

April - 02

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The world's largest express transportation company FedEx has announced that its new Chief Executive Officer will be Indian American Raj Subramaniam.
 - The company was previously helmed by Frederick W Smith.
- ❖ Canada has qualified for the Qatar 2022 football World Cup for the first time in 36 years, after beating Jamaica 4-0 in Toronto.
 - Canada becomes the 20th team to qualify for the 2022 FIFA World Cup.
- ❖ World Bipolar Day is observed on March 30 to spread awareness about the mental health disorder that affects people all over the world.
 - This year's World Bipolar Day theme is #BipolarTogether.
- ❖ World Backup Day is marked every year on March 31.
 - The day reminds us to protect our precious digital documents as we've become more reliant on technology.
- ❖ The International Day of Drug Checking takes place on March 31 every year since 2017.
 - The day aims to promote harm reduction initiatives of drugs and reduce drug-related risks.
- ❖ Ecuador, a South American country has become the first country in the world to give legal rights to wild animals.

TAMIL NADU

Sahitya Akademi Fellowship

- ❖ Writer Indira Parthasarathy was conferred the Sahitya Akademi Fellowship by the Sahitya Akademi.
- ❖ The fellowship, which is India's highest literary honor, is presented to distinguished scholars of outstanding literary merit.
- ❖ The number of Akademi fellows at a given time is restricted to only 21.
- ❖ Indira Parthasarathy is a Padma Shri awardee.
- ❖ He has published 16 novels, 10 plays, and anthologies of short stories and essays.
- ❖ He won the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1977 for his novel Kuruthipunal.

- ❖ He is the only Tamil writer to have received both the Sahitya Akademi Award and the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award.



Chennai Metro Rail's Central Square

FOR COMMUTERS' COMFORT

Central Square will link Central Railway Station, Central Metro, Park Station, Fort Station, Park Town Station and Moore Market Complex with private outstation buses and MTC

Rippon Building

CENNAI CENTRAL

CENTRAL PLAZA

Park Station

TOTAL BUDGET
₹400 crore

WHAT'S PLANNED

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Three-level underground parking that can accommodate more than 800 cars ➤ Plaza with amenities for bus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ crew and passengers linking the bus bays ➤ Bus bays for private and government buses ➤ Four pedestrian 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ subways across Poonamallee High Road ➤ Landscaping in front of Moore Market Complex and Ripon Building
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- ❖ Chief Minister M. K. Stalin formally inaugurated the 'Central Square' facility.
- ❖ The facility is aimed at connecting important buildings located in this area.
- ❖ It serves as a multi-modal hub.

NATIONAL

PARAM Shakti

- ❖ The National Supercomputing Mission has dedicated PARAM Shakti, a Petascale Supercomputer, to the country at IIT Kharagpur.
- ❖ It is a collaborative project of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and the Department of Science and Technology.

- ❖ The PARAM Shakti supercomputing facility is advancing research and development efforts in diverse disciplines of computational and data sciences.



New initiative for refuelling

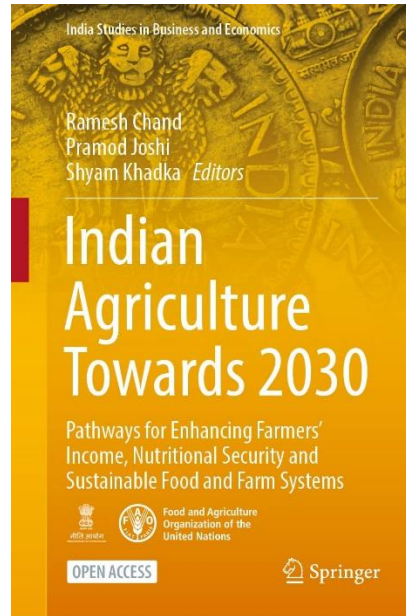


- ❖ The Indian Air Force has unveiled a new initiative with the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.
- ❖ Under it, IAF's convoys will be refuelled at fuel stations of the state-run energy major.
- ❖ As per the Defence Ministry, 'Fleet Card-Fuel on Move' has been rolled out to facilitate the refuelling of convoys belonging to the Indian Air Force.

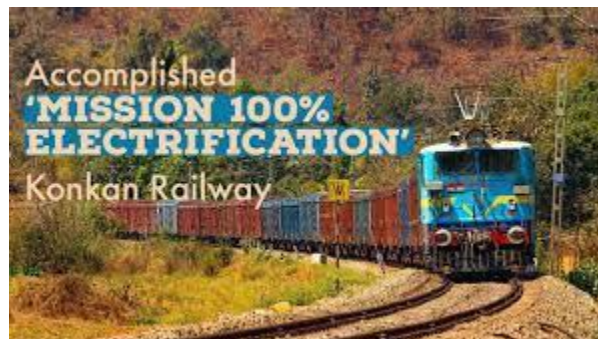
Book release by Narendra Singh Tomar

- ❖ Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has released a book titled "Indian Agriculture towards 2030: Pathways for Enhancing Farmers' Income, Nutritional Security and Sustainable Food and Farm Systems".

- ❖ It was released at an event organized by NITI Aayog and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.
- ❖ Indian Agriculture towards 2030 captures the outcomes of the deliberative process of national dialogue by NITI Aayog and the Ministries of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare; and Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, and facilitated by FAO since 2019.



Konkan Railway Corporation



- ❖ The Konkan Railway Corporation has finished electrification of its entire 741-kilometer route that stretches from Roha, Maharashtra to Thokur, Karnataka.
- ❖ This electrification of the 741-kilometer stretch will bring about savings of fuel amounting to Rs 150 crore.
- ❖ It will also reduce the dependence on diesel along with ensuring pollution-free, seamless operations.

- ❖ By December 2023, the Indian Railways have plans for 100 percent electrification of its broad-gauge network.
- ❖ Mumbai is connected with Mangalore via the Konkan Railway.
- ❖ The Konkan Railways line passes through Goa, Maharashtra, and Karnataka along the country's western coast.

INAS 316



- ❖ The second P-8I aircraft squadron of the Navy has been commissioned by the Indian Navy in a ceremony that was held at INS Hansa, Goa.
- ❖ 'Condors' is the title given to INAS 316.
- ❖ Condors are one of the world's largest flying land birds and have a massive wingspan.

5th BIMSTEC Summit



- ❖ The Summit was held in Sri Lanka in a hybrid mode.

- ❖ BIMSTEC Summit 2022's main outcome was the BIMSTEC Charter's adoption and signing.
- ❖ This charter formalizes the BIMSTEC grouping into an organization that will have a flag, an emblem, and formally listed principles that are to be adhered to by the member nations.
- ❖ The BIMSTEC leaders also oversaw the signing of 3 different BIMSTEC agreements.
- ❖ Also, USD 1 million will be provided by India to the BIMSTEC secretariat for increasing its operational budget.
- ❖ The scope of the BIMSTEC scholarship program that is offered by the Nalanda International University is also being expanded.
- ❖ "Towards a Resilient Region, Prosperous Economies, Healthy People" is the summit's theme.

STATES

Living Root Bridges - Meghalaya



- ❖ 'Jingkieng Jri or Living Root Bridge' has been included in the tentative list of World Heritage Sites of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).
- ❖ It is found in over 70 villages in Meghalaya
- ❖ It highlights the socio-cultural, social, and botanical links between people and nature.
- ❖ Villagers grow the living root bridges by training the 'ficus elastica' tree on both sides of water bodies.

- ❖ These trees over a period of about 10 to 15 years form the bridge.

Assam and Meghalaya agreement



- ❖ Assam and Meghalaya agreed to resolve their five-decade-long border dispute in six of the 12 contested places.
- ❖ Chief Ministers of Assam and Meghalaya, Himanta Biswa Sarma and Conrad Sangma, respectively, inked the agreement in the presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah.
- ❖ The two states share an 884.9-kilometer boundary.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Odisha Day - April 01





- ❖ It is called as Utkal Divas or Utkala Dibasha.
- ❖ It is celebrated on April 1st every year to remember the formation of the Odisha state after a struggle to be recognized as an independent state.
- ❖ The new province came into existence on the 1st of April 1936.
- ❖ The state was originally called Orissa.
- ❖ But the Parliament passed the Orissa Bill in March 2011 to rename it Odisha.
- ❖ The earlier capital city of Odisha was Cuttack.
- ❖ Whereas the current capital city is Bhubaneswar.

