



**April- 05**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ Gurugram-based hotel aggregator Oyo has launched its own cryptocurrency called 'Oyo Smart Coin'.

## **TAMILNADU**

### **Elections to cooperative societies**

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu State Co-operative Societies Election Commission has announced the schedule for electing the office-bearers for cooperative societies across the State.
- ❖ M. Rajendran, Commissioner of Tamil Nadu State Co-operative Societies Election Commission announced that the polls would be held in five phases.
- ❖ Elections to the cooperative Societies held the year 2013. The executive committee member's 5 years tenure going to complete this month (April).
- ❖ So, to ensure the filling of office members of Cooperative Society through the election, the Cooperative Societies election commission announced the elections to the cooperative societies.
- ❖ Cooperative Societies' Election Commission going to conduct elections to elect the executive committee members of 18,775 societies which come under 15 government departments including Cooperatives, Milk Production, Dairy form Development, Fisheries, Handloom, and Textiles.
- ❖ Elections are planned to conduct in a 5-phase manner because the cooperative societies in Tamilnadu, being working in three set up of primary societies, central societies, and state societies.
- ❖ Cooperative Societies' additional register, Chennai, and Cooperative Societies Regional sub-registers are appointed as the election observers.



## **NATIONAL**

### **Parivara and Talawara**

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has given its approval for inclusion of communities, namely 'Parivara and Talawara' as a synonym of Nayaka at in the list of Scheduled Tribes (STs) of Karnataka.
- ❖ With this inclusion, persons belonging to these communities will be eligible to get Scheduled Tribes certificate from Karnataka and will also be eligible for all benefits meant for Scheduled Tribes in the state.
- ❖ This will fulfill the long-term demand of 'Parivara' and Talawara' communities for granting Scheduled Tribes status in the State of Karnataka.
- ❖ Scheduled Tribes are notified under Article 342 of Constitution.
- ❖ It is notable that any subsequent inclusion or exclusion and other modifications in the list of Scheduled Tribes can be made only through an amendment bill.

### **Sand Mining Framework**

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Mines has launched Sand Mining Framework to help states deal with the sand mining issues, including demand-supply deficit and illegal extraction.
- ❖ It was launched at the third National Conclave on Mines & Minerals held in New Delhi.

### **Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana**

- ❖ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the proposal of enhancing the scope of Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY).
- ❖ The Union Government will now contribute Employer's full admissible contribution for first 3 years from the date of registration of new employee for all sectors including existing beneficiaries for their remaining period of 3 years.
- ❖ PMRPY has been in operation since August 2016.
- ❖ Under it, Government is paying 8.33% contribution of Employers to Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS) in respect of new employees (joined on or after 1st April



2016) having new Universal Account Number (UAN), with salary up to Rs. 15,000/- per month.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **18 new missions - Africa - 2021**

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved the opening of 18 new Indian Missions in Africa over a four-year period from 2018.
- ❖ The 18 new Indian Missions in Africa will be opened in Cape Verde, Chad, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania, Rwanda, Sao Tome & Principe, Somalia, Sierra Leone, Swaziland and Togo.
- ❖ The decision will enhance India's diplomatic outreach and increase its footprint in the resource-rich African continent.
- ❖ It will further enhance the cooperation to implement commitments of India-Africa Forum Summit.

### **Naval base - India's proposal**

- ❖ Seychelles President Danny Faure told Parliament that Seychelles government will not take up the Assumption island project deal with India for ratification.
- ❖ This announcement came two months after India signed a revised agreement with the Indian Ocean archipelago nation of Seychelles for the building of military facilities on Assumption Island, Seychelles' Opposition has refused to let it pass in their Parliament.
- ❖ Seychelles is an archipelago of 115 islands in the Indian Ocean, off East Africa.
- ❖ After China inaugurated its first overseas military base in Djibouti, near Suez Canal- one of the world's busiest shipping lanes, India signed an agreement with Seychelles to establish a military base in Seychelles to control the dominance of China.

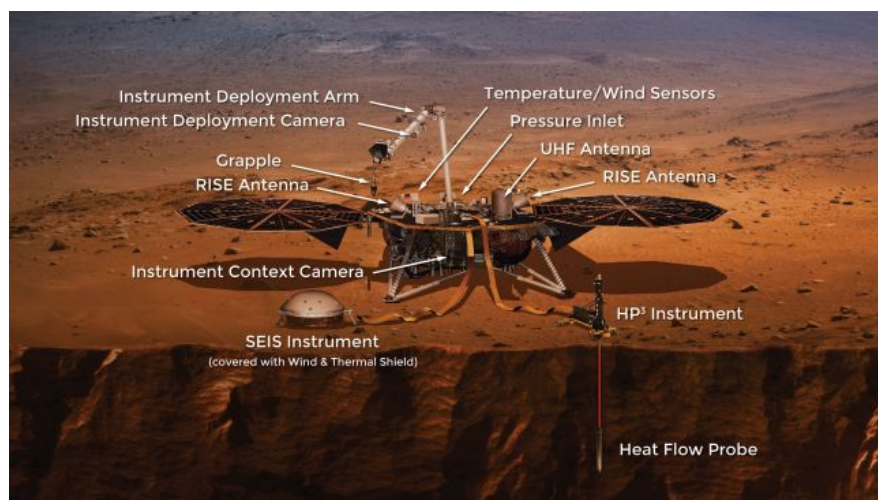
### **Seychelles Agreement**

- ❖ The agreement had been signed in 2015 during the visit of PM Modi but there are some troubles occurring because of the refusal of Seychelles parliament to ratify it.

- ❖ The agreement is very important for India, as it gives the way to set a military base on both Seychelles and Mauritius (Agalega island), the intention behind the treaty is to extend India's strategic footprint in the Indian Ocean.
- ❖ The agreement aims to establish a cooperation between two countries in establishing anti-piracy operations and enhanced EEZ surveillance to prevent intrusions by potential economic offenders including those indulging in illegal fishing, poaching, drug and human trafficking.

### **NASA – InSight Mission**

- ❖ The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) announced to send its first-ever mission to Mars to study its deep interior and find traces of how it was formed.

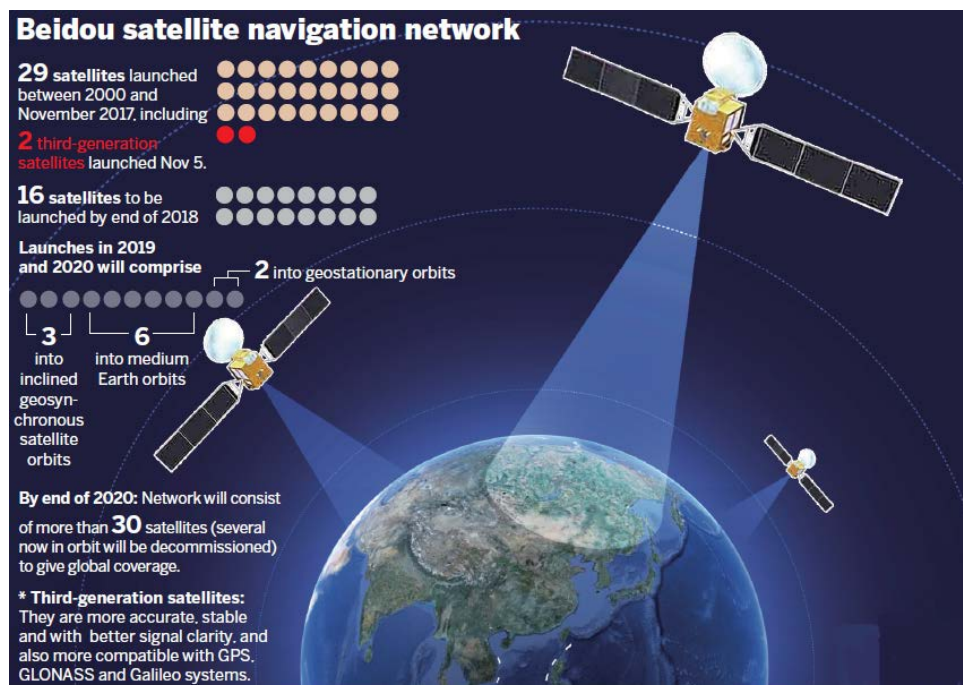


- ❖ Scheduled to be launched on May 5, 2018, NASA's Interior Exploration using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy, and Heat Transport (InSight) will be the first-ever mission dedicated to studying the heart of Mars.
- ❖ It also will be the first NASA mission, after the Apollo Moon Landings, to place a seismometer on the soil of another planet. The seismometer is a device that measures quakes.
- ❖ InSight is a part of the Discovery Program of NASA which is managed by the Marshall Space Flight Centre in Huntsville, Alabama.
- ❖ InSight stands for Interior Exploration using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy and Heat Transport.
- ❖ InSight will bring back information about the earliest stages of Mars' formation dating 4.5 billion years ago.

- ❖ It will give hints of how rocky bodies form such as Earth, its moon and also about planets of other solar systems.
- ❖ Lockheed Martin Space in Denver built and tested the InSight spacecraft and JPL manages the InSight Project for NASA's Science Mission Directorate in Washington.

### BeiDou-3 navigation satellite

- ❖ China has successfully launched a pair of twin Beidou-3MEO satellites – Beidou-30 and Beidou-31 –into space.



- ❖ It has been launched as part of its third and final stage of launching its domestic Beidou (Compass) satellite navigation system.
- ❖ They were launched on board Long March-3B carrier rocket from Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in southwest China's Sichuan Province. It was 269th mission for the Long March rocket family.
- ❖ The twin satellites are Medium Earth Orbit component of the third phase of Beidou satellite navigation system.
- ❖ They will work together with six previously launched BeiDou-3 satellites once they pass series of tests.



- ❖ They were developed by the Innovation Academy for Microsatellites at Chinese Academy of Sciences and China Academy of Launch Vehicle Technology, respectively.

### **BeiDou Navigation System**

- ❖ BeiDou is the 2nd generation of Chinese homegrown navigational system seen as a rival to US's Global Positioning System (GPS). It was named after Chinese term for plough or Big Dipper constellation.
- ❖ The first BeiDou satellite was sent into space in 2000. The system became operational in December 2011, with a constellation of 10 satellites providing services in China only.
- ❖ In December 2012, it began offering services to customers in Asia-Pacific region. On its completion in 2020, it will provide services to global customers.

## **STATES**

### **PV Sindhu - Deputy Collector**

- ❖ Olympic medallist PV Sindhu took charge as a deputy collector in the state secretariat in Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh government has announced group I service for PV Sindhu in order to honor her for winning the silver in 2016 Rio Olympics.
- ❖ In May, the state legislature had passed a Bill amending the State Public Services Act to appoint Sindhu as a Group-I officer in the government.
- ❖ As any recruitment in public services has to be only through the State Public Service Commission, selection committee or employment exchange, the government had to amend the Andhra Pradesh (Regulation of Appointments to Public Services and Rationalisation of Staff Pattern and Pay Structure) Act, 1994.

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