

April - 14

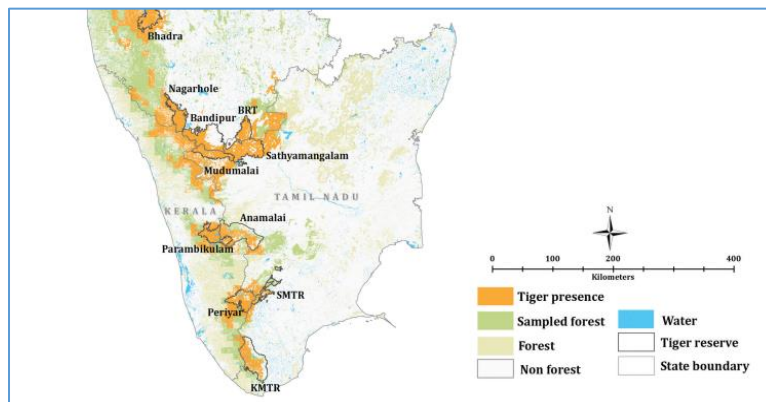
## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Police Academy at Vandalur has won the Union Home Minister's trophy for the best institute in India for training Sub-Inspectors.

## TAMIL NADU

### Local extinction of tiger populations

- ❖ The latest tiger census summary report was prepared by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) and Wildlife Institute of India.
- ❖ This report claimed local extinctions of tiger population in Kanniyakumari and Srivilliputhur.
- ❖ Srivilliputhur is part of the newly-formed Srivilliputhur-Megamalai Tiger Reserve (SMTR) in the State.
- ❖ In 2020, four tigers were captured in camera traps.
- ❖ In February 2023 also there was direct evidence of tiger presence in Rajapalayam range.

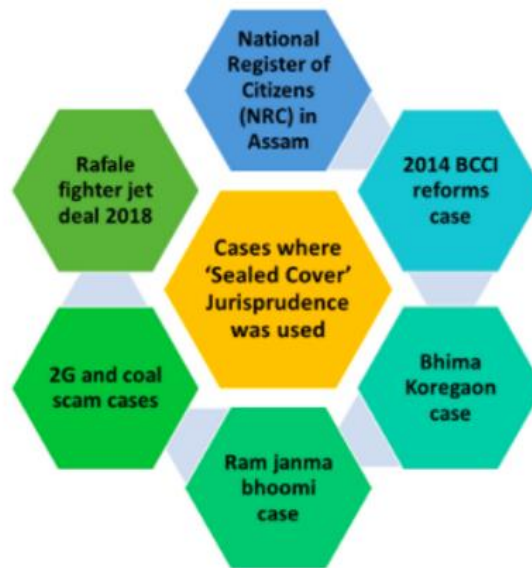


## NATIONAL

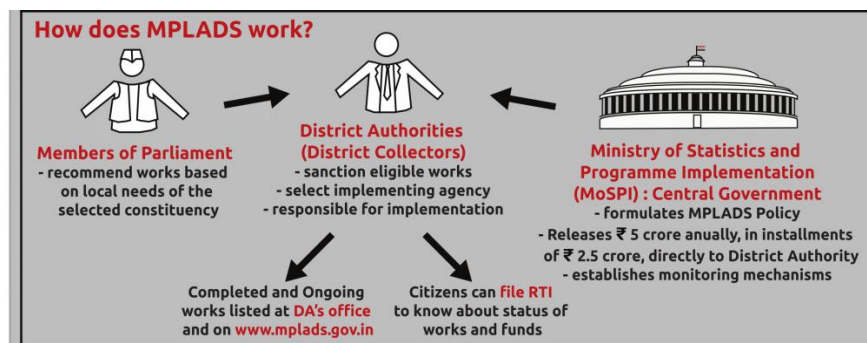
### SC on Sealed cover jurisprudence

- ❖ A Bench led by Chief Justice of India (CJI) said it would not accept a “confidential” submission from the Centre.
- ❖ This is held during on the disbursement of arrears to retired defence personnel under the One Rank One Pension (OROP) scheme.

- ❖ The CJJ has repeatedly underlined the need for transparency in the functioning of the court.
- ❖ Sealed cover jurisprudence is the practice of seeking and accepting information from government agencies in sealed envelopes that can only be perused by judges.
- ❖ It has been followed by the Supreme Court in the past, and sometimes lower courts as well.
- ❖ This can happen in broadly two kinds of cases
  - when the information is connected to an ongoing investigation and,
  - when the information is personal or confidential in nature.



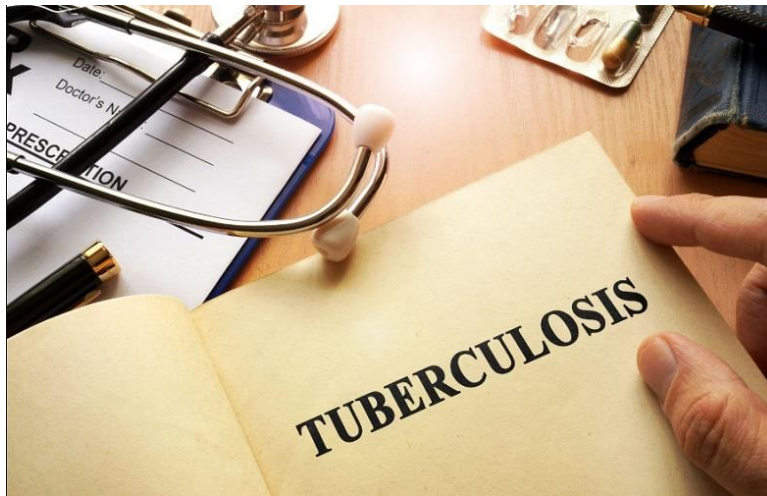
### Use of MPLADS Funds in FY23



- ❖ Gujarat had the highest utilization to released fund ratio of Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) funds in the fiscal year 2022-23.

- ❖ Rs. 66 crores were allocated to the Gujarat, but it utilized Rs. 95.77 crore, or 145.11%.
- ❖ Other major states with the greatest utilisation to released fund ratios are Jharkhand (128.45%), Karnataka (127.76%), Kerala (122.33%), West Bengal (113.54%), and Tamil Nadu (112.86%).
- ❖ The MPLAD Scheme is a Central Sector Scheme and it is fully funded by the Government of India.
- ❖ This Scheme was announced on December 23, 1993.

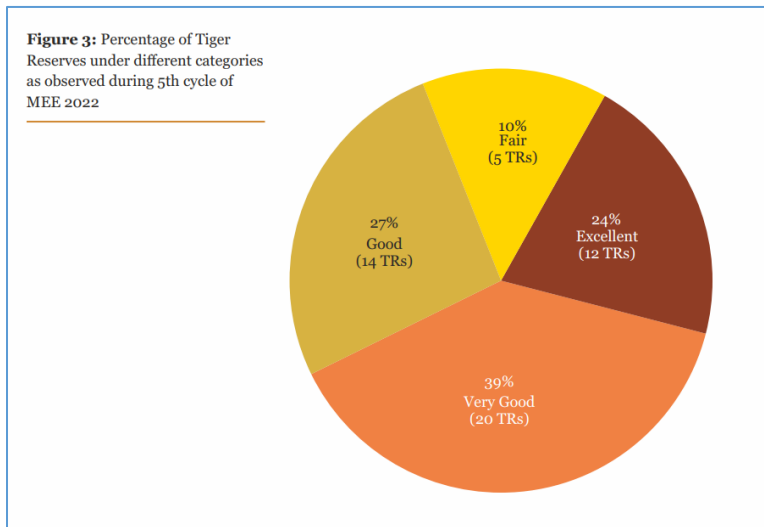
### **Country-level model for estimating TB cases**



- ❖ India has become the first country in the world to develop a sophisticated mathematical model to track the spread of tuberculosis (TB) cases.
- ❖ It is based on the natural history of the disease, individual cases of infection, healthcare-seeking behaviour, missed or correct diagnosis, treatment coverage, and outcome.
- ❖ According to WHO estimates, the TB incidence rate (per 10,000) in India in 2021 was 210.
- ❖ Using the Indian mathematical model, it was estimated to be 196 in 2022.
- ❖ The WHO estimated that the TB incidence absolute number to be 29.50 lakh in 2021.
- ❖ The Indian model suggested it was 27.70 lakh in 2022.
- ❖ According to WHO, the TB mortality rate (per 10,000) in 2021 was estimated to be 35, which reduced to 23 in 2022 as per the Indian model.
- ❖ WHO's TB mortality absolute numbers were estimated to be 4.94 lakh in 2021.
- ❖ The Indian model suggested it was 3.20 lakh in 2022.

- ❖ In 2022, a total of 23,58,664 patients were diagnosed with drug-susceptible TB (DSTB).
- ❖ The treatment initiation rate among the notified cases for 2022 was 95.5 per cent.
- ❖ The highest case notification rate among States was seen in Delhi (546 per lakh population).
- ❖ The lowest among States was seen in Kerala (67 per lakh population).

### 5<sup>th</sup> cycle of Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE)



- ❖ The government has been using the MEE to assess tiger reserves across the country since its inception in 2006.
- ❖ The Periyar Tiger Reserve (PTR) in Kerala was once again adjudged the best managed tiger reserve in the country.
- ❖ Satpura (Madhya Pradesh) and Bandipur (Karnataka) came second, while Nagarhole (Karnataka) was ranked third in the 2022 cycle of Evaluation.
- ❖ 53 Tiger Reserves have been notified till now.
- ❖ Of these 53 tiger reserves, only 51 were evaluated.
- ❖ Two newly declared tiger reserves, Ramgarh Vishdhari and Ranipur, have not been included in the current cycle of MEE.

### 33 new GI registrations

- ❖ India has reached the highest-ever GI registrations in 2022-23 by completing 33 new GI registrations on March 31.
- ❖ Among them, 10 belonged to UP, including two from Varanasi.



- ❖ With the new addition of 10 goods, UP has 45 GI goods.
- ❖ Out of these, 20 belong to the Varanasi region.
- ❖ Currently, the GI Registry has granted GI tags to 441 Indian products and 34 foreign goods.
- ❖ The Geographical Indications Registry is located in Chennai.

SL No	State	Products	Products	
1	Madhya Pradesh	Agriculture	Rewa Sunderja Mango	
2	Ladakh	Handicraft	Ladakh Shingskos (Wood Carving)	
3	Chhattisgarh	Agriculture	Nagri Dubraj (rice)	
4	Bihar	Agriculture	Marcha Rice (Mircha Rice)	
5	Tamil Nadu	Food Stuffs	Manapparai murukku	
6		Agriculture	Cumbum panneer thratchai (grapes)	
7		Natural Goods	Marthandam honey	
8		Food Stuffs	Ooty varkey	
9		Handicraft	Manamadurai pottery	
10		Food Stuffs	Salem sago (javvarisi)	
11		Agriculture	Authoor vetrilai	
12		Textiles	Negamam cotton saree	
13		Handicraft	Myladi stone carvings	
14		Handicraft	Thaikkal Rattan craft	
15		Agriculture	Sholavandan Vetrilai	
16		Uttar Pradesh	Agriculture	Banaras Pan (Betel Leaf)
17			Agriculture	Banaras Langda Aam (Mango)
18			Agriculture	Ramnagar Bhanta (Brinjal)
19			Agriculture	Adamchini Chawal (Rice)
20	Handicraft		Aligarh Tala	
21	Handicraft		Bakhira Brassware	
22	Handicraft		Banda Shazar Patthar Craft	
23	Handicraft		Nagina Wood Craft	
24	Food Stuffs		Hathras Hing	
25	Agriculture		Pratapgarh Aonla	
26	Jammu & Kashmir	Handicraft	Basohli painting	
27		Textiles	Basohli Pashmina Woolen Products	
28		Handicraft	Rajouri Chikri wood craft	
29		Agriculture	Bhaderwah rajmash	
30		Agriculture	Mushqbudji Rice	
31		Food Stuffs	Udhampur Kaladi (Dairy Product)	
32		Agriculture	Ramban Sulai Honey	
33		Agriculture	Ramban Anardana	

## INTERNATIONAL

### COPE INDIA Exercise

- ❖ The Air Forces of India and the U.S. are set to conduct the Cope India exercise at the Kalaikunda airbase in West Bengal.

- ❖ It is a bilateral exercise between the air forces of the two countries.
- ❖ Japan will be participated as an observer.
- ❖ It will further enhance operational capability and interoperability between the two-air force.



### **First-Ever Anti-Spyware Declaration**



- ❖ The US and 10 other nations issued the first-ever significant anti-spyware declaration.
- ❖ They recognise the threat posed by the misuse of commercial spyware and the need for strict domestic and international controls on the proliferation and use of such technology.

- ❖ Recently, US President Joe Biden issued an executive order to prohibiting the US federal government from using spyware.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Rare-earth elements (REEs) deposits



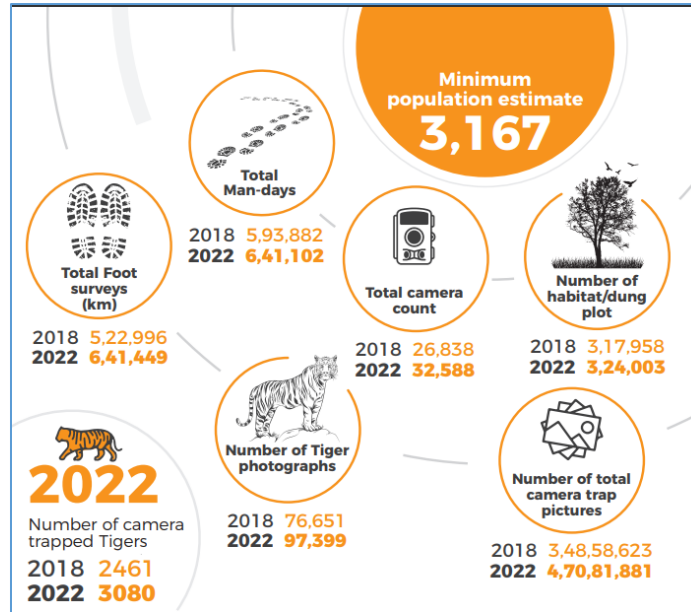
- ❖ Scientists at the National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), Hyderabad discovered light rare earth elements (REE) in Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ These elements are key components in many electronic devices and whose industrial applications span sectors like imaging, aerospace, and defence.
- ❖ Rare earths are 15 elements referred in the lanthanide and Actinide series of the periodic table of elements, together with scandium and yttrium.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Fifth cycle of the All-India Tiger Estimation – 2022

- ❖ The tiger census covered forested habitats in 20 states of India.
- ❖ The number of tigers in India was 3,167 in 2022.
- ❖ It was raised from 2,967 in 2018.
- ❖ The growth, however, slowed to 6.7 per cent in these four years from around 33 per cent during 2014-2018.
- ❖ The highest number (1,161) of tigers were photographed in the Central Indian Highlands and Eastern Ghats in 2022.

- ❖ Tiger occupancy in Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Telangana showed a decline.
- ❖ Tiger occupancy in the Western Ghats declined to 824.



## REPORTS AND INDICES

### Top ten Busiest airport

BUZZING WITH ACTIVITY				
Airport	Passengers in 2022 (in cr)	2022 rank	2021 rank	2019 rank
Atlanta	9.4	1	1	1
Dallas Fort Worth	7.3	2	2	10
Denver	6.9	3	3	16
Chicago	6.8	4	4	6
Dubai	6.6	5	27	4
Los Angeles	6.5	6	5	3
Istanbul	6.4	7	14	28
London Heathrow	6.2	8	54	7
<b>Delhi IGIA</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>17</b>
Paris CDG	5.7	10	31	9

(Source: Airports Council International; passengers are domestic+international)



- ❖ Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport has been ranked as the ninth busiest airport in the world in 2022.
- ❖ This airport is handling 59.5 million passengers annually.
- ❖ The report was published by Airports Council International (ACI) World.
- ❖ It is a global organisation which measures and assesses airport standards.
- ❖ The top 10 airports last year, five were in the US and one each in the Gulf, UK, Europe, South and West Asia.
- ❖ Delhi was the only Asian hub to be on the list.

## STATES

### Best state in e-procurement



- ❖ Tripura has been awarded as the best performing state among north-eastern states in the implementation of e-procurement.
- ❖ To maintain transparency, the state has made it mandatory to go for e-procurement if the value of any government purchase or contract goes beyond Rs. 25,000.
- ❖ The total value of payments made through e-procurement and Government eMarketplace (GeM) portals increased from Rs 4,451 crore in 2020-21 to Rs 7441 crore in 2021-22.

### Whistling Village

- ❖ Rajya Sabha MP Rakesh Sinha presented his development report on Kongthong village in Meghalaya.
- ❖ Kongthong is located in the East Khasi Hills in Meghalaya.

- ❖ It is popular as the 'whistling village' due to its unique tradition of 'Jingrwai Lawbei'.
- ❖ When a child is born, the mother comes up with a unique tune for the baby.
- ❖ The tune becomes their name.
- ❖ Only the mothers can give these unique names to their children.
- ❖ Kongthong people belong to the Seng Khasi Tribe and speak Khasi language.
- ❖ According to Census 2011, the village has a population of 567.
- ❖ Out of 567, 275 are males and 275 are females, and a literacy rate of 55%.



### **India's First solar-powered tourist boat**



- ❖ Kerala Shipping and Inland Navigation Corporation (KSINC) launched India's First solar-powered tourist vessel Sooryamshu.

- ❖ This vessel can carry up to 100 passengers.
- ❖ It will operate in the Marine Drive-Kadamakudy corridor and later 10 km into the sea.

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

### **100 Most Influential Women in US Finance**

- ❖ Five Indian-American women have made it to the list of 100 Most Influential Women in US Finance.
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- ❖ Indian-origin Anu Aiyengar from J.P. Morgan, Ariel Investment's Rupal J. Bhansali, Sonal Desai of Franklin Templeton, Goldman Sach's Meena Flynn and Savita Subramanian from Bank of America are featured in the list.

