered the highest civilian award given by India to individuals of Indian origin residing outside the country.

### Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Puraskar

- Asha Bhosle, the renowned singer, will be honored with the Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar award, which was established by the Mangeshkar family and trust in memory of Lata Mangeshkar.
- The Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Puraskar is an annual award given to someone who has made a significant contribution to the nation, its people, and society. The award was first presented to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

### Award for Fasal Bima Yojana

- During a national conference in Chhattisgarh, Karnataka was recognized as the leading state in implementing the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) scheme.

- The award was accepted by Shivayogi Kalasad, the Secretary to the government, Department of Agriculture.
- As per officials from the agriculture department, a sum of Rs. 687.4 crore has been settled for 5.66 lakh farmers, who had pending claims since 2018.

### **Wing Commander Deepika Misra is the first IAF woman officer to receive a gallantry award**

- Wing Commander Deepika Misra has made history as the first female Air Force officer to receive a gallantry medal.
- She was awarded the Vayu Seva Medal for gallantry by the President of India on Independence Day in the previous year, and recently received the award from the Air Chief Marshal of the Indian Air Force at an investiture ceremony in New Delhi.

### **Immigrant Achievement Award 2023**

- Neeli Bendapudi, the current president of Penn State University, is set to receive the Immigrant Achievement Award for her significant contributions to higher education in the United States



### **PGCIL wins Global Gold Award for CSR work**

- The Green Organization has awarded Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL), with the Global Gold Award for their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) work.



## Exercise Cope India

- Indian Air Force will soon kick off Cope India' exercise with the US Air Force (USAF) at the Kalaikunda airbase in West Bengal.



### About

- It is a bilateral joint exercise between Indian Air Force (IAF) and the United States Air Force (USAF).
- Cope India began in 2004 as a fighter training exercise.
- The exercise has evolved to incorporate subject matter expert exchanges, air mobility training, airdrop training and large-force exercises, in addition to fighter-training exercises.
- The exercise will further enhance operational capability and interoperability between the two air forces..
- The last edition of the exercise was held in 2019.

## SLINEX-2023

- The 10th annual SLINEX-2023 bilateral maritime exercise between India and Sri Lanka has commenced in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

## Mark 54 Anti-Submarine Torpedo

- Top government officials recently hinted that India is going to sign a weapons deal with the United States to buy American weapons, including Mark 54 anti-submarine torpedoes.

### About Mark 54 Anti-Submarine Torpedo:

- The MK 54 lightweight torpedo is the primary anti-submarine warfare weapon used by U.S. Navy surface ships, fixed-

wing aircraft and helicopters.

- It was developed by Raytheon Integrated Defense Systems in collaboration with the US Navy.
- It was previously known as Lightweight Hybrid Torpedo (LHT).
- It is used in both deep and shallow waters, as well as in acoustic environments.
- It is capable of tracking, classifying and attacking underwater targets.

### Features:

- The torpedo has a length of 2.71m, a diameter of 32.3cm and weight of 275.7kg.
- The warhead carried by the weapon is high explosive and weighs 43.9kg.
- It is powered by a reciprocating external combustion engine, which burns Otto II liquid fuel.
- The propulsion system allows the torpedo to cruise at a speed of 74.1km per hour.
- MK 54 torpedoes are equipped with processing algorithms that help them in detecting false targets or countermeasures and then hunt the identified threats.



## Joint military exercise 'KAVACH'

- The Andaman & Nicobar command, which is India's sole tri-services unit, held a collaborative military drill named Exercise 'KAVACH'
- The soldiers performed multiple exercises such as amphibious landing, air landing operations, heliborne operations, and swift insertion of special forces commandos.

## Exercise Orion

- Four Rafale fighter jets of the Indian Air Force (IAF) will soon depart to France to take part in multilateral exercise Orion at Mont-de-Marsan, an Air Force base of the French Air and Space Force (FASF).
- It is a multinational exercise hosted by the French government.

- It is reportedly the largest ever multinational exercise being carried out by the French defence forces which have involved their Army, Navy and Air Force.

### **Exercise INIOCHOS-23**

- Exercise INIOCHOS-23 is a multinational air exercise hosted by the Greece Air Force, in which the Indian Air Force (IAF) will be participating.
- It is one of the three exercises that the IAF will be taking part in simultaneously, along with Exercise Cope India with the U.S. underway at Kalaikunda and a multilateral exercise Orion hosted by France, in which four Rafale fighters are participating.
- Exercise INIOCHOS-23 will be held at the Andravida Air Base in Greece from April 24 to May 4

### **Ballistic missile interceptor**

- Recently, The DRDO and Indian Navy successfully conducted a maiden flight trial of sea-based endo-atmospheric interceptor missile off the coast of Odisha.
- India entered an elite club of nations with the capability to fire a Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) interceptor from a naval platform.
- Prior to this, DRDO has successfully demonstrated land-based ballistic missile defence system with capability to neutralize ballistic missile threats, emerging from adversaries.

### **Exercise Ajeya Warrior 2023**

- Indian Army contingent will participate in the 7th edition of the bilateral training exercise 'Ajeya Warrior 2023'.

#### **About**

- It is a bilateral training exercise between the armies of India and the UK.
- This is the 7th edition of the exercise.
- It aims to improve interoperability between the two forces while carrying out operations in accordance with UN mandates.
- The exercise will witness the participation of an infantry company from India and a unit of equal strength from the British Army.



### **Sachin@50' - Celebrating A Maestro by Boria Majumdar**

- Boria Majumdar, a renowned sports historian and popular TV show host, unveiled a new book called 'Sachin@50 - Celebrating A Maestro' on the occasion of legendary cricketer Sachin Tendulkar's 50th birthday







### **New Vice-Chief of Navy.**

- Vice-Admiral Sanjay Jasjit Singh assumed the position of Vice-Chief of Naval Staff (VCNS) as part of a series of high-level changes in the Indian Navy.





Date	Day	Objectives and Theme
April 01	Prevention of Blindness week	It is observed from 1st to 7th April to spread awareness against the causes of blindness and the ways to prevent them.
April 01	Odisha Foundation day or Utkal Diwas	On 1 April 1936, the Odisha state became a separate province. It was the first state that was formed on a linguistic basis.
April 02	World Autism awareness day	It aims to raise awareness about autism and educate people about it. Theme- Transforming the narrative: Contributions at home, at work, in the arts and in policymaking."
April 04	International mines Awareness day	Every Year on 4 April International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action is observed to spread awareness about the threat caused by landmines to the safety, health, and lives of civilian populations and encourages state Governments to develop mine-clearing programs.
April 05	National Maritime Day	It was first celebrated on 5 April 1964. On National Maritime Day in India, an award ceremony is also organised for those who have given an outstanding contribution to the Indian Maritime Sector. This award is known as the Varuna Award which consists of a statue of Lord Varuna and a Citation.
April 05	International Day of Conscience	The worldwide awareness event International Day of Conscience marks the value of the human conscience. It came into existence on July 25, 2019 Theme- Building a Culture of Peace
April 06	International Day of Sports For Development And Peace	An annual celebration of the ability of sport to promote social change, community development, and peace and understanding is observed as the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace.
April 07	World Health day	It is celebrated annually to draw attention to a specific health topic of concern to all people across the world. On this day, WHO was established in 1948. Therefore, the day marks the anniversary of the founding of WHO Theme - Health for All
April 10	World Homeopathy day	WHD is observed every year on 10 April to pay tribute to the founder and father of the Homeopathy system of medicine Dr. Christian Friedrich Samuel Hahnemann. The main aim of this day is to spread knowledge about Homeopathic medicine in public health. In fact from 10 April to 16 April World Homeopathy Week is celebrated annually and is organized by the World Homeopathy Awareness Organisation.
April 11	National safe motherhood day	NSMD is observed on 11 April every year to create awareness about maternity facilities, lactating women, and also for proper health care given to women.

April 11	World Parkinson's Day	World Parkinson's Day is observed annually on April 11 to bring attention to this degenerative condition of the neurological system.
April 13	Jallianwala Bagh Massacre	The Jallianwala Bagh Massacre, also known as the Massacre of Amritsar, was an incident that took place on April 13, 1919. That day, British troops fired on a large crowd of unarmed Indians in an open space called the Jallianwala Bagh in Amritsar, in the Punjab region (now in Punjab state) of India. Several hundred people, including children, died, and hundreds more were wounded.
April 14	B. R. Ambedkar Remembrance day	The birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar is observed on April 14 and is also known as Ambedkar Jayanti or Bhim Jayanti. He is considered the leading national builder in our country
April 17	World Haemophilia Day	It is observed on 17th April and the day was started by the World Federation of Haemophilia (WHF). An effort for better diagnosis and access to care for those people who remain without treatment, to raise funds for the people who are suffering from this disease and are not able to afford treatment. Theme - Access for All: Prevention of Bleeds as the Global Standard of Care.
April 18	World Heritage Day	This day is observed to raise awareness about conserving our cultural diversity. The day is also known as the International Day for Monuments and Sites, and in various countries, it is observed as World Heritage Day. India consists of magnificent historical monuments that define our culture and diversity. Theme- Heritage Changes
April 19	World Liver day	It is observed on 19 April to spread awareness about the diseases related to the liver.
April 21	National civil services day	It is observed on April 21 every year to acknowledge the work of officers who are engaged in various public service departments in the country. This day is also a reminder for civil servants to run the administrative machinery of the country collectively and with a dedication to serving the citizens. And there is no official theme to celebrate this day.
April 22	World Earth day	Earth Day was founded by American senator Gaylord Nelson in the form of environmental education. This day commenced on April 22, 1970, and today more than 1 billion people in 192 countries of the world are celebrating Earth Day. Earth Day is now a global event each year; it is the largest civic-focused day of action in the world. The theme of Earth Day 2023 is "Invest In Our Planet".
April 23	World book and copyright day	Every year on 23rd April this day is celebrated to promote the enjoyment of books and reading. It is necessary to recognize the magical powers of books because they generate a link between the past and the future, a bridge between generations and across cultures.
April 24	National Panchayat Raj day	National Panchayati Raj Day is celebrated every year on 24 April in India. On this day Constitution came into force with effect on 24 April 1993. In 2010 the first National Panchayati Raj Day was celebrated. A new part in the Constitution Part IX was added bypassing the 73rd Amendment Act from Article 243 to 243 (O) titled "The Panchayats" and a new Eleventh Schedule consisting of 29 subjects within the functions of Panchayats was also added.

April 24	World Day For Animals In Laboratories	The purpose of this day is to draw attention to the suffering and killing of animals that take place in laboratories all around the world.
April 25	World Malaria day	It is observed on April 25 to spread awareness of the global effort to control and ultimately eradicate malaria. World Malaria Day was first held in 2008. It was developed from Africa Malaria Day, which was an event that had been observed since 2001 by African governments. Theme- “Time to deliver zero malaria: invest, innovate, implement”.
April 26	World Intellectual property day	This day is celebrated every year on 26 April and was established by the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) in 2000 to raise awareness of how patents, copyright, trademarks, and designs impact daily life. And also it plays an important role that intellectual property rights play in encouraging innovation and creativity.
April 28	World day for safety and health at work	This day is observed on 28 April every year by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) since 2003. This day marks how to improve occupational safety, and health and looks to continue these efforts through several changes like technology, demographics, climate change, etc.
April 30	Ayushman Bharat diwas	The purpose of Ayushman Bharat Diwas is to promote the goals of the Ayushman Bharat Yojana. This program demonstrates the accomplishment of Indian government goals that are in line with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



### Indian-origin robotics engineer to head NASA's newly-established Moon to Mars Programme.

- Amit Kshatriya, an Indian-American engineer with expertise in software and robotics, has been appointed as the inaugural head of NASA's newly-established Moon to Mars Programme
- Jharkhand Governor C.P. Former Anna University Vice-Chancellor Balaguruswamy has been appointed as Radhakrishnan's academic adviser

### Anjali Sharma

- Anjali Sharma, a mountaineer from India, has made history by successfully scaling the peak of Mount Kilimanjaro in South Africa while wearing a traditional Gaddi dress, or Luanchadi.
- She is the first Indian woman to achieve this feat while wearing the Gaddi costume, and she aims to promote Gaddi culture on mountain peaks.

### India's first 3D-printed post office

- Bengaluru will soon have India's first post office constructed using 3D printing technology
- About
- Location: Cambridge Layout in Ulsoor, Bangalore.
- It is being implemented by Larsen & Toubro, which has experience in constructing 3D-printed buildings.
- It is a 1,100 sq ft building which is expected to cost 30-40 per cent less than conventional buildings because of technological intervention.
- It is being built at a cost of Rs 23 lakh.
- What is 3D-printing?
- 3D printing or additive manufacturing is a process of making three-dimensional solid objects from a digital file.

### Jallianwala Bagh massacre 104th anniversary

- On April 13, 1919, the Jallianwala Bagh massacre took place in Amritsar, Punjab, which is remembered as a tragic event and a symbol of the atrocities committed against the Indian people
- Jallianwala Bagh Massacre Day 2023 marks 104 years since the tragic incident that is seen as a turning point in Indian History. It was this that led to Gandhi's full commitment to the cause of Indian nationalism and independence from Britain

### India's tallest Ambedkar statue



- Telangana Chief Minister will unveil a 125-foot-tall statue of Dr B R Ambedkar on the banks of Hussainsagar, marking the latter's 132nd birth anniversary.
- Location: On the banks of Hussainsagar near the new Secretariat complex in Hyderabad.
- It is claimed to be the tallest statue in the country ever built for Dr B R Ambedkar.
- Height: It has an overall height of 175 feet, including a 50 feet high circular base resembling the edifice of the Parliament of India.
- The statue weighs 474 tonnes

### Uttar Pradesh on track to be first Indian state with 100% EVs in govt department

- The government of Uttar Pradesh, led by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, has launched an ambitious plan to promote the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) in the state.
- As part of this initiative, the government

has set a target to convert all vehicles used by government departments into EVs by 2030, in a phased manner.

### **One Panchayat, One Playground**

- The Kerala government initiated One Panchayat, One Playground project aimed at reinvigorating the sports culture in the state by establishing high-quality playgrounds in every panchayat.





### Kamakhya temple

- Recently, the Prime Minister of India appreciated Assam's landmark Maa Kamakhya temple corridor initiative.



#### About

- It is situated on Nilachal Hill and adjoining the southern bank of the Brahmaputra River in Guwahati,
- It is one of the most revered centres of Tantric practices.
- It is regarded as one of the oldest of the 51 Shakti Peethas in India.

#### Temple Architecture:

- It had been modelled out of a combination of two different styles namely, the traditional nagara or North Indian and Saracenic or Mughal style of architecture.
- This unusual combination has been named the Nilachala Style of Architecture.
- This is the only temple of Assam having a fully developed ground plan.

### Khongjom Day

- Khongjom Day was commemorated at Khongjom in Thoubal district of Manipur to honour the soldiers who fought in the 1891 Anglo-Manipuri War.



- The battle took place at Khongjom in Thoubal district of Manipur and marked the beginning of colonial rule in the region.
- Sanchi stupa

- Sanchi, a world heritage site located in Madhya Pradesh, is all set to become India's first solar city.

#### Location:

- It is located in the Raisen district of Madhya Pradesh.
- It lies in an upland plateau region just west of the Betwa River.

#### Importance:

- Sanchi is a religious place with historical and Archaeological significance.
- It has India's best-preserved group of Buddhist monuments, collectively designated a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1989.

#### Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi

- The site of Sanchi comprises a group of Buddhist monuments (monolithic pillars, palaces, temples and monasteries), all in different states of conservation, most of which date back to the 2nd and 1st centuries B.C.
- It is the oldest Buddhist sanctuary in existence and was a major Buddhist centre in India until the 12th century A.D.
- The most prominent stupa found here is the Sanchi Stupa, also known as the Great Stupa.
- Other remains at the site include several smaller stupas, an assembly hall (chaitya), an Ashokan pillar with inscriptions, and several monasteries (4th–11th century CE).

#### Sanchi Stupa:

- It was built by the Mauryan emperor Ashoka in the third century BC.
- It enshrines religious relics or remains of the Buddha and his most revered disciples.

## 2023 FEB MONTH QUESTIONS

1) Odisha day is observed on \_\_\_\_\_

- a) March 30
- b) March 31
- c) April 1
- d) April 2

2) RBI was established in year \_\_\_\_\_

- a) 1933
- b) 1934
- c) 1935
- d) 1936

3) Consider the following pairs

- 1) Manapparai- Muruku
- 2) Cholavanthan - Betel
- 3) Marthandam - Honey

Which of the above given pairs are correctly matched?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1,2 and 3

4) New India Literacy Programme aims to cover non literate people above \_\_\_\_\_ years of age

- a) 15 years
- b) 16 years
- c) 17 years
- d) 18 years

5) Which among the following country is non members of Trans Pacific partnership

- a) India
- b) Malaysia
- c) Singapore
- d) Japan

6) consider the following statements

1) A reusable rocket or reusable launch vehicle (RLV) was tested by ISRO

a) It is designed to carry not only satellites but also humans into space and back to land safely

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

7) Palamau Tiger Reserve is located in Which state?

- A) Chattisgarh
- B) Madhya Pradesh
- C) Maharashtra
- D) Jharkhand

8) world Autism day is observed in the month of \_\_\_\_\_

- a) May
- b) April
- c) March
- d) June



9) A newly discovered *Capulopsyche keralensis* is a \_\_\_\_\_

- a) Snail
- b) Moth
- c) Bird
- d) Rat

10) Bastille Day military parade held at \_\_\_\_\_

- a) United States of America
- b) Russia
- c) France
- d) Germany

11) SLINEX-2023 is the military exercise between india and \_\_\_\_\_

- a) Italy
- b) Sri Lanka
- c) Thailand
- d) Mongolia

12) International Day for Mine Awareness 2023 is observed on \_\_\_\_\_

- a) April 2
- b) April 3
- c) April 4
- d) April 5

13) Which among the following state is the Bandipur tiger reserve located?

- a) Kerala
- b) Karnataka
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Andhra Pradesh

14) Consider the following pairs

- 1) Ernakulam tiger reserve - kerala

2) Mudumalai Tiger Reserve - Tamil Nadu

3) Nagarjuna Sagar Tiger Reserve - Maharashtra

Which of the above given pairs are correctly matched?

- a) 1&2 only
- b) 2 & 3 only
- c) 1&3 only
- d) 1,2&3

15) G20 Empower alliance is an initiative to

- a) Promote education in G20 countries
- b) Financial alliance among the G20 countries
- c) Alliance to empower women's leadership and empowerment in the private sector.
- d) Alliance to address the terrorism financing in G20 countries

16) Match the following

Biosphere reserves.

- 1) Gulf of mannar - a) West Bengal
- 2) Sundarbans - b) tamil nadu
- 3) Manas National park -c) Assam

Choose the correct answer

A. B. C

- a) 1. 2. 3
- b) 2. 1. 3
- c) 3. 2. 1
- d) 3. 1. 2

17) with reference to the PM SVANidhi scheme consider the following statements

- 1) The PM SVANidhi scheme was launched by the Government of India in June, 2020.

2) It aims to empower Street vendors in urban areas

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

18) Thirunarivu Thervu Thittam aims to provide Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ to the children to complete their 12 th standard

- a) 1500
- b) 1000
- c) 5000
- d) 10000

19) National Maritime Day is observed on \_\_\_\_\_

- a) April 4
- b) April 5
- c) April 6
- d) April 7

20) Central Bureau of investigation was established in the year \_\_\_\_\_

- a) 1962
- b) 1963
- c) 1964
- d) 1965

21) UN Statistical Commission head quarter located in \_\_\_\_\_

- a) New york
- b) Geneva
- c) Brussels
- d) Washington

22) world Health day is observed on \_\_\_\_\_

- a) April 5
- b) April 6
- c) April 7
- d) April 8

23) Which of the following countries is not a member of the Gulf Cooperation council?

- a) Bahrain
- b) Kuwait
- c) Saudi Arabia
- d) Iran

24) Which of the following is India's National Heritage Animal?

- a) Tiger
- b) Elephant
- c) Gangetic Dolphin
- d) Asiatic Lion

25) where will the 5th International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure be held?

- a) Kolkata
- b) Lucknow
- c) New Delhi
- d) Mumbai

26) In which of the following countries Mount Kilimanjaro is located?

- a) North America
- b) South Africa
- c) Japan
- d) India

**27) World Homeopathy day is observed on \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) April 8
- b) April 9
- c) April 10
- d) April 11

**28) Who among the following is awarded with the 2023 International Prize in Statistics?**

- a) C. R. Rao
- b) C. V. Rao
- c) Venkatraman Ramakrishnan
- d) J. N. Goswami

**29) World Vaccine Congress 2023 was held at \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) Washington
- b) Brussels
- c) New Delhi
- d) New York

**30) India's first 3D printed post office will be located at \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) Mysore
- b) Bengaluru
- c) Pune
- d) Bhubaneswar

**31) where is bandipur tiger reserve located?**

- a) Kerala
- b) Karnataka
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Madhya Pradesh

**32) The world's first conservation and breeding center for the critically endangered Asian king vulture will be located at \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) Uttarakhand

- b) Maharashtra
- c) Himachal Pradesh
- d) Uttar Pradesh

**33) Ramakrishna mission was started in the year \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) 1905
- b) 1899
- c) 1897
- d) 1895

**34) consider the following parties**

- 1) Aam aadmi
- 2) Indian National Congress
- 3) Communist Parties of India

Which of the above given parties are recognised as the National Parties?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

**35) National safe motherhood day is observed on \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) April 9
- b) April 10
- c) April 11
- d) April 12

**36) International Day of Human Space Flight is observed on \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) April 9
- b) April 10
- c) April 11
- d) April 12

**37) State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) is released by \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) NITI Aayog

- b) World Bank
- c) Bureau of Energy Efficiency
- d) Planning commission

**38) Consider the following pairs**

- 1) National People's party - Car
- 2) Bahujan samaj party - Elephant
- 3) All India Trinamool Congress - Flower and Grass

Which of the above given pairs are correctly matched?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1,2 and 3

**39) India ranks \_\_\_\_\_ in terms of investments received by startups offering AI-based products and services, according to Stanford University's AI Index report.**

- a) 4th
- b) 5th
- c) 6th
- d) 7th

**40) Objective of Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana Scheme**

- a) Funding for women
- b) Providing finance to entrepreneurs
- c) Providing finance for the development of Small, Micro and Medium Enterprises (MSME).
- d) Increasing the country's cotton production

**41) The Uttaramerur inscription mentions the Kudavolai system of which state**

- a) Cheras
- b) Cholas

- c) Pandyas
- d) Nayakas

**42) Where will India's underwater metro be built?**

- a) Kolkata
- b) New Delhi
- c) Bihar
- d) Mumbai

**43) World Hemophilia day is observed on \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) April 15
- b) April 16
- c) April 17
- d) April 18

**44) Which of the following is considered as the National Heritage animal ?**

- a) Royal Bengal Tiger
- b) Elephant
- c) Gangetic Dolphin
- d) Asiatic lion

**45) Toque Macaque monkeys are endemic to \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) India
- b) Australia
- c) South Africa
- d) Sri Lanka

**46) Dekho Apna Desh initiative aims to**

- a) Promote rural youth entrepreneurs
- b) Promote skill education among the women
- c) Promote domestic tourism
- d) Promote afforestation

**47) World Heritage day is observed on**

- a) April 17

- b) April 18
- c) April 19
- d) April 20

**48) Barnawapara wildlife sanctuary is situated in \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) Chattisgarh
- b) Jharkhand
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Madhya Pradesh

**49) Olkiluoto 3 nuclear reactor is located in \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) Sweden
- b) Finland
- c) Russia
- d) Japan

**50) Juice Mission aims to explore \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) Jupiter
- b) Mars
- c) Saturn
- d) Mercury

**51) \_\_\_\_\_ becomes founding member of International Big Cats Alliance**

- a) Russia
- b) China
- c) Nepal
- d) Pakistan

**52) Pravasi Bharathiya samman is awarded to**

- A) Writers
- B) Directors
- C) Non resident indian diaspora
- D) Athletes

**53) consider the following statements**

- 1) Mangrove Pitta birds are non migratory

bird species

2) Mangrove pitta birds are seen in eastern india

3) Mangrove pitta are listed as the nearly threatened species under IUCN Red list

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1,2 and 3

**54) Adichanallur civilization is flourished along the banks of \_\_\_\_\_ river**

- a) Thamirabarani
- b) Vaigai
- c) Cauvery
- d) Palar

**55) consider the following countries**

- 1) India
- 2) Brazil
- 3) Bangladesh
- 4) South Africa

Which of the above given country is/ are the member of IBSA forum?

- a) 1,2and 4 only
- b) 2,3 and 4 only
- c) 1,3 and 4 only
- d) 1,2 and 3 onlu

**56) which of the following state is the first state to enact the water budget?**

- a) Kerala
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Karnataka
- d) Rajasthan

**57) Hepatitis is caused by \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) Bacteria
- b) Virus
- c) Protozoa
- d) Fungus

**58) World Liver Day is observed on \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) April 16
- b) 17th April
- c) 18th April
- d) 19th April

**59) Which of the following cities ranks first in the list of richest cities in the world?**

- a) Hong Kong
- b) Beijing
- c) New York
- d) London

**60) Lucy mission was sent by NASA to investigate what?**

- a) Mars
- b) Trojan asteroids of Jupiter
- c) Pluto
- d) Saturn

**61) Which of the following takes first place in a UPI payment transaction?**

- a) New Delhi
- b) Bangalore
- c) Pune
- d) Mumbai

**62) National Civil Service Day is observed on \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) April 20
- b) 21st April

- c) April 22
- d) 23rd April

**63) Who among the following provided reservation for backward classes in education and employment?**

- a) Morarji Desai
- b) VP Singh
- c) Atal Bihari Vajpayee
- d) Indira Gandhi

**64) Consider the following statements**

- 1) Quantum technology uses qubits to perform calculations
- 2) Quantum technology provides hack proof communication

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1 is correct
- b) Only 2 is correct
- c) Both the statements are correct
- d) Both the statements are false

**65) Taifa-1 earth observation satellite was launched by \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) India
- b) Pakistan
- c) Iran
- d) Kenya

**66) The World Buddhist Summit was held in \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) Myanmar
- b) Thailand
- c) Cambodia
- d) India

**67) Fasal Bima Yojana aims to**

- a) Built home for the underprivileged people

- b) Provide all weather roads in rural areas
- c) Insurance coverage for crops
- d) Micro finance to MSMEs

**68) consider the following statements**

1) Starship is the world's heaviest rocket in the world

2) Starship has the capability to send human to the mars

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

**69) Which among the following organisations released the Global Food Policy Report 2023?**

- a) Food and Agriculture organization
- b) World Trade organization
- c) International Food Policy Research Institute
- d) World Bank

**70) Where is Kamakhya temple located?**

- a) Kerala
- b) Assam
- c) Uttar Pradesh
- d) Andhra Pradesh

**71) Consider the following statements**

- 1) Lumpy skin diseases
- 2) Bovine spongiform encephalopathy
- 3) Anthrax

Which of the above are cattle diseases?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only

- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1,2 and 3

**72) National Panchayat Raj day is observed on \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) April 22
- b) April 23
- c) April 24
- d) April 25

**73) world book day is observed on**

- a) April 22
- b) April 23
- c) April 24
- d) April 25

**74) Exercise INIOCHOS-23 is a multinational air exercise hosted by \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) Russia
- b) France
- c) United Kingdom
- d) Greece

**75) where is Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary located?**

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Chattisgarh

**76) State of the Global Climate report is released by**

- a) UNDP
- b) UNEP
- c) WMO
- d) World Bank

**77) Khongjom day is celebrated in \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) Meghalaya
- b) Manipur
- c) Mizoram
- d) Tripura

**78) world malaria day is observed on \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) April 22
- b) April 23
- c) April 24
- d) April 25

**79) Identify the following pairs**

- 1) Hope- UAE
- 2) Juice - Europe
- 3) Mangalyaan- India

Which of the above given pairs are correctly matched?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1,2 and 3

**80) kesava nanda bharati case is related to \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) Boundary division
- b) Basic structure of the constitution
- c) Right to privacy
- d) Right to life and liberty

**81) consider the following**

- 1) Malaria
- 2) Dengue
- 3) Chikungunya
- 4) Zika virus

Which of the diseases are caused by the Aedes Aegypti mosquito?

- a) 2,3&4 only
- b) 1,2&4 only
- c) 1,3&4 only
- d) 1,2,3 and 4 only

**82) Identify the correct pair**

- 1) Chernobyl - United States of America
- 2) Fukushima - Japan
- 3) Kudankulam - India

Choose the correct answer

- a) 1 only
- b) 2&3 only
- c) 3 only
- d) 1,2&3

**83) consider the following**

- 1) Nilgiri Tahr
- 2) Red Eared slider
- 3) Olive Ridley turtle

Which of the above is/are invasive species to India?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 3 only
- d) None of the above

**84) consider the following pairs**

- 1) Manamadurai - Pottery
- 2) Coimbatore -Wettgrinder
- 3) kanchipuram - Silk Saree

How many above given pair is/are correctly matched?

- a) None of the pairs
- b) Only one pair



c) Only two pairs

d) All three pairs

**85) PM- SHRI schemes to**

a) Empower the women

b) Provide skill training to rural youth

c) Strengthen the existing schools in india

d) Provide interest free loan to MSME

**86) Ajeya Warrior is bilateral military exercise between india and \_\_\_\_\_**

a) United States of America

b) United Kingdom

c) Russia

d) France

**87) Consider the following pairs**

1. Chilika lake- Odisha

2. Pulicat Lake- Tamil Nadu

3. Dal Lake - Jammu and kashmir

Choose the answer

a) 1 and 2 only

b) 2 and 3 only

c) 1 and 3 only

d) 1,2 and 3

**88) world development report is released by \_\_\_\_\_**

a) IMF

b) World Bank

c) World Economic forum

d) UNDP

**89) Identify the correct pair**

1) Sanchi- Madhya Pradesh

2) Amaravati - Andhra Pradesh

3) Ellora caves- Rajasthan

Choose the correct answer

a) 1 and 2 only

b) 2 and 3 only

c) 1 and 3 only

d) 1,2 and 3

**90) consider the following statements**

1) Atal pension Yojana aims to provide social security system for the unorganised sector

2) Maximum age of entry is 45 years

Which of the Statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 only

b) 2 only

c) Both 1 and 2 are correct

d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

**91) Consider the following statements**

1) Pygmy hog is the smallest and rarest species of wild pig in the world.

2) Pygmy hog is listed as the critically endangered species under IUCN Red list

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 only

b) 2 only

c) Both 1 and 2 are correct

d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

**92) Consider the following statements**

1. PRET initiative aims to better prepare for future outbreaks of a similar scale and devastation as the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. It is the initiative of World Health Organisation

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

**93) consider the following countries**

- 1) Pakistan
- 2) China
- 3) India
- 4) Russia

Which of the above are members of SCO?

- a) 3 and 4 only
- b) 1,2 and 4 only
- c) 1,3 and 4 only
- d) 1,2,3 and 4

**94) Anji Khad Bridge will be built in**

- a) Sikkim
- b) Bihar
- c) Assam
- d) Jammu and Kashmir

**95) Consider the following diseases**

- 1) Dengue
- 2) Zika Virus
- 3) Chickungunya

Which of the above disease are caused by ades mosquitoes?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1,2 and 3

**96) Consider the following countries**

- 1) Afghanistan
- 2) Nepal

- 3) Pakistan
- 4) China

Which of the above are the member in SAARC ?

- a) 1,3 and 4 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2,and 3 only
- d) 1,2 and 3 only

**97) \_\_\_\_\_ became the first woman to serve as an on-field umpire in a men's international match**

- a) Sue Redfern
- b) Kim Cotton
- c) Jacqueline Williams
- d) Claire Polosak

**98) Ayushman Bharat diwas day is observed on \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) April 27
- b) April 28
- c) April 29
- d) April 30

**99) World day for safety and health at work is observed on \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) April 27
- b) April 28
- c) April 29
- d) April 30

**100) World Day For Animals In Laboratories is observed on \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) April 23
- b) April 24
- c) April 25
- d) April 26

### Answers:

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