



April - 25

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ IIT Madras will set up its first international campus in Zanzibar, Tanzania.
- ❖ A lion from Bannerghatta Biological Park of Bengaluru has been brought to the Arignar Anna Zoological Park (AAZP) in Vandalur, Chennai as part of an exchange programme.
- ❖ Veteran film historian, columnist and writer Madabhushi Rangadorai, popularly known by his pen name-Randor Guy passed away recently at Chennai.
- ❖ UN Spanish Language Day is observed on April 23 to mark the death anniversary of the great genius of Spanish letters, Miguel de Cervantes.

TAMIL NADU

Relaxation of work hour norms Bill

65A's POWER TO EXEMPT

► The amendment empowers State to exempt any factory or group or class or description of factories from any or all of the provisions of Sections 51, 52, 54, 55, 56 or 59 of the Factories Act, 1948 or the rules made thereunder

MAJOR SECTIONS OF THE ACT

SECTION 51: Deals with weekly working hours; capping the same to 48 hours

SECTION 52: Deals with weekly holidays; saying the first day of the week

SECTION 54: Deals with daily working hours; i.e. no worker shall be required or allowed to work for more than nine hours in any day

SECTION 55: Intervals for rest; no worker is required or allowed to work more than five hours before an interval of rest of at least half an hour

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Assembly passed an amendment to the Factories Act, 1948.
- ❖ It aims to enable exemption to industries from the present norms on maximum work hours, holidays and overtime wages as defined in the Act.

- ❖ Workers can now choose to work for 12-hour daily shifts and they will be entitled to four-day work week, with three days off.
- ❖ The bill now empowers the state government to exempt any factory or group or group of factories from any or all of the provisions of the Factories Act, 1948, which entail rules related to working hour limits.
- ❖ Some sections are: Sections 51 (weekly hours), 52 (weekly holidays), 54 (daily hours), 55 (intervals of rest), 56 (spread over) or 59 (prohibition of overlapping shifts).

Rare gold plate with inscription



- ❖ A golden plate with Thirugnanasambandar song inscribes of Bhakti literature has been found in the Arulmigu Edaganathaswarar temple in Thiruvudagam, Madurai.
- ❖ This is located on the banks of river Vaigai in Madurai district.
- ❖ It is one of the first plates with an ancient inscription to be found in gold.

Danish fort in Tharangambadi



- ❖ The Tourism Department has sanctioned ₹3 crore to carry out various infrastructure development works at the Danish Fort in Tharangambadi.
- ❖ Danish Fort, also referred to as Fort Dansborg, was built in 1620 at the eastern coastal village of Tharangambadi.
- ❖ It is also served as a base for Danish settlement in the region and was later sold to the British.

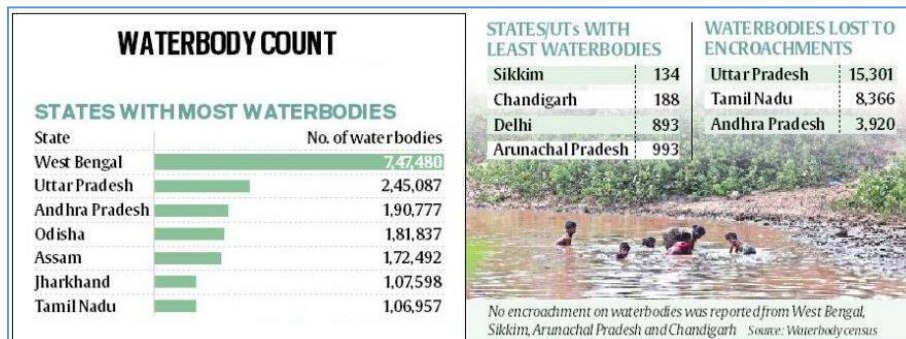
NATIONAL

Army Commanders' Conference

- ❖ The first edition of the biannual Army Commanders' Conference (ACC) for 2023 is held recently.
- ❖ For the first time, this Conference was conducted in hybrid format.
- ❖ It brainstormed the current and emerging security scenario apart from reviewing operational preparedness of the force.



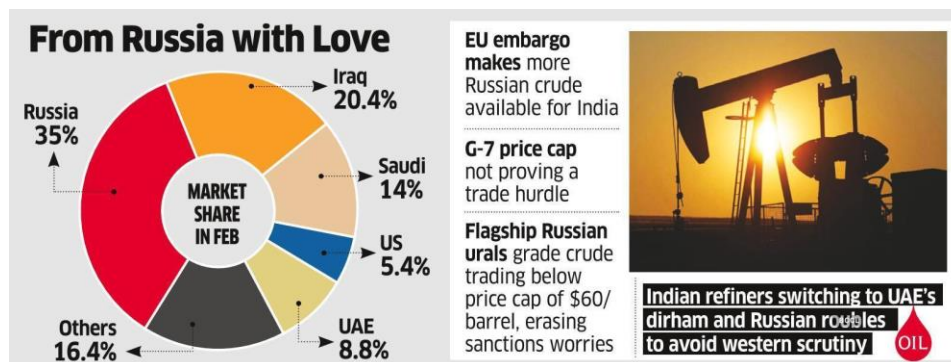
Census of Water bodies in India



- ❖ The Ministry of Jal Shakti released a report of the first-ever water body census recently.
- ❖ It was conducted in 2018-19, the census is also the first time that such an exercise has been conducted in the country.
- ❖ It is a database of water bodies, which provides information about ponds, tanks, lakes and reservoirs in India.
- ❖ India has 24.24 lakh water bodies like ponds, tanks, and lakes.
- ❖ 97.1% (23,55,055) water bodies are in rural areas and only 2.9% (69,485) are in urban areas.
- ❖ West Bengal is accounting the most (7.47 lakh) and Sikkim the least (134).
- ❖ The top five states in terms of a number of water bodies are West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Assam.
- ❖ They constitute around 63 per cent of the total water bodies in the country.
- ❖ The top five States in terms of the number of water bodies in urban areas are West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh and Tripura.
- ❖ In terms of the number of water bodies in rural areas, top five States are West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Assam.
- ❖ 59.5 per cent of water bodies are ponds, followed by tanks (15.7 per cent), reservoirs (12.1 per cent), Water conservation schemes/percolation tanks/check dams (9.3 per cent), lakes (0.9 per cent) and others (2.5 per cent).
- ❖ It was found that 55.2 per cent of water bodies are owned by private entities whereas 44.8 per cent of water bodies are in the domain of public ownership.

ECONOMY

Biggest Oil Supplier to India



- ❖ Russia was the largest exporter of crude oil to India by value in February in spite of the western price cap of \$60 per barrel.

- ❖ Crude imports from Russia in February stood at \$3.35 billion.
- ❖ It is followed by Saudi Arabia at \$2.30 billion and Iraq \$2.03 billion.
- ❖ Between April and February Indian import of Russian oil jumped to \$27 billion.
- ❖ Moscow became the second largest crude exporter to New Delhi in FY23.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

PSLV-C55/TeLEOS-2 Mission



NSIL
एनसिल

PSLV-C55/TeLEOS-2 MISSION

PSLV-C55 is a Dedicated Commercial PSLV mission of NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), for the international satellite customer from Singapore. In this mission, TeLEOS-2 a Synthetic Aperture Radar satellite will be the primary satellite and Lumelite-4 an Technology Demonstration nano-satellite will be co-passenger satellite.

This is the 57th flight of PSLV and 16th mission using the PSLV Core Alone configuration (PSLV-CA).

PSLV-C55 adopted 'Integrate, Transfer and Launch (ITL)' concept using PSLV Integration Facility (PIF).

TeLEOS-2

The TeLEOS-2 satellite is developed under a partnership between DSTA (representing the Government of Singapore) and ST Engineering. Once deployed and operational, it will be used to support the satellite imagery requirements of various agencies within the Government of Singapore.

TeLEOS-2 carries a Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) payload. TeLEOS-2 will be able to provide all-weather day and night coverage, and capable of imaging at 1m full-polarimetric resolution.

LUMELITE-4

The LUMELITE-4 satellite is co-developed by the Institute for Infocomm Research (I2R) of A*STAR and Satellite Technology and Research Centre (STAR) of the National University of Singapore. LUMELITE-4 is an advanced 12U satellite developed for the technological demonstration of the High-Performance Space-borne VHF Data Exchange System (VDES). Using the VDES communication payload developed by I2R and STAR's scalable satellite bus platform, it aims to augment Singapore's e-navigation maritime safety and benefit the global shipping community.

Non-separating POEM-2 payloads:

1. ARIS-2
2. PILOT
3. ARKA200
4. Starberry
5. DSOL
6. DSOD-3U
7. DSOD-6U

57th flight of PSLV

16th flight of PSLV-CA variant

- ❖ ISRO successfully launched its PSLV-C55/TeLEOS-2 mission, sending two Singapore-made satellites into the space.
- ❖ Of the two satellites, TeLEOS-2 is the primary one, and Lumelite-4, the 'co-passenger.'
- ❖ The mission also marks the 57th flight of the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV).

ENVIRONMENT

Helopeltis Theivora

- ❖ The tea mosquito bug (Helopeltis Theivora) is spreading rapidly and affecting tea production in both low and high-elevation plantations in Southern India
- ❖ It is a major sucking pest of tea in most tea-producing countries.

- ❖ The nymphs and adults of the TMB suck the sap from tender leaves, buds and young shoots, which results in heavy crop losses.
- ❖ India has the second largest area under tea in the world with around 6.37 lakhs hectares.
- ❖ The tea area in North India is 5.36 lakhs hectares while South India has an area of 1.01 lakh hectares.



STATES

Hun-Thadou cultural festival



- ❖ The 5th edition of HUN - a Thadou Cultural Festival 2023 held at Kangpokpi district of Manipur.
- ❖ HUN festival is an annual cultural festival and a civilising act of the Thadou community of Manipur.

- ❖ It is celebrated at the arrival of the new year according to the Thadou community.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Creativity and Innovation Day - April 21

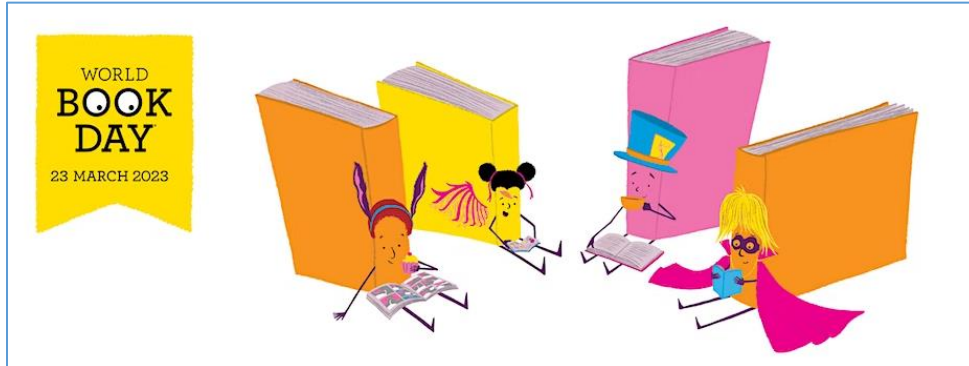


- ❖ The day promotes the importance of creativity and innovation in all aspects of human life.
- ❖ The first Day was celebrated in 2002 at Canada and in 2005, the United Nations recognised this day.
- ❖ April 21 was the day when Leonardo da Vinci, the great Italian artist and inventor, was born.

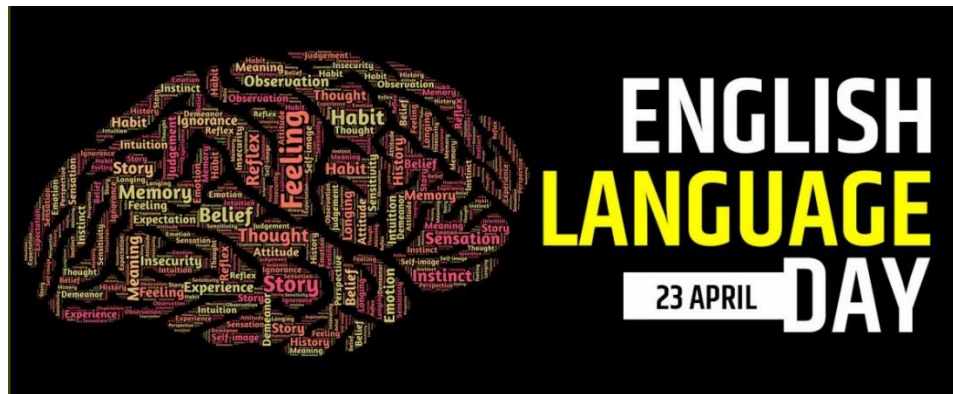
World Book Day - April 23

- ❖ The day is observed globally to promote the love for reading, writing, publishing, and copyright.
- ❖ It is also known as world Book and Copyright Day or International Day of the Book.
- ❖ The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization organized the first World Book Day on April 23, 1995.

- ❖ Several great writers have their birth anniversary and death anniversary on this date including William Shakespeare, Garcilaso de la Vega, and Miguel de Cervantes.
- ❖ The theme for 2023 is 'Indigenous Languages.'



UN English Day - April 23



- ❖ This day commemorates the birth and death anniversary of the English playwright and poet William Shakespeare.
- ❖ It aims to promote multilingualism and cultural diversity, as well as to celebrate the importance of the English language in the world.
- ❖ It was established first time by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2010.

