

**March – 07**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ Senior Indian-origin Scotland Yard officer Neil Basu became first person of Asian heritage to be appointed as Counter Terrorism Chief.
- ❖ Book reading event held by Pune based Aadharsh mandal organization in Gadchiroli district of Madhya Pradesh.
  - For this event 7 thousand people gathered here. In this event People read the book named Gandhian Ideologies and Peace and this event is get registered in Guinness world record.
  - Before that, in the last May 18, Turkey conducted such an event in which 5,754 people participated and it get registered in Guinness world record.

## **NATIONAL**

### **C-162 - Coast Guard**

- ❖ Bharati Defence and Infrastructure Ltd (BDIL) delivered high-speed interceptor boat ICG C-162 to Indian Coast Guard (ICG) at BDIL jetty in Mangaluru, Karnataka.
- ❖ C-162 is the sixth in a series of 15 high speed interceptor boats being procured by the ICG.
- ❖ It is fitted with new generation of Arneson Surface Drive propulsion system, propelled by two engines of 1650 kW each.
- ❖ The vessel will be based at Kochi, Kerala and will be used for patrolling purposes

## **INTERNATIONAL**

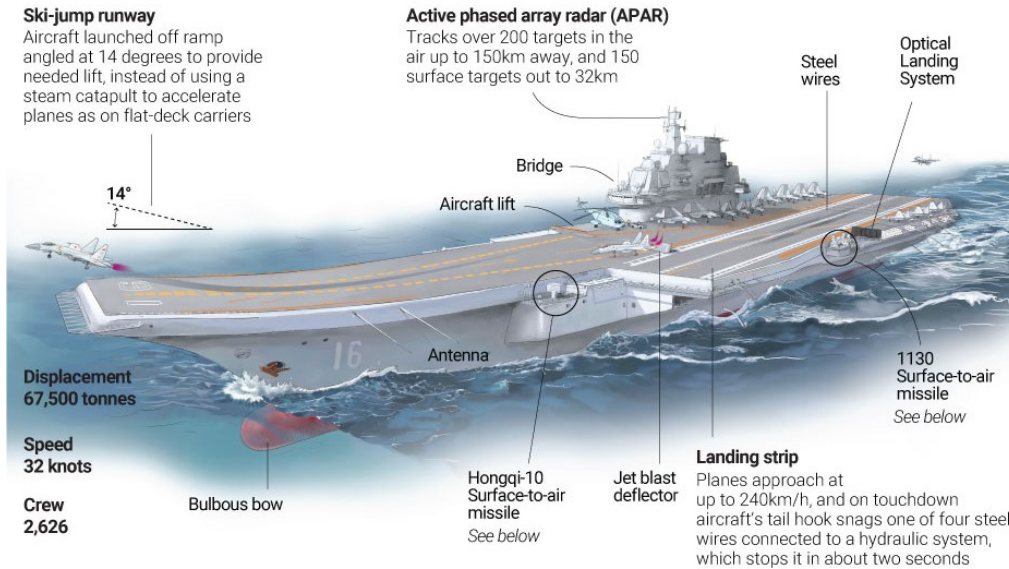
### **Nuclear-powered aircraft carrier – China**

- ❖ The China Shipbuilding Industry Corporation (CSIC) has announced to build its first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Liaoning.
- ❖ China commissioned its first-ever aircraft carrier - Liaoning is bought from Ukraine, in 2012.

- ❖ Its second carrier and the first domestically built carrier, known as Type 001A, was launched in April last year.

**Liaoning V16** Type 001 aircraft carrier

Original Soviet-built diesel propulsion system, sold at auction for US\$20 million in 1998. China has since refitted it as a training ship and has made significant upgrades



- ❖ At present, China's navy has two aircraft carriers running on conventional oil.
- ❖ US Navy's Nimitz-class and Ford-class carrier is run by nuclear power.
- ❖ French Navy's flagship, the Charles de Gaulle is only non-US aircraft carrier powered by nuclear reactors.

### Rooppur Nuclear power plant

- ❖ India, Bangladesh and Russia have signed a tripartite memorandum of understanding for cooperation in the construction of the Rooppur nuclear power plant in Bangladesh.
- ❖ It will be the first initiative under an India-Russia nuclear deal to undertake atomic energy projects in third countries. It will also be India's first atomic energy venture abroad.
- ❖ Rooppur Nuclear project is Bangladesh's first atomic energy project. It is being built with Russia's help near Dhaka.

- ❖ After commissioning of two units, each with capacity of 1200 MWs, Bangladesh will be third South Asian country after India and Pakistan to harness atomic energy for energy purpose.
- ❖ Russia will build nuclear power plant for this plant on a turnkey basis which means that contractor will complete whole project and they will be liable for any problems that arise in plant.
- ❖ Since India being not member of Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG), it will not participate directly in construction of atomic power reactors in third country.

### **Marshall Islands**

- ❖ The Marshall Islands, a Pacific island nation has become the first country in the world to recognise a crypto currency or digital currency as its legal tender after passing a law through its parliament to create the digital currency "Sovereign," or SOV.
- ❖ The Marshall Islands is partnering with Israeli fintech start up Neema to launch its SOV.



- ❖ The island country will issue 24 million SOVs in Initial Currency Offering (ICO).
- ❖ The digital currency in the island nation will have an equal status with the US dollar as a form of payment. The US dollar is the Pacific island nation's current currency.
- ❖ Earlier, Venezuela became the first country to launch its own crypto-currency 'Petro' but its validity as legal tender is not yet known.
- ❖ The Republic of Marshall Islands is an island country located in the Pacific Ocean. The country is part of the larger island group of Micronesia.

- ❖ The U.S. runs a military base on Kwajalein Atoll.

## **ECONOMY**

### **US securities - India**

- ❖ According to recent figures compiled by US Treasury Department, India is 12th largest overseas holder of US government securities.
- ❖ The holding of India went up to \$144.7 billion in December last.
- ❖ In 2017, China was the largest holder of US government securities with holdings to the tune of \$1.18 trillion, followed by Japan at \$1.06 trillion.
- ❖ Among the BRIC countries, India had the third largest exposure while that of Russia was lower among BRIC.

## **STATES**

### **India's first helicopter taxi**

- ❖ India's first helicopter taxi service was launched in Bengaluru to fly passengers from Kempe Gowda International Airport to Electronic City.
- ❖ The helicopter taxi service was launched by Kochi-based Thumbay Aviation Private Limited and it has also developed its own app named 'Heli Taxi' where people can book their flights.

## **SPORTS**

### **National tennis championship**

- ❖ The Maharashtra women's team won the interstate national tennis championship 2018 held in Chhattisgarh.
- ❖ The championship was organised under the auspices of the All India Tennis Association (AITA) by the Chhattisgarh State Tennis Association (CSTA) from February 26 to March 3.

### **Asian wrestling championships**

- ❖ Ace wrestler Navjot Kaur defeated Japan's Miya Imai and won gold medal in the 65kg freestyle wrestling category of Senior Asian Championships held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.
- ❖ With this, she created history by becoming first Indian woman wrestler to win gold medal in Senior Asian Championships.



- ❖ This was also India's first gold in the ongoing championships. In the final match the women's 65kg freestyle wrestling category.
  - ❖ Rio Olympics bronze medallist Sakshi Malik won the bronze in 62kg freestyle category.
  - ❖ With this India has bagged 6 medals, which consisted one gold, silver and four bronze medals.
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