

April - 13

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ M.K. Stalin, the Deputy Chief Minister, launched a Periyar memorial samathuva puram at Pilipakuttai.
  - Pilipakuttai is in Namagiripettai panchayat union in Namakkal District.
- ❖ Pakistan Opposition leader Shehbaz Sharif has been elected as the new Prime Minister of Pakistan.
  - He is the 70-year-old younger brother of former three-time prime minister Nawaz Sharif.
- ❖ Dr. Manoj Soni has been appointed the chairman of UPSC.
  - Dr. Soni has been appointed to replace the previous UPSC chairman Pradip Kumar Joshi.

## NATIONAL

### India-US 2 plus 2 Ministerial Dialogue



- ❖ India and the United States held a 2 plus 2 Defence and Foreign Ministry dialogue in Washington.
- ❖ Under the Biden administration, this will be the first such dialogue to be held.
- ❖ Following the dialogue, a pact on Space Situational Awareness will also be signed.

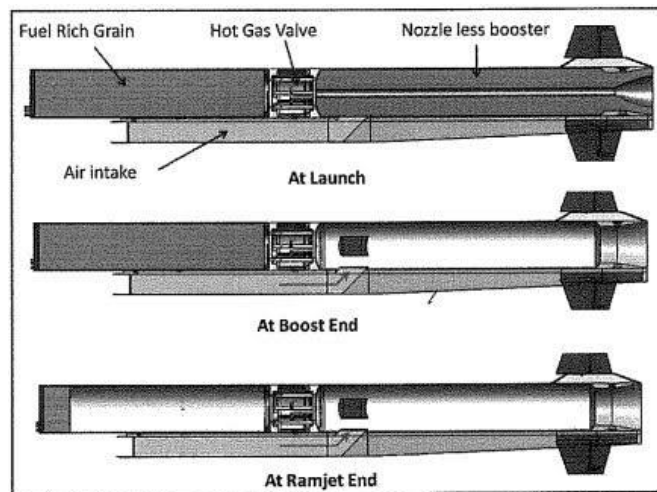
### Pinaka Mk-I Enhanced Rocket System

- ❖ The Defence Research and Development Organisation and Indian Army successfully flight-tested a new version of the Pinaka rocket system at the Pokhran firing ranges.

- ❖ These included Pinaka Mk-I Enhanced Rocket System (EPRS) and Pinaka Area Denial Munition (ADM) rocket systems.
- ❖ With these trails, the initial phase of technology absorption of EPRS by the industry has successfully been completed
- ❖ The industry partners also are ready for user trials/series production of the rocket system.



### **Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet Booster**



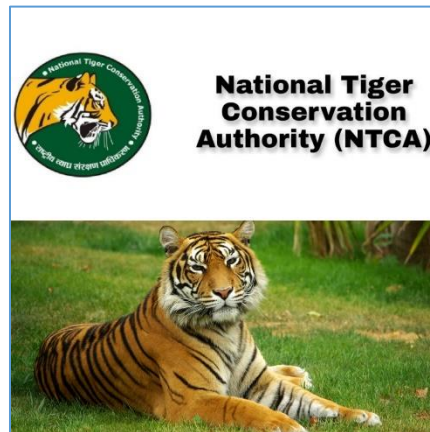
Ramjet Propulsion system configuration

- ❖ The Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) booster missile system was successfully flight-tested by India.
- ❖ The testing was conducted at the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur, Odisha.

- ❖ In 2017 India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) began developing the SFDR.

### **National Tiger Conservation Authority meeting**

- ❖ The 20th National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) meeting held at Arunachal Pradesh is chaired by Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav.
- ❖ It was held in Pakke tiger reserve in Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ The first-ever NTCA meeting was held in Arunachal Pradesh, outside of the National Capital.
- ❖ The NTCA has released a Forest Fire Audit Protocol for Tiger Reserves.
- ❖ This will assist tiger reserve managers in assessing their fire preparation and managing forest fires throughout their whole life cycle.



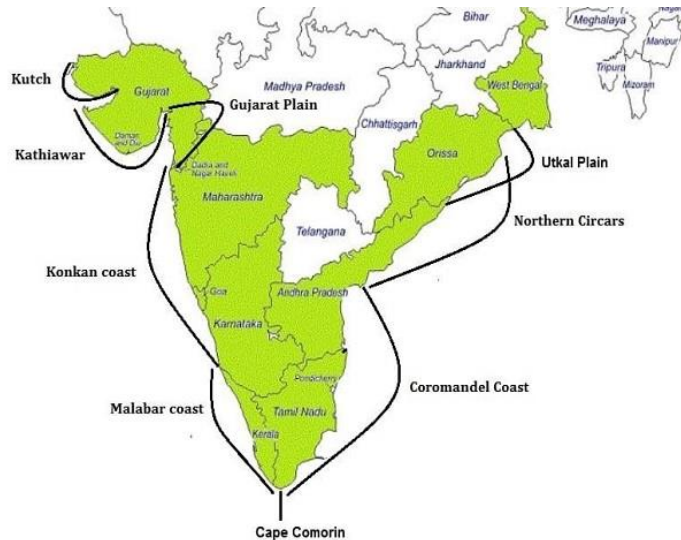
### **Seema Darshan Project**



- ❖ Union Home and Cooperative Minister Amit Shah have inaugurated the Seema Darshan Project.

- ❖ It was inaugurated at Nadabet located on the Indo-Pak border in the Banaskantha District of Gujarat.
- ❖ ‘Seema darshan Project’ was initiated with the aim to provide an opportunity to the people so they can visualize the life and work of the BSF personnel on our border.

## Status of India's Coastline



- ❖ The Ministry of Earth Sciences informed the Lok Sabha about the status of the coastline of the Indian mainland.
- ❖ The National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR) is monitoring shoreline erosion since 1990 using remote sensing data & GIS mapping techniques.
- ❖ About 6,907.18 km long Indian coastline of the mainland has been analyzed from 1990 to 2018.
- ❖ Of the 6,907.18-km-long coastline of the Indian mainland,
  - 34% is under varying degrees of erosion,
  - 26% is of an accreting nature, and
  - The remaining 40% is in a stable state.
- ❖ In terms of percentage, West Bengal with a 534.35-km-long coastline suffered erosion along about 60.5% of the coast over the period from 1990 to 2018.
- ❖ This is followed by Kerala on the west coast, which has 592.96 km of coastline and 46.4% of it faced erosion.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu, with a coastline of 991.47 km, recorded erosion along 42.7% of it.

- ❖ Gujarat, with the longest coastline of 1,945.6 km, recorded erosion along 27.06% of it.
- ❖ In the Union Territory of Puducherry, with a 41.66-km-long coastline, about 56.2% of its coast recorded erosion.

### Scheme on Fortified Rice

#### WHAT IS FORTIFIED RICE?

Fortification is the practice of deliberately increasing the content of an essential micronutrient, i.e. vitamins and minerals (including trace elements) in food to improve its nutritional quality and provide a public health benefit with minimal risk to health



<p>➤ The fortification factor does not last for more than <b>45 days</b>, so it isn't advisable to store fortified rice for long</p>	<p>➤ According to National Family Health Survey, <b>78.7%</b> children and <b>75%</b> in the district are anaemic and suffer from malnutrition</p>	<p>➤ In the first phase, fortified rice will be distributed in Badangi, Bobbili, Ramabhadrapuram and Terlam mandals</p>
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- ❖ The Union Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved a scheme to distribute fortified rice under government programs by 2024.
- ❖ The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister has accorded its approval for the supply of fortified rice through,
  - Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) under the National Food Security Act (NFSA),
  - Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS),
  - Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman - PM POSHAN [erstwhile Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDM)] and
  - Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) of the Government of India in all states and union territories (UTs) in a phased manner.
- ❖ The initiative will be implemented in 3 phases.
  - Phase I - By March 2022, the covering of PM POSHAN and ICDS in the whole of India.
  - Phase II - By March 2023, Phase I coverage along with Other Government Welfare Schemes and TPDS in all High Burden Districts of the country on stunting (a total of 291 districts).

- Phase III - By March 2024, Phase II along with the remaining districts of the country will be covered.

## ECONOMY

### Cash Withdrawal via UPI



- ❖ A cardless cash withdrawal facility has been made available at all ATMs by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- ❖ This facility will be made available via the Unified Payment Interface (UPI) irrespective of the bank.
- ❖ This decision was made by the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the RBI.
- ❖ All banks have been given permission by the RBI to introduce card-less cash withdrawals through ATMs.

## STATES

### Kangra Tea





- ❖ Himachal Pradesh's Kangra Tea will soon get a European Commission Geographical Indication Tag (GI Tag).
- ❖ This tag helps Kangra tea to get an opportunity to enter the European market.
- ❖ Kangra tea received the Indian GI tag in 2005.

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

### **Har Gobind Khorana**

- ❖ The year 2022 marks the 100th birthday of Nobel Prize-winning chemist Har Gobind Khorana.
- ❖ He was born on January 9, 1922, in Raipur, India [now Raipur, Pakistan].
- ❖ He began research on nucleic acids during a fellowship at the University of Cambridge (1951) under Sir Alexander Todd.
- ❖ He shared the 1968 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine with Marshall W. Nirenberg and Robert W. Holley.
- ❖ The Indian government awarded Khorana the Padma Vibhushan in 1969.

DECIPHERED DNA & WROTE  
THE DICTIONARY FOR OUR  
GENETIC LANGUAGE.



**HARGOBIND KHORANA**

INDIAN - AMERICAN BIOCHEMIST  
9 JANUARY 1922 - 9 NOVEMBER 2011



### **Author Amar Mitra**

- ❖ Veteran Bengali author Amar Mitra was awarded this year's O.Henry prize for a short story he wrote 45 years back.
- ❖ He bagged the award for his short story titled 'Gaonburo'- a Bengali short fiction.
- ❖ It was translated into English (The Old Man Of Kusumpur) earlier.
- ❖ The translated work was published in an American magazine in 2020.

- ❖ Mitra was awarded the Sahitya Academy award in 2006.



## SPORTS

### Thailand Open International Boxing Tournament 2022

- ❖ The 15-member Indian boxing contingents ended their campaign at the Thailand Open International Boxing Tournament 2022 in Phuket with 10 medals.
- ❖ It includes three golds, four silvers, and three bronze.

#### Gold

1. Govind Sahani (48kg),
2. Ananta Pralhad Chopde (54kg)
3. Sumit (75kg)

#### Silver

1. Amit Panghal (52kg)
2. Monika (48kg),
3. Varinder Singh (60kg)
4. Ashish Kumar (81kg)

#### Bronze

1. Manisha (57kg),
2. Pooja (69kg)
3. Bhagyabati Kachari (75kg)

