



**July – 07**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ India's first taxi ambulance services was flagged off by Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari in New Delhi. A start-up named Wagon Cab has launched this service with drivers who are trained medically keeping in mind the increasing number of accidents.
- ❖ More than 34 years after coming into existence, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) is set to be renamed as Sports India. The word authority has been removed.

## **NATIONAL**

### **LG Does Not Have Independent Powers - SC**

- ❖ The Supreme Court held that Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajaj does not have independent decision making powers.
- ❖ It also held that LG is bound to act on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers and he cannot act as an "obstructionist".
- ❖ The landmark verdict came on the breakdown of power tussle between the Delhi government and the Centre.
- ❖ The Supreme Court stated that except for three issues, including land and law and order, Delhi government has the power to legislate and govern on other issues.

### **Cabinet Approvals**

#### **Agartala Airport Renamed**

- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved proposal of renaming Agartala Airport in Tripura as 'Maharaja Bir Bikram Manikya Kishore Airport, Agartala.
- ❖ He was the king of Tripura from 1923 to 1947 before its merger with India.
- ❖ He is considered the father of modern architecture in Tripura, as entire planning of present-day Tripura was initiated during his rule.

### **Relief and Rehabilitation of Migrants and Repatriates**

- ❖ Cabinet has also approved umbrella schemes for Relief and Rehabilitation of Migrants and Repatriates.
- ❖ Cabinet has given its approval for continuation of eight existing schemes of Home Ministry up to March 2020 for relief and rehabilitation of migrants and repatriates.
- ❖ The schemes will cover benefit displaced families from Pakistan-administered Kashmir, Sri Lankan refugees, Bru families lodged in relief camps in Tripura, 1984 anti-Sikh riot victims, civilian victims of terrorist, communal and Maoist violence.

### **Recapitalization of Regional Rural Banks**

- ❖ Union Cabinet has approved extension of scheme of recapitalization of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) for next three years (upto 2019-20).
- ❖ This will enable RRBs to maintain minimum prescribed Capital to Risk Weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR) of 9%.
- ❖ It will ensure strong capital structure and minimum required level of CRAR.
- ❖ This will facilitate financial stability of RRBs and enable them to play greater role in financial inclusion and meeting credit requirements of rural areas.
- ❖ The scheme of Recapitalization of RRBs was started in 2010-11 and was extended twice in the year 2012-13 and 2015-16.

### **Accession to WIPO Copyright Treaty and WIPO Performance and Phonograms Treaty**

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved India's accession to WIPO Copyright Treaty, 1996 and WIPO Performers and Phonograms Treaty, 1996
- ❖ These treaties which extends coverage of copyright to the internet and digital environment.
- ❖ The proposal was submitted by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- ❖ Both treaties provide framework for creators and right owners to use technical tools to protect their works and safeguard information about their use i.e.
  - Rights Management Information (RMI) and
  - Protection of Technological Protection Measures (TPMs).



### **Creation of posts of Vice-Chairperson and Member in NCSK**

- ❖ Union Cabinet has approved creation of one post each of Vice-Chairperson and Member in the National Commission for Safai Karmacharis (NCSK).
- ❖ The decision aims at optimizing functioning of NCSK and fulfilling desired objectives of welfare and development of target group.
- ❖ At present, it has sanctioned strength of four members and a chairperson.
- ❖ With this posts, sanctioned strength of NCSK will be one Chairperson, one Vice-Chairperson and five members.

### **Slew of directions on police reforms – SC**

- ❖ The Supreme Court bench headed by Chief Justice Dipak Misra passed a slew of directions on police reforms in the country.
- ❖ It ordered all states and Union territories to not appoint any police officer as acting Director General of Police (DGP).
- ❖ It has directed all the states to send names of senior police officers to the UPSC for being considered as probable candidates to be appointed as DGPs or Police Commissioners.
- ❖ The UPSC, in turn, will prepare a list of three most suitable officers and the states will be free to appoint one of them as police chief.
- ❖ The court was hearing the Centre's plea seeking modification of one of its directions, which were part of its historic 2006 verdict on police reforms.
- ❖ On September 22, 2006, the Supreme Court delivered a historic judgment in Prakash Singh v. Union of India case,
  - Constitution of the State Security Commission at State level
  - Transparent procedure for the appointment of DGP who shall enjoy a minimum tenure of two years
  - Other police officers on operational duties, such as Superintendents of Police, shall also have a minimum tenure of two years.
  - Establishment of a Police Establishment Board, which will decide all transfers, postings, promotions and other service related matters of police officers.
  - Setting up of a National Security Commission at the Union level to prepare a panel for selection and placement of Chiefs of the Central Police Organisations (CPO).

- Separation of the investigation; and law and order functions of the police.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Koala bear genome decoded

- ❖ An international team of 54 scientists has successfully sequenced the marsupial's whole genome. The whole genome was found to consist of over 26,000 genes.
- ❖ Researchers found expansions within a particular gene family (P450 gene) and reported that these genes help the koala detoxify the eucalyptus leaves.
- ❖ Researchers also reported that the lactation proteins protect the young ones in the pouch and help it develop a strong immune system.
- ❖ The koala *Phascolarctos cinereus*, or, inaccurately, koala bear is an arboreal herbivorous marsupial native to Australia.
- ❖ The koala is classified as 'vulnerable' by the International Union for Conservation of Nature due to habitat loss and widespread disease.



## ENVIRONMENT

### Recovery Programme for Critically Endangered Species

- ❖ The standing committee of National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) has recently added four species-
  - Northern River Terrapin - species of riverine turtle found in rivers that flow in Eastern India.
  - Clouded Leopard - found in Himalayan foothills - The IUCN in its Red List assessment of 2016 has categorized Clouded Leopard as 'Vulnerable'
  - Arabian Sea Humpback Whale - migrates from the Oman coast through the Arabian sea, along the Indian coasts till the Sri Lankan coast.
  - Red Panda - found Sikkim, West Bengal and Arunachal Pradesh - The IUCN has categorized Red Panda as 'Endangered'.

into Centre's Recovery Programme for Critically Endangered Species.

- ❖ They were added on the recommendation by Wildlife Division of Ministry of Environment and Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC).
- ❖ The programme is one of the three components of centrally funded scheme, Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats (IDWH). It was started in 2008-09.





**SHANKAR  
IAS ACADEMY**  
THE BEST IAS ACADEMY IN SOUTH INDIA SINCE 2004



**TNPSC Thervu Pettagam**

*Information is a Blessing*

**A Shankar IAS Academy Initiative**

-----