

April - 17

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Union Minister G Kishan Reddy has inaugurated the three-day North-East festival called 'Ishan Manthan' at the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts in New Delhi.
 - The three-day Ishan Manthan programme will celebrate the rich ethnicity and colours of North East India.
- ❖ India is ready to host the Street Child Cricket World Cup in 2023.
 - This world cup is organized by Street Child United and Save the Children India.
- ❖ The Taliban have outlawed the cultivation of drugs, including opium poppy, across Afghanistan.
 - Afghanistan is the world's biggest opium producer, which accounts for 85 percent of global production.

NATIONAL

First Long-Range Forecast

- ❖ The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a long-range forecast for the southwest monsoon season rainfall during the period June to September.
- ❖ The prediction has stated that rainfall will be normal this year.
- ❖ According to the forecast, the southwest monsoon seasonal rainfall will likely be normal i.e. 96 to 104 percent of the Long Period Average (LPA).

EX KRIPAN SHAKTI



- ❖ The Trishakti Corps conducted EX KRIPAN SHAKTI at Teesta Field Firing Ranges (TFFR) near Siliguri in West Bengal.
- ❖ The exercise was aimed at orchestrating and synergizing the capabilities of the Indian Army and the Central Armed Police Forces to fight an integrated battle.

Exemption of Customs Duty on Cotton Import

- ❖ To reduce the cotton prices, the Indian government has decided to exempt all customs duties on the imports of cotton.
- ❖ This exemption announced by the government will be benefiting the textile chain-fabric, yarn, made-ups, and garments as well as provide relief to the consumers and the textile industry.
- ❖ The removal of 5 percent Agriculture Infrastructure and Development Cess (AIDC) and 5 percent Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on raw cotton has been demanded by the industry.
- ❖ The exemption of the Agriculture Infrastructure development Cess and Customs Duty for import of cotton has been notified by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).

Dornier 228 aircraft



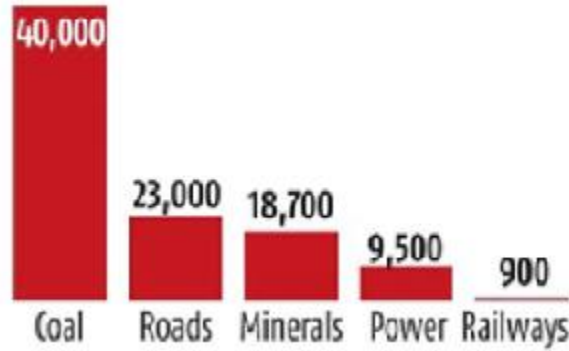
- ❖ Alliance Air's made-in-India Dornier 228 aircraft has taken its first commercial flight on Dibrugarh-Pasighat route
- ❖ Alliance Air became India's first commercial airline to fly Indian-made aircraft for civil operations.

- ❖ Its first flight was between Dibrugarh in Assam and Pasighat in Arunachal Pradesh.

ECONOMY

Asset monetization target for FY22

Key Assets Monetised (in Rs. Crores)



- ❖ According to the evaluation, the central government has exceeded its asset monetization target of 88,000 crores for FY22.
- ❖ It has concluded agreements worth 96,000 crores.
- ❖ Roads, power, coal, and mineral mining are among the industries that have made significant contributions to asset monetization.

Vikas Siri Sampat-1111 scheme

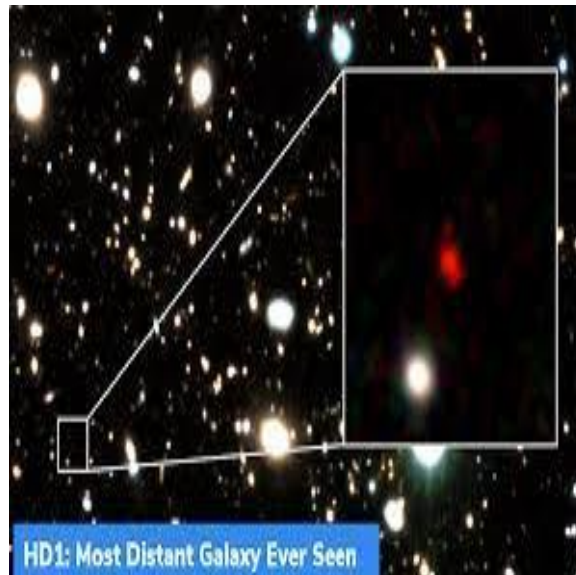


- ❖ A 1,111-day deposit scheme has been introduced by the Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB).
- ❖ Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank is a Dharwad-based regional rural bank.

- ❖ The 1,111-day deposit pays 5.70 percent interest to the general public and 6.20 percent to senior citizens.
- ❖ This scheme allows for a minimum deposit of ten thousand rupees and a maximum deposit of two crore rupees.
- ❖ Canara Bank sponsors the Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank, an Indian Regional Rural Bank.
- ❖ It is owned by the Ministry of Finance of the Government of India.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

HD1 - Most Distant Galaxy Ever Seen



- ❖ A galaxy named HD1 might be the most distant object that has ever been spotted by astronomers.
- ❖ The brightness of this galaxy might be due to an enormous black hole that is at its centre or due to the creation of large primordial stars.
- ❖ The galaxy HD1 was discovered by Fabio Pacucci along with his colleagues at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, Massachusetts of USA.

ENVIRONMENT

Expanding Heat Resilience report

- ❖ The cities and districts of India must increase their efforts to protect the vulnerable during the summer.



- ❖ This is according to a new report titled 'Expanding Heat Resilience'.
- ❖ According to this report, the cities of the country are reeling under heatwaves.
- ❖ In Kerala, and Himachal Pradesh extreme temperatures are being recorded.
- ❖ These states have no history of heatwaves.

Study on Forest Fires

- ❖ A study has found that in the past two decades the intensity and frequency of forest fires, as well as an increase in the number of months in which forest fires occur, have increased.
- ❖ It is released by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW).
- ❖ The study is titled 'Managing Forest Fires in a Changing Climate.'
- ❖ This study found that in the past two decades there has been a ten-fold increase in forest fires.
- ❖ The study has also found that over 62 percent of the states in India are vulnerable to high-intensity forest fires.
- ❖ Significant forest fires have been reported in Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Rajasthan.

STATES

Him Prahari scheme

- ❖ The Government of Uttarakhand is set to implement the 'Him Prahari' Scheme.
- ❖ The Him Prahari scheme is meant for ex-servicemen and youngsters.
- ❖ It is aimed at stopping the migration of people from the state.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Tolkappiyam

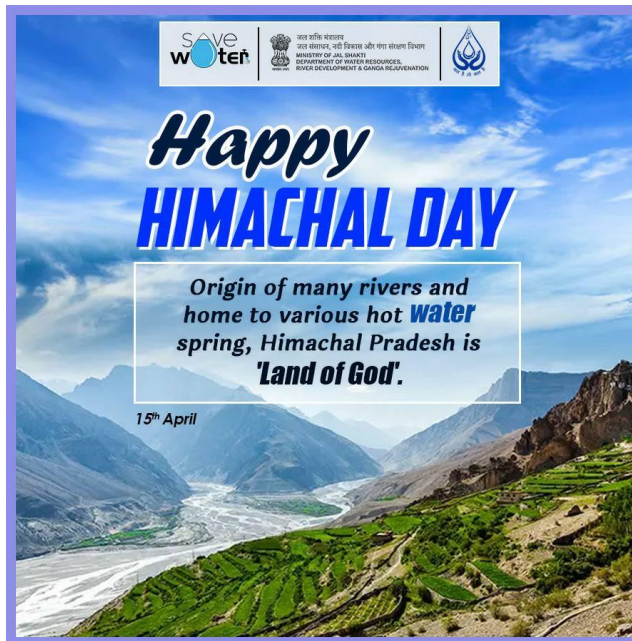
- ❖ The Hindi translation of Tolkappiyam and the Kannada translations of 9 works of Classical Tamil literature were recently issued by the Minister of State for Education.
- ❖ Tamil literature goes back to the Sangam Era, named after the assembly (Sangam) of poets.
- ❖ Tolkappiyam was authored by Tolkappiyar and is considered the earliest Tamil literary work.

- ❖ Though it is a work on Tamil grammar, it also provides insights into the political and socio-economic conditions of the time.



IMPORTANT DAYS

Himachal Day - April 15



- ❖ The state became a full-fledged state on this day.
- ❖ Four districts of Mandi, Chamba, Mahasu, and Sirmour were integrated with over two dozen princely states, leading to the formation of Himachal Pradesh as a Union Territory in 1948.

- ❖ Decades later, in 1971, Himachal Pradesh became the 18th state in India with Shimla as its capital.

World Voice Day - April 16

- ❖ The day is observed to demonstrate the enormous importance of the voice in the daily lives of all people.
- ❖ This year, the theme of the World Voice Day campaign is 'Lift your voice'.



Save the Elephant Day - April 16



- ❖ It is observed to raise awareness about the dangers elephants face and the various difficulties they have to overcome to live.
- ❖ The Day is established by the Thailand-based Elephant Reintroduction Foundation.

