

April - 12

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ On April 05, 2021, Northern Railways completed the construction of the arch closure of the Chenab Bridge, the world's highest railway bridge.
  - The 1.3-kilometre-long bridge sits at a height of 359 metres above the bed of the Chenab River in the Jammu & Kashmir state.
- ❖ The Barakah nuclear power plant in the Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirate) is the first nuclear power station in the Arab world.
  - It had begun its commercial operations recently.

## TAMIL NADU

### Marappa Gounder

- ❖ Marappa Gounder was born in 1916 in Karupparayanpalayam in Coimbatore district.
- ❖ He has been a regular voter since 1952.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu elected its first ever government in 1952, when it was Madras State.
- ❖ The Indian National Congress won the election.
- ❖ C Rajagopalachari (1952-1954) and K Kamaraj (1954-1957) were the Chief Ministers of the state in that term.





## **NATIONAL**

### **SUPACE in Supreme Court**

- ❖ The Supreme Court of India has launched its Artificial Intelligence portal “SUPACE” (Supreme Court Portal for Assistance in Courts Efficiency).
- ❖ Through this portal, the SC intends to leverage machine learning to deal with the vast amounts of data received at the time of filing of cases.

### **Artificial Intelligence Committee**

- ❖ Justice L Nageshwara Rao, is the chairman of the SC’s Artificial Intelligence Committee.
- ❖ Chief Justice of India (CJI) SA Bobde was the first-ever chairman of the Artificial Intelligence Committee.
- ❖ CJI Bobde took oath as the Chief Justice in 2019.

### **Hindi Translation of Odisha Itihaas**

- ❖ The Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently released the Hindi translation of “Odisha Itihaas”.
- ❖ The book is available in Odia and English so far.
- ❖ It was translated to Hindi by Shankarlal Purohit.

### **Odisha Itihaas**

- ❖ The book was written by Utkal Keshari Dr Harekrushna Mahatab.
- ❖ He wrote the book Odisha Itihaas in Ahmednagar Fort Jail.
- ❖ He was imprisoned here for two years between 1942 and 1945.
- ❖ Harekrushna Mahatab was the first Chief Minister of Odisha.
- ❖ He was popularly known as Utkal Keshari.

### **SARTHAQ**

- ❖ Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank launched a National Education Policy (NEP) Implementation Plan for School Education called ‘Students’ and Teachers’ Holistic Advancement through Quality Education (SARTHAQ)’.
- ❖ It will help in achieving goals & objectives of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.
- ❖ SARTHAQ has been developed by the Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education.



- ❖ It has been released as part of celebrations leading to 'AmritMahotsav' on 75 years of Indian Independence.
- ❖ It is the Plan of Action of NEP 2020 and outlines an implementation plan for the next 10 years.
- ❖ Ramesh Pokhriyal also chaired a high level meeting on implementation of NEP 2020 in New Delhi.

## **ECONOMY**

### **Recent RBI announcements**

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to allow payment system operators to take direct membership of Centralised Payment Systems (CPS), such as RTGS and NEFT.
- ❖ In a major move in the online payment segments.
- ❖ The RBI noted that over the last few years, the role of non-bank entities in payment space such as prepaid payment instrument (PPI) issuers, card networks, white label ATM (WLA) operators, Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS) platforms, has grown in importance and volume.

### **Financial Inclusion Index**

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India has announced that it will periodically publish a "Financial Inclusion Index" (FI Index) annually in July.
- ❖ This is for the financial year ending previous March.
- ❖ To measure the extent of financial inclusion in the country, the Reserve Bank proposes to construct and publish a Financial Inclusion Index (FI Index) based on multiple parameters.

### **RBI increases WMA limits**

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India has increased the limit for Way and Means Advances (WMA) for the State Governments/UTs from Rs. 32,225 crores (fixed in February 2016) to Rs. 47,010 crores based on the recommendation of a committee headed by Shri Sudhir Shrivastava. This represents an increase of about 46%.
- ❖ RBI has extended the enhanced interim WMA limit of ₹ 51,560 crores for a further period of six months i.e., from April 1, 2021, up to September 30, 2021.

### **Solidarity Tax on Pandemic Winners**

- ❖ The International Monetary Fund recently announced Solidarity Tax on Pandemic Winners.
- ❖ That is, the companies that prospered during COVID-19 crisis should pay additional tax to show solidarity towards those hit hardest by the pandemic.
- ❖ It is a temporary tax.
- ❖ It shall be imposed to reduce social inequalities that increased during the recent health crisis.
- ❖ The solidarity tax was introduced in Germany in 1991 after the East and West Germany were joined together.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **Three banded Rosefinch**

- ❖ A team of scientists from the Bombay Natural History Society recorded a new species of bird.
- ❖ It has been identified as the three banded Rosefinch.
- ❖ The new bird species was identified while exploring the high-altitude coniferous forests of Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ The Three Branded Rosefinch belongs to the finch species of birds.
- ❖ Finch birds have worldwide distribution except for Australia and polar regions.



## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### Chandra Naidu passes away

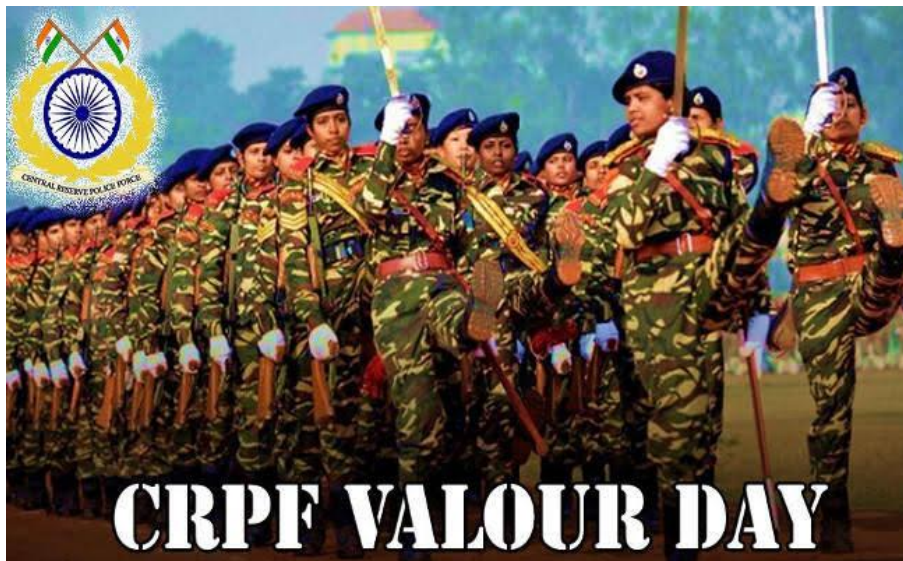
- ❖ India's first female cricket commentator Chandra Naidu passed away.
- ❖ She was the daughter of the country's first Test captain CK Naidu.
- ❖ She had done her first commentary during a match between national champions Bombay (now Mumbai) and MCC in Indore in 1977.
- ❖ She had also penned a book titled 'CK Nayudu: A Daughter Remembers' on her late father.

### Devishankar Awasthi Award 2020

- ❖ The famous Devishankar Awasthi Award has been awarded to the prolific Hindi prose, journalist, and critic Ashutosh Bhardwaj.
- ❖ This honour has been given to him for his work 'Pitra-Vadh'.
- ❖ He was elected by the selection committee of Ashok Vajpayee, Nandkishore Acharya, and Rajendra Kumar.
- ❖ This book has been published in English under the name of 'The Death Trap'.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### CRPF Valour Day - April 09



- ❖ Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Valour Day (Shaurya Diwas) is observed as a tribute to the brave men of the Force.



- ❖ 2021 marks the 56th CRPF Valour Day.
- ❖ It was on this day in 1965, a small contingent of CRPF created history by defeating an invading Pakistani army at the Sardar Post located in the Rann of Kutch, Gujarat.

