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TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The SBI Funds Management has become the first mutual fund in India to cross the Rs. 5 lakh crore average assets under management (AAUM) mark.
 - It is a joint venture between India's largest lender, State Bank of India, and Europe's largest asset manager, Amundi.
- ❖ MANAS App is a well-being App that stands for Mental Health and Normalcy Augmentation System.
 - It is endorsed as a national program by the Prime Minister's Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC).

NATIONAL

Tribunals Reforms (Rationalization and Conditions of Service) Ordinance, 2021

- ❖ It was prepared by the Ministry of Law and Justice.
- ❖ The President of India has promulgated this ordinance.
- ❖ It dissolves certain existing appellate bodies and transfers their functions (such as adjudication of appeals) to other existing judicial bodies
- ❖ It seeks to empower the Central Government to make rules for qualifications, appointment, term of office, salaries and allowances, resignation, removal and other terms and conditions of service of Members of Tribunals.
- ❖ It provides that the Chairperson and Members of the Tribunals will be appointed by the Central Government on the recommendation of a Search-cum-Selection Committee.
- ❖ It also provides the composition of the Committee, to be headed by the Chief Justice of India or a Judge of Supreme Court nominated by him.
- ❖ Tenure: Chairperson of a Tribunal shall hold office for a term of 4 years or till he attains the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier.
- ❖ Other Members of a Tribunal shall hold office for a term of 4 years or till he attains the age of 67 years, whichever is earlier.
- ❖ The Ordinance omits following Tribunals/ Appellate Authorities from the purview of Finance Act, 2017
 - Airport Appellate Tribunal established under the Airport Authority of India Act, 1994.

- Appellate Board established under the Trade Marks Act, 1999.
- Authority for Advance Ruling established under the Income Tax Act, 1961.
- Film Certification Appellate Tribunal established under the Cinematograph Act, 1952.

Transfer of functions of key appellate bodies as proposed under the Ordinance		
Acts	Appellate body	Proposed entity
The Cinematograph Act, 1952	Appellate Tribunal	High Court
The Trade Marks Act, 1999	Appellate Board	High Court
The Copyright Act, 1957	Appellate Board	Commercial Court or the Commercial Division of a High Court*
The Customs Act, 1962	Authority for Advance Rulings	High Court
The Patents Act, 1970	Appellate Board	High Court
The Airports Authority of India Act, 1994	Airport Appellate Tribunal	Central government, for disputes arising from the disposal of properties left on airport premises by unauthorised occupants. High Court, for appeals against orders of an eviction officer.

- ❖ In some of the tribunals the public at large is not litigant.
- ❖ By the Finance Act, 2017, seven tribunals were abolished or merged based on functional similarity and their total number was reduced to 19 from 26.

Tribunals

- ❖ Tribunal is a quasi-judicial institution.
- ❖ It is set up to deal with problems such as resolving administrative or tax-related disputes.
- ❖ They were not originally a part of the Constitution.
- ❖ The 42nd Amendment Act introduced these provisions in accordance with the recommendations of the Swaran Singh Committee.

- ❖ The Amendment introduced Part XIV-A to the Constitution, which deals with 'Tribunals' and contains two articles 323A and 323B.

INTERNATIONAL

3000-year-Old City

- ❖ Egypt found 3,000-Year-Old "Lost" City near its Luxor region.
- ❖ It is located on the West bank of the Nile River.
- ❖ It was connected with the god Aton and King Amenhotep III.
- ❖ It is the "largest" ancient city ever found in Egypt, dating to a golden age of the pharaohs 3,000 years ago.
- ❖ Formally named as Aten, the city is more commonly dubbed the 'Lost Golden City'.



ECONOMY

Special Drawing Rights

- ❖ The G20 Finance Ministers recently nodded to the International Monetary Fund to provide fresh Special Drawing Rights to its member countries.
- ❖ The IMF has been permitted to provide SDR of worth 650 million USD to the member countries.

Special Drawing Rights

- ❖ It is an international reserve asset.



- ❖ It was created by the IMF in 1969 to supplement the official reserves of its member countries.
- ❖ The value of Special Drawing Rights is based on five currencies of the world.
- ❖ They are US dollars, Japanese Yen, Chinese Renminbi, British pound sterling and Euro.
- ❖ The value of SDR is calculated every day.
- ❖ The voting power of a member country in IMF is based on the quota that is measured in terms of SDR.
- ❖ It is primarily based on the economic position of a country.

103rd Meeting of the Plenary Development Committee

- ❖ Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman participated in this meeting from India.
- ❖ She represented India, Bangladesh, Bhutan & Srilanka in this meeting.
- ❖ She shared the information that the Government has announced Atma Nirbhar Packages of Rs 27.1 trillion, amounting to more than 13% of the GDP.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Artemis Programme

- ❖ The National Aeronautics and Space Administration programme (NASA) will land the first person of colour on the moon as a part of its Artemis Programme.
- ❖ In addition, NASA will also land first woman on the moon under the programme.
- ❖ Artemis Programme is an international human space flight programme
- ❖ The main objective of the programme is to launch a manned mission to the south pole region of the moon by 2024.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Transgender Welfare Day – April 15

- ❖ Tamil Nadu established the country's first Welfare Board for transgender persons under the DMK government in 2008.
- ❖ In 2006, then Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi replaced the former title 'aravani' and replaced it with the more dignified 'Thirunangai'.
- ❖ A Welfare Board was set up with this name under the Social Welfare Department.



- ❖ In April 15th, 2014, the Supreme Court in its judgment in the National Legal Services Authority v. Union of India case, recognised the transgender community as ‘third gender’.
- ❖ In 2019 the AIADMK-led government replaced the word ‘thirunangai’ with the title ‘moondram paalinathavar’ (those belonging to the ‘third gender’).



Himachal Day - April 15

- ❖ Himachal means “Snow covered area”.
- ❖ On April 15, 1948, Himachal Pradesh was formed as the province to be administered Chief Commissioner.
- ❖ Later, it was made a “C” category state on January 25, 1950.
- ❖ In 1956, it was declared as a Union Territory.
- ❖ Later in 1970, Parliament passed the Himachal Pradesh Act.
- ❖ Since then, Himachal Pradesh came into existence as a full-fledged state.
- ❖ The official recognition of Himachal Pradesh as a state was provided on January 25, 1971.

World Voice Day (WVD) – April 16

- ❖ It is a worldwide annual event devoted to the celebration of the phenomenon of voice.



- ❖ It started small with a tiny celebration in Brazil in 1999.
- ❖ The theme for this year is One World Many Voices.

