

June-21

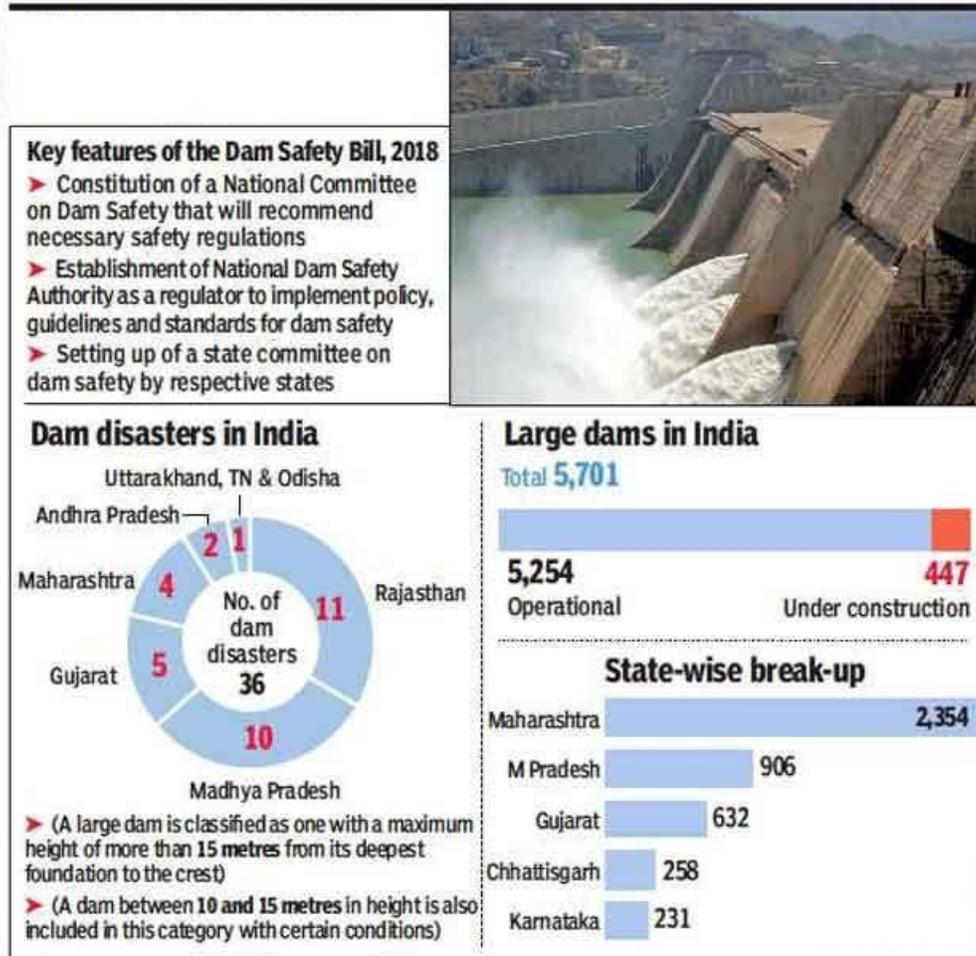
TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Visva-Bharati University (VBU), founded by Rabindranath Tagore, will set up a yoga center inside the campus, named yoga gram (village).
- ❖ Kerala State Literacy Mission Authority has initiated a 'water literacy' campaign with the involvement of 70,000 students aiming to create awareness among 10 lakh people over the importance of water conservation in the State.
- ❖ Chairperson of Sasakawa India Leprosy Foundation (SILF) Tarun Das was conferred upon the Japan Imperial Decoration for his contribution to the strengthening of bilateral ties.

NATIONAL

Dam Safety Bill, 2018

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal for introduction of Dam Safety Bill, 2018 in the Parliament.
- ❖ The bill will enable all states and union territories of India to adopt uniform dam safety procedures that will not only ensure the safety of the dams but will also safeguard their benefits.
- ❖ The uniformity will also help in protecting human life, livestock, and property.
- ❖ The Bill will provide for proper surveillance, inspection, operation and maintenance of all specified dams in the country to ensure their safe functioning.
- ❖ It will provide for the constitution of a
 - National Committee on Dam Safety
 - State Committee on Dam Safetythat will evolve dam safety policies and recommend necessary regulations as required for the purpose.
- ❖ It will also enable the establishment of National Dam Safety Authority as a regulatory body.



INTERNATIONAL

Historic Agreement On Name Change

- ❖ Greece and Macedonia signed a historic preliminary agreement to rename the country the Republic of North Macedonia.
- ❖ It ended a row that has poisoned relations between the two neighbors since 1991.
- ❖ The agreement will also enable the landlocked state to start proceedings and eventually join the EU and NATO.
- ❖ The agreement still requires the approval of both parliaments and a referendum in Macedonia.

- ❖ Since 1991, Athens has objected to its neighbor being called Macedonia because it has its own northern province of the same name, which in ancient times was the cradle of Alexander the Great's empire -- a source of intense pride for modern-day Greeks.



State of emergency declared - Papua New Guinea

- ❖ The Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea has declared a nine-month state of emergency in the country's rugged Southern Highlands province in response to several days of riots.
- ❖ The small resource-rich Pacific nation, which is due to host the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum in November 2018, has long struggled with violence and lawlessness.
- ❖ The riots are due to a court ruling that upheld the election of the regional governor William Powi, amid accusations of vote rigging
- ❖ Thomas Eluh, a former policeman and acting administrator in the province, has been given constitutional emergency powers.

San Francisco's first black woman

- ❖ London Breed made history when she became the first black woman (African-American) to be elected mayor of San Francisco.
- ❖ She defeated a rival who was seeking to become the first openly gay man in the position.
- ❖ She will serve as mayor until 2020, finishing out the rest of Lee's term.
- ❖ Breed is only the second woman to hold the position. Dianne Feinstein was the first woman appointed to the same job in 1978.



ECONOMY

Fitch cuts viability ratings

- ❖ Rating agency Fitch has downgraded the viability ratings (VRs) of State Bank of India (SBI) and Bank of Baroda (BoB).
- ❖ Fitch downgraded the VRs of SBI and BoB by one-notch to 'BB+' and 'BB', respectively.
- ❖ It cited the lenders' weakened risk profile due to poor asset quality and the vulnerability of their capital buffers to moderate shocks.
- ❖ As many as 19 of India's 21 state banks reported losses in the last fiscal, cumulatively wiping out almost all of the government's \$ 13 billion capital injections during the year.

- ❖ Fitch, which has a negative sector outlook on Indian banks, however, affirmed the 'BBB' Long-Term Issuer Default Ratings (IDRs) of SBI, BoB, Canara Bank and Bank of India (BoI) with a stable outlook.

BBB rating

- ❖ A BBB rating reflects an opinion that the issuer has the current capacity to meet its debt obligations but faces more solvency risk than an A-rated issue and less than a BB-rated issue if business, financial, or economic conditions change measurably.

STATES

Mukhbir Yojana- Jharkhand

- ❖ Jharkhand govt. is going to launch Mukhbir Yojana to curb child marriage.
- ❖ Under this scheme, people who give information regarding the child marriage plan to the authorities and becomes a spy of govt. will get a cash reward of Rs. 1,000.
- ❖ Moreover, all the village panchayats with no case of child marriage in a single year will get Rs. 50,000.
- ❖ In India, Jharkhand alone reports around 38% of total cases of child marriage.

'Paree Pain Katha Tiye'

- ❖ Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has launched 'Paree Pain Katha Tiye' (A word for the little angel), a State-wide awareness campaign against child sexual abuse.
- ❖ UNICEF and the State police have joined hands for the campaign to create awareness on the importance and role of every member of society in preventing child sexual abuse, need for reporting and need for trauma care.
- ❖ Fifteen vans modified as 'Paree Express' flagged off by the CM.
- ❖ In each district, the campaign will be led by the Superintendent of Police and District Collector.



SPORTS

Stuttgart Open

- ❖ Twenty-time Grand Slam champion Roger Federer clinched his 98th career singles title by defeating Canada's Milos Raonic in the Stuttgart Open final.
- ❖ The 36-year-old has now won 18 singles titles on grass.