

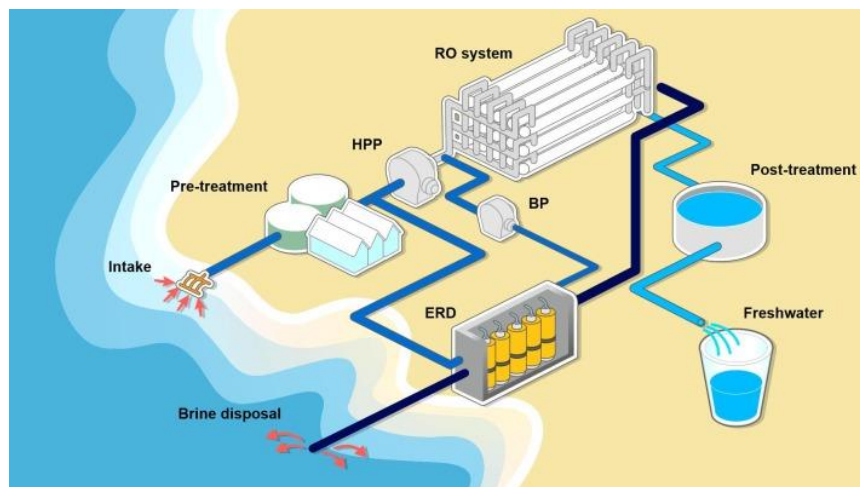
April - 05

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ President Droupadi Murmu awarded the prestigious President's Colour to INS Dronacharya, gunnery school of Indian Navy, located in Kochi, Kerala.
  - This is the highest honour bestowed on a military unit for its exceptional service to the nation.
- ❖ The Indian industrialist and philanthropist Ratan Tata has been appointed as an Honorary Officer in the General Division of the Order of Australia (AO).
- ❖ The second meeting of the newly formed engagement group, Startup20 was held in Gangtok, Sikkim.
- ❖ The 2<sup>nd</sup> G20 Sustainable Finance Working Group (SFWG) meeting was held in Udaipur, Rajasthan.
- ❖ Actor Ranveer Singh has emerged as India's most valued celebrity of 2022, according to a new celebrity brand valuation report.
  - He is followed by Virat Kohli, Akshay Kumar, Alia Bhatt and Deepika Padukone.

## TAMIL NADU

### 4<sup>th</sup> desalination plant



- ❖ VA Tech Wabag Ltd has bagged an order from Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) for building a 4th desalination plant in Chennai.

- ❖ Once the project is complete, Chennai can treat about 750 MLD of desalinated water.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has been the pioneer in the use of desalination technology for providing potable water and achieving water security.
- ❖ It already has two fully functional desalination plants near Chennai - Minjur and Nemmeli (2013).
- ❖ Minjur, the first desalination plant in India, was opened in 2010.

### **Vaikom Satyagraha centenary fete**



- ❖ Kerala and Tamil Nadu's Chief Ministers jointly inaugurated the centenary year celebrations of the anti-caste struggle Vaikom Satyagraha on April 1.
- ❖ Lower castes like the Ezhavas and Pulayas were considered polluting and various rules were in place to distance them from upper castes.
- ❖ These included a prohibition, not just on temple entry, but even on walking on the roads surrounding temples.
- ❖ On March 30, 1924, in the temple town of Vaikom in the princely state of Travancore, a non-violent agitation started.
- ❖ It is marking the beginning of "temple entry movements" across the country.
- ❖ Sree Narayana Guru, Chattambiswamy, TK Madhavan and Ayyankali were the prominent personalities of the struggle.

- ❖ In November 1936, almost a decade after the conclusion of the Satyagraha, the historic Temple Entry Proclamation was signed by the Maharaja of Travancore.

## NATIONAL

### Civil-20 India 2023 Inception Conference



- ❖ The Civil-20 India 2023 Inception Conference's first plenary session was held in Nagpur, Maharashtra.
- ❖ Theme of the event is "Balancing Development with Environment".
- ❖ The session was chaired by former Chief Information Commissioner Satyananda Mishra.

## INTERNATIONAL

### National League for Democracy Party – Myanmar



- ❖ Myanmar's military government took another major step in its ongoing campaign to cripple its political opponents.
- ❖ It dissolved around 40 opposition parties including that of ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi's NLD for failing to meet a registration deadline ahead of elections.
- ❖ The NLD won a landslide victory in the November 2020 election.
- ❖ But in February 2021, the army blocked all elected lawmakers from taking their seats in Parliament and seized power.
- ❖ The National League for Democracy was founded in 1988 in the wake of a failed uprising against military rule.

## ENVIRONMENT

### **Thiania indica**



- ❖ Researchers from Kerala University has discovered a new spider species from the Western Ghats.
- ❖ Both the males and the females of the species exhibited reddish brown carapace.
- ❖ Only one species, viz., *Thiania bhamoensis*, that belongs to the genus has been previously recorded in India.
- ❖ The particular species has been distributed across China, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos and Indonesia.

## REPORTS AND INDICES

### **Passport Index 2023**

- ❖ The Passport Index 2023 has been published by Arton Capital.

- ❖ And it ranks passports of 199 countries.
- ❖ India fell six places from 138<sup>th</sup> to the 144<sup>th</sup> position in the annual passport index for 2023.
- ❖ With its current ranking, Indians can travel to 21 countries visa-free, need a visa for 128 countries, and can avail of the visa-on-arrival option for 47 countries.
- ❖ This year, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has the highest mobility score and ranks number one.
- ❖ It was followed by Sweden, Germany, Finland, Luxembourg, Spain, France, Italy, the Netherlands, and Austria
- ❖ In Asia, South Korea had the highest score and ranks at number 12 on list.
- ❖ It is followed by Japan.



## STATES

### European Union GI Tag



- ❖ The European Union (EU) has granted the Geographical Indicator (GI) tag to Kangra tea of Himachal Pradesh.
- ❖ It will help tea farmers of Kangra get better prices for their produce in the European countries.”

- ❖ The Kangra tea had got the Indian GI tag in 2005 but it was not recognised by the EU.
- ❖ Kangra leaves are known to have Calcium, Zinc, Folic Acids, Vitamin B1, Vitamin B2 and Vitamin B6.

### **100% electrification of rail network – Haryana**

- ❖ The Indian Railways has achieved a significant milestone, by completing 100% electrification of Railway network in Haryana State.
- ❖ The existing Broad-Gauge network of Haryana is 1,701 Route kilometre is now 100% electrified.
- ❖ Haryana state's territory falls in Northern, North Central & North Western Railway's jurisdiction.



## **PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS**

### **WSIS Award 2023**

- ❖ The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) is an annual award event coordinated by the International Telecommunication Union in collaboration with UNESCO, UNDP and UNCTAD.

- ❖ Theme of the event was ‘WSIS Action Lines for Building Back Better and Accelerating the Achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)’.
- ❖ The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) along with National Informatics Centre (NIC), has been recognized for its Audit Online software programme at the WSIS Forum 2023.
- ❖ Audit Online has been awarded under the Action Line category ICT Applications: e-Government based on the most voted project in the category.
- ❖ This software facilitates the financial audit of accounts at all the three levels of Panchayats.



## Urban Climate Film Festival




- ❖ The National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) is organising the first Urban Climate Film Festival through the CITIIS program under U20 engagement events.
- ❖ A curated selection of 11 films from 9 countries is showcased in the festival.

- ❖ The selected films will be screened at the festival in New Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Kolkata, and Ahmedabad over subsequent months.
- ❖ They aimed at create wider awareness of the impact of climate change on life in cities and engage the public in the dialogue on sustainable urban development.

## IMPORTANT DAYS


### RBI foundation Day - April 01

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) was established on April 1, 1935.
- ❖ India's central bank was established accordance with the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.
- ❖ It is responsible for regulating the monetary policy of the country and managing the nation's currency and credit system.
- ❖ The RBI serves as the banker to the government and performs various functions such as issuing currency notes, managing foreign exchange reserves, and supervising banks and financial institutions.
- ❖ It also plays a crucial role in maintaining the stability of the financial system and promoting economic growth.



**RESERVE BANK OF INDIA DAY**  
**APRIL 1**

Started operations on **April, 1935** in accordance with the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.



 First Governor was British banker **SIR OSBORNE SMITH**

 First Indian Governor was **C.D. DESHMUKH**

**WAS NATIONALISED ON JAN 1, 1949**

Played a key role in **agricultural development** before liberalisation

The Bank's focus has shifted back to **core central banking functions** after liberalisation

