

**July – 23**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ Jammu and Kashmir Governor N N Vohra appointed D C Raina as the advocate general of the state in place of Jahangir Iqbal Ganai. Raina has held the same post in 2016 when Governor's rule was imposed in the state.
- ❖ Brazilian goalkeeper Alisson Becker became the world's most expensive goalkeeper upon joining the team of Liverpool from Roma. He replaced Loris Kunis.
  - Virgil van Dijk became the world's most expensive defender upon joining Liverpool for \$99 million in January.
- ❖ The social media giant has filed an application with the US Federal Communications Commission (FCC) under the name PointView Tech LLC for a project designed to efficiently provide broadband access to unserved and underserved areas throughout the world.
  - The internet satellite, **called Athena**, is expected to launch sometime in early 2019.
- ❖ The first international festival of Mizoram 'Mizo Hnahthlak' was organized at Dengthuama Hall in Aizawl, Mizoram. The festival is aimed at uniting the Mizo ethnic community socially and culturally under a single platform.
- ❖ Himachal Pradesh government has approved implementation of Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of apple. This scheme will be implemented from 20th July to 31st October 2018.

## **TAMIL NADU**

### **24-hour helpline for protection of inter-caste couples**

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has setup a 24-hour helpline to investigate issues faced by inter-caste couples and offer them necessary assistance and protection.
- ❖ A special cell has been formed in all districts and cities in the state, comprising district-level officers to receive complaints of harassment.
- ❖ There is an online complaint registration facility in both the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems and mobile app for citizens.

## NATIONAL

### India tops skilled visa immigrants' list in Australia

- ❖ According to the data released by Australian Bureau of Statistics, India contributed the maximum number of individuals on skilled visa.
- ❖ For those coming to Australia on the skilled visa, India with 19% people bagged the top rank, followed by England and China at 13 % and 12 % people respectively.
- ❖ Under the family visa programme, China with 14 % people ranked first, followed by UK at 8.8 % and India at 8.3 %.



**2,91,916**  
Indians migrated to  
Australia between  
2000 and 2016

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**1,54,012**  
of these individuals  
have acquired  
Australian citizenship

#### DESTINATION DOWN UNDER

| COUNTRY                  | VISAS           | %   |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-----|
| <b>SKILLED PROGRAMME</b> |                 |     |
| India                    | <b>2,34,395</b> | 19  |
| England                  | <b>1,60,558</b> | 13  |
| China                    | <b>1,46,842</b> | 12  |
| <b>FAMILY PROGRAMME</b>  |                 |     |
| China                    | <b>95,532</b>   | 14  |
| UK                       | <b>60,108</b>   | 8.8 |
| India                    | <b>56,406</b>   | 8.3 |

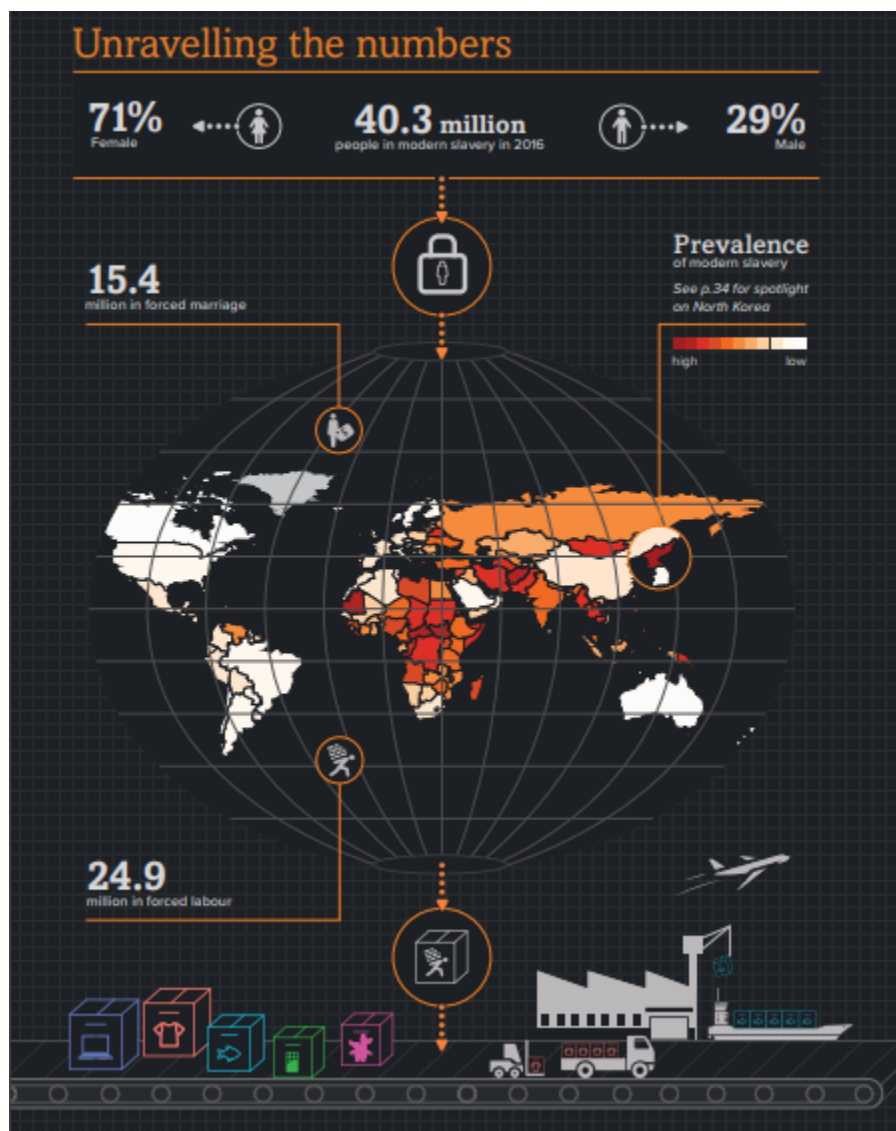
## INTERNATIONAL

### India-assisted emergency ambulance service

- ❖ Indian Prime Minister launched the India-assisted emergency ambulance service in Sri Lanka through video conferencing from New Delhi.
- ❖ The inaugural function was scheduled in Jaffna, Srilanka. This is the largest Indian grant project in Sri Lanka after Indian housing project.
- ❖ India launched the emergency ambulance service in July, 2016 for western and southern provinces of Sri Lanka.

## Global Slavery Index 2018

- ❖ According to report of Walk Free Foundation, the Global Slavery Index estimates that 40.3 million people worldwide were subjected to modern slavery in 2016.
- ❖ It has been published by the International Labour Organization and The Walk Free Foundation, in partnership with the International Organization for Migration.
- ❖ Modern slavery - involving the use of violence, deception and threats to trap people in forced labour, sexual exploitation and domestic servitude.



- ❖ **India** was home to the largest total number with an estimated 8 million slaves among its 1.3 billion population.

- ❖ **North Korea** has the highest concentration of modern slavery where one in 10 people are in this condition.
- ❖ The index lists Eritrea, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Afghanistan, Mauritania, South Sudan, Pakistan, Cambodia and Iran as the worst offenders after North Korea.
- ❖ The reason for such slavery is import of USD 354 billion worth of goods by G20 countries.
- ❖ The report cites coal, cocoa, cotton, timber and fish as among the products.

### 'Walking Action Plan'

- ❖ London Mayor Sadiq Khan has launched the 'Walking Action Plan' in a bid to make London the 'world's most walkable city'.
- ❖ The move is aimed at reducing air pollution and improving health of the people by making streets more pedestrian-friendly.
- ❖ This plan is supported by Public Health England (PHE). Public Health England (PHE) is a government body.

### Benefits of walking

Increasing the amount that people walk will have many benefits for London:

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Health</b></p> <p>Walking is the easiest way for Londoners to get the physical activity needed to improve their health</p>   | <p>If every Londoner walked <b>20 minutes</b> every day:</p> <p><b>£1.6bn</b> could be saved in NHS treatment costs</p> <p><b>1 in 6</b> early deaths could be prevented</p> <p><b>10%</b> of strokes and heart disease cases could be prevented</p>  |
| <p><b>Environment</b></p> <p>Walking is carbon and emission free, so it is good for London's environment</p> <p><b>57kg</b> of carbon saved per year if every young person in London walked (instead of being driven) <b>one mile</b> to school and back</p> | <p><b>Community</b></p> <p>More people walking increases human interaction and enhances local communities, improving social cohesion and wellbeing</p> <p><b>20-30%</b> of cases of depression could be prevented by people walking <b>20 minutes</b> a day</p> <p>The physical presence of <b>traffic</b> on streets, particularly heavy goods vehicles, discourages human interaction and social networks</p> |
| <p><b>Good growth</b></p> <p>Walking is important to support London's rapid population growth</p>  | <p><b>350,000</b> new homes will be directly supported by planned transport investment – with walking key to enabling this</p>  |

**2.1m** more people living in London by 2041

**6m** more trips a day in London by 2041

**Efficiency**

Walking is the most space-efficient form of transport. It makes the best use of our streets, and tackles congestion

**Economy**

Walking is the lifeblood of our streets, with increased footfall boosting local economies

**17%** reduction in retail vacancies on studied streets in London after significant walking investment

**£9.3bn** annual cost of congestion to London by 2030 if action is not taken to reduce traffic

**1/3** of trips made by Londoners as a driver or passenger could be walked in **less than 25 minutes**

People walking spend **40%** more in town centres over the course of a month than car drivers

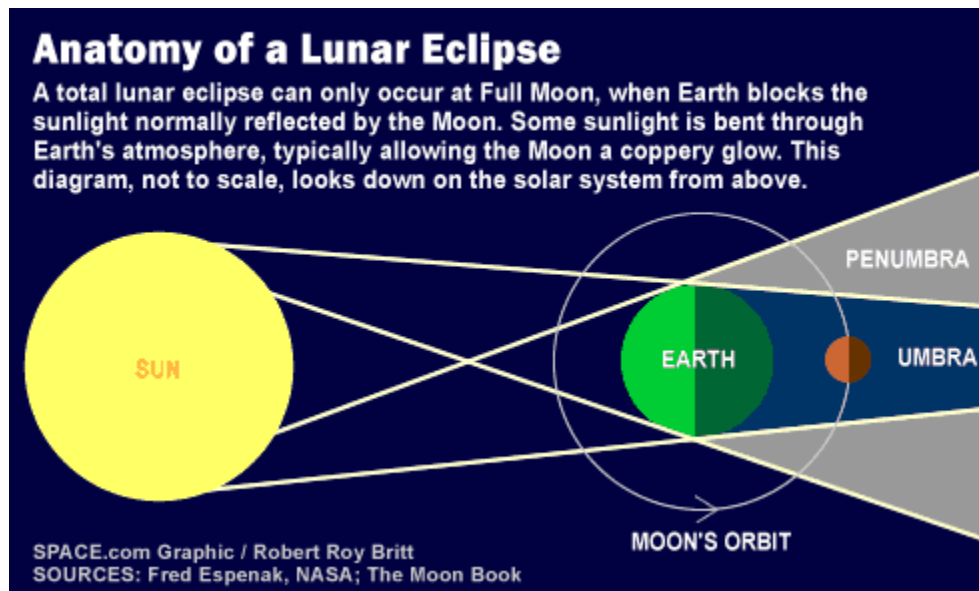
## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Blood Moon – July 27

- ❖ A total lunar eclipse will take place on the night of July 27, and the early hours of July 28.
- ❖ The lunar eclipse on July 27 is expected to be the longest blood moon witnessed in 100 years.

### Total Lunar Eclipse

- ❖ The Earth's satellite appears to be red in colour, during a total lunar eclipse when no sunlight falls on the surface of the Moon and it is completely under the Earth's shadow.



- ❖ What happens is that sunlight from Earth's surface falls on the surface of the Moon, but when it is seen on Earth, the Moon appears red.
- ❖ The reason: The Earth's atmosphere will scatter light of the smaller wavelength like blue and green, but allow the red light, which is of longer wavelength, to pass through to the satellite's surface.



## ENVIRONMENT

### Medini Puraskar Yojna Scheme

- ❖ The Environment Ministry re-introduced the 'Medini Puraskar Yojna'— a scheme that awards Indian authors for their original work in Hindi on environment, pollution and climate change subjects.
- ❖ It aims to encourage Hindi authors to write on environmental topics.
- ❖ The award would be administered by Environment Ministry and shall commence from April 1 of each financial year annually.
- ❖ Under the chairmanship of additional secretary of the ministry an 'Environment Committee' would be set up which will assess the books submitted for consideration.

## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

### Google Doodle - Georges Lemaitre

- ❖ Google celebrated the 124th birth anniversary of Belgian astronomer Georges Lemaitre with a doodle.
- ❖ Lemaitre is credited with the Big Bang Theory
- ❖ Big Bang Theory says that the universe originated from a single atom, which he referred to as the Cosmic Egg.



- ❖ He is also believed to be the first to have come up with the theory that the universe is expanding.

### Notable honors

- ❖ In 1934, Lemaître received the Francqui Prize, the highest Belgian scientific distinction.
- ❖ In 1953, he was given the inaugural Eddington Medal awarded by the Royal Astronomical Society.

### **PATA Gold Award 2018**

- ❖ Sahapedia's India Heritage Walk fete wins PATA award, has been awarded the PATA Gold Award 2018 for its recently concluded pan-India event.
- ❖ It is an India Heritage Walk Festival, a collaboration of Sahapedia and YES Arts & Culture.
- ❖ The award by the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) in Bangkok has been presented to it under the 'Heritage-Culture' category.
- ❖ Sahapedia is an open online resource on the arts, cultures and heritage of India.
- ❖ It is Sponsored by the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO).

## **SPORTS**

### **Cena Noveho Mesta nad Metuji meet**

- ❖ India's Muhammad Anas Yahiya broke his own national record to win the 400 metres race at the Cena Noveho Mesta nad Metuji meet in Czech Republic.
- ❖ Muhammed Anas Yahiya set the new record when he won gold medal with a time of 45.24 seconds in the 400 metres race.
- ❖ His earlier national record was 45.31 which he set when he finished fourth at the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games.
- ❖ In the women's event, MR Poovamma won gold medal with a timing of 53.01 seconds.
- ❖ Rajiv Arokia secured third position in the men's 200m event with a time of 20.77 seconds.



### **Quickest player to reach 1000 runs (Cricket)**

- ❖ Pakistan batsman Fakhar Zaman became the quickest player to reach the 1000 runs in one-day internationals (ODI).
- ❖ He achieved this mark during the 5th and final ODI of the ongoing five-match series against Zimbabwe.
- ❖ He has broken the record of West Indies cricketer Vivian Richards.
- ❖ Fakhar Zaman took 18 innings to reach the 1000 mark. Vivian Richards had achieved this mark in 21 matches.
- ❖ His innings of 210 runs in the 4th match against Zimbabwe was the first double century in the ODI format by a Pakistani cricketer.

### **Badminton Asia junior championships**

- ❖ Indian badminton player Lakshaya Sen bagged the gold medal after defeating Indonesia's top-seeded Kunlavut Vitidsaran in the final match of the Badminton Asia Junior Championship in Jakarta.
- ❖ He is only the third Indian shuttler to secure a gold medal at the Badminton Asia junior championships
- ❖ Late Gautam Thakkar (1965) and Olympic silver medallist P.V. Sindhu (2012) had won the prestigious title earlier.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Odisha Triennial of International Art (OTIA)**

- ❖ Odisha will be the host to the Odisha Triennial of International Art (OTIA), India's first private sector triennial, in December-January which will be a 40-day event.
  - ❖ OTIA was created by Artists Network for Promoting Indian Culture (ANPIC). ANPIC is headed by its Managing Trustee Sashanka Mohapatra.
  - ❖ The slogan of OTIA is: 'Conceive-Contemplate-Communicate'.
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