

**September – 09**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ India Blue has won 2017-18 Duleep Trophy by defeating the defending champion India Red in the final match played at NPR College ground in Dindigul, Tamilnadu.
- ❖ Mahatma Gandhi International Sanitation Convention (MGISC-2018) will be organized by the Union Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation in New Delhi from September 29 to mark the beginning of the 150th birth anniversary celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi.
- ❖ Union Government has decided to exempt electric vehicles and automobiles run on alternative fuel from permit requirements. The move is in a bid to boost such vehicles in the country to bring down pollution.
  - This information was addressed in the annual convention of Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) in New Delhi.

## **TAMIL NADU**

### **Open air prison - Thirumalaisamudiram**

- ❖ Tamil Nadu will soon have its fourth open-air prison at Thirumalaisamudiram village in Thanjavur district.
- ❖ As per the Tamil Nadu prison manual, (Open Air Prison) the concept of open-air prison is to relieve congestion in walled prisons, train inmates in proper methods of agriculture for future rehabilitation and make prisons self-sufficient in agri production.
- ❖ It also aims to give prisoners with good conduct a certain amount of freedom.
- ❖ People convicted under provisions of Central Act XLV of 1860, habitual offenders, women prisoners, political prisoners, hired and professional murderers, 'A' class prisoners and inmates having tendency to escape are not eligible for the provision.
- ❖ The prisons department had already established such a facility in Coimbatore, Salem, and Sivaganga districts to engage convicts and life convicts in agriculture activities.



## NATIONAL

### Mobilise Your City – India and France

- ❖ India and France on September 6, 2018 signed an implementation agreement on 'Mobilise Your City' (MYC) in New Delhi to support three Indian cities in their efforts to reduce Green House Gas (GHG) emissions.



- ❖ The initiative is a part of an international initiative, which is supported by the French and the German Governments and was launched at 21st Conference of Parties (COP21) meeting in December 2015.
- ❖ The MYC aims at supporting three Indian cities on a pilot basis - Nagpur, Kochi, and Ahmedabad.

#### Assistance includes

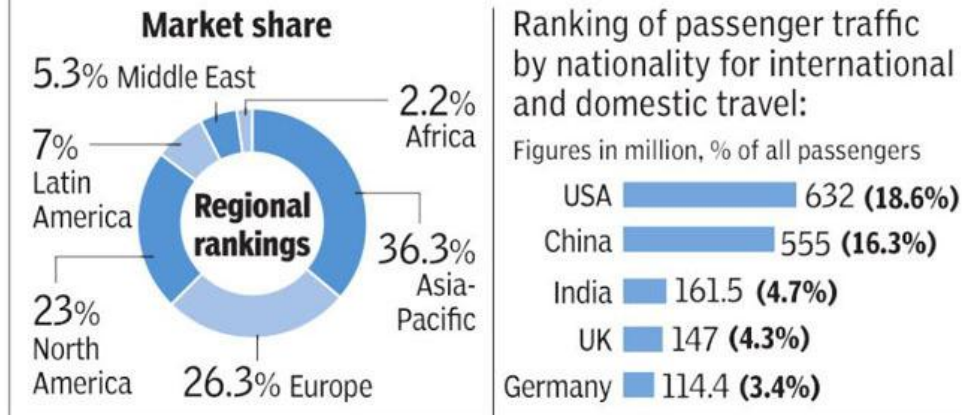
- ❖ To support planning and implementation of sustainable urban transport projects.
- ❖ To support the strengthening of institutional capacity for regulating, steering and planning urban mobility.
- ❖ To learn and exchange formats with other cities across India to enable exchange on best practices.

### World Air Transport Statistics (WATS)

- ❖ Indians became the third largest air travelers by nationality according to World Air Transport Statistics (WATS) data released by International Air Transport Association (IATA) recently followed by the UK.

## ASIA-PACIFIC HAS LION'S SHARE

Airlines carried 4.1 billion fliers on scheduled services in 2017



Source: IATA

- ❖ According to the release, overall annual air passenger numbers exceeded four billion for the first time due to broad-based improvement in global economic conditions and lower average airfares.
- ❖ According to the report in 2000, the average citizen flew just once every 43 months. In 2017, the figure was once every 22 months.

## INTERNATIONAL

### The Ocean Cleanup - Great Pacific Garbage Patch

- ❖ Engineers set to a trash collection device to corral plastic litter floating between California and Hawaii in an attempt to clean up the world's largest garbage patch in the heart of the Pacific Ocean.
- ❖ The project, known as System 001, will begin its test launch off the coast of San Francisco.
- ❖ The massive floating device was created by The Ocean Cleanup, a nonprofit founded by Boyan Slat when he was just 18 years old.
- ❖ With approximately 60 devices like System 001 active, The Ocean Cleanup estimates that it can remove 50% of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch in five years.

## **Five agreements between India and Czech**

- ❖ India and the Czech Republic have signed five agreements on defense, scientific and industrial research, laser technology, agriculture, and diplomatic visa waiver.
- ❖ In addition, both countries also agreed to initiate cooperation in civil nuclear energy.
- ❖ Concluded five agreements are:
  - Cooperation between the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, India, and the Czech Academy of Sciences.
  - A work plan to support Indo-Czech projects in diverse areas of science and technology, with the Department of Science and Technology taking the lead from the Indian side.
  - A visa waiver agreement for diplomatic passport holders.
  - Cooperation in laser technology between ELI Beamlines and the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research.
  - Cooperation between the Haryana Agricultural University and the Czech University of Life Sciences.

## **ECONOMY**

### **Monetary limit increased for Loan recovery application**

- ❖ Union government doubled the monetary limit from Rs. 10 lacks to Rs. 20 lakhs for filing loan recovery application in the Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRTs) by banks and financial institutions, to help reduce pendency of such cases.
- ❖ As a result, any bank or financial institution or a consortium of banks or financial institutions cannot approach DRTs if the amount due is less than Rs. 20 lakhs.

### **Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRT)**

- ❖ DRTs were first set up under the Banks and Financial Institutions Act 1993 to facilitate debt recovery by involving banks and other financial institutions with their customers.
- ❖ DRT is supposed to dispose of the matter referred to it within 180 days of receipt of application and appeal can be filed against DRT order with Debt Recovery Appellate Tribunals (DRATs).

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Space Suit - ISRO

- ❖ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) displayed a space suit developed by the agency.
- ❖ The suit was displayed at the launch of the sixth edition of Bengaluru Space Expo. The orange-colored prototype space suit was developed over the past two years at Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre in Thiruvananthapuram.



- ❖ ISRO has developed two suits and will create one more suit as three astronauts will be part of a mission to send Indians into space on an Indian spacecraft by 2022.
- ❖ French space agency CNES will share their expertise in the fields of space medicine, astronaut health monitoring, life support, radiation protection, space debris protection, and personal hygiene system.

## STATES

### State Legislative Council - Odisha

- ❖ A resolution seeking the creation of a Legislative Council in Odisha was passed in the State Assembly.
- ❖ The resolution will be sent to the Centre for approval of Parliament to facilitate the creation of the Legislative Council.
- ❖ The proposed Council will have 49 members, which is one-third of the total members of the State Assembly.

- ❖ The Odisha government had set up a committee in 2015 to study the Legislative Councils in other States and recommend for the establishment of one in the State.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### International Literacy Day – September 08

- ❖ International Literacy Day is celebrated annually on September 8 across the world.
- ❖ This year, the 52nd International Literacy Day will be celebrated on the theme 'Literacy and skills development'.
- ❖ The day was declared by UNESCO on October 26, 1966.
- ❖ The day highlights the importance of literacy or the ability to read and write for individuals, communities, and societies.
- ❖ According to UNESCO's statistics, India's literacy rate is 72.1 percent. The literacy among men is 80.9 percent, while for women it's 62.8 percent.



-----