

April - 25

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ 17-year-old D Gukesh makes history by winning the Candidates Chess Tournament, becoming the youngest challenger to the world title.
- ❖ Ananth Technologies Founder Pavuluri Subba Rao has been conferred with the 'Aryabhata Award' instituted by the Aeronautical Society of India (ASI).
  - He received the award recognition of Rao's "tremendous lifetime contribution to the promotion of astronautics in India."
- ❖ Meta introduced its most capable Large Language Model (LLM), the Meta Llama 3.
- ❖ Nepal hosted its first International Rainbow Tourism Conference in Kathmandu, to promote the country as a safe and inclusive destination for LGBT tourists.
- ❖ April 24 is observed globally as the International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace.
- ❖ International Delegate's Day is observed globally on April 25 to raise awareness of the role of the representatives and delegates of the Member States to the United Nations.
  - On 25 April, 1945, delegates from fifty countries came together for the first time in San Francisco.

## TAMIL NADU

### Phase II of Indo-Singapore project



- ❖ A collaboration was made between the Tamil Nadu's Directorate of Public Health (DPH) and Preventive Medicine with Singapore Health Services and Singapore International Foundation (SIF).

- ❖ It aims to impart training on combined obstetric resuscitation emergencies and enhancing maternal and child health (EMCH) services.
- ❖ With Phase One of the project complete and Phase Two now underway.
- ❖ As a result, Tamil Nadu's MMR fell to 52 per one lakh live births during 2022-2023, after the figure had surged to 90 during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ❖ Under the next two years of the second phase, the EMCH project will train over 140 Maternal and Child Health (MCH) professionals in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ During Phase One, they successfully trained more than 1,000 local Maternal and Child Health (MCH) professionals in the State.

## NATIONAL

### Shompen Tribes vote casting



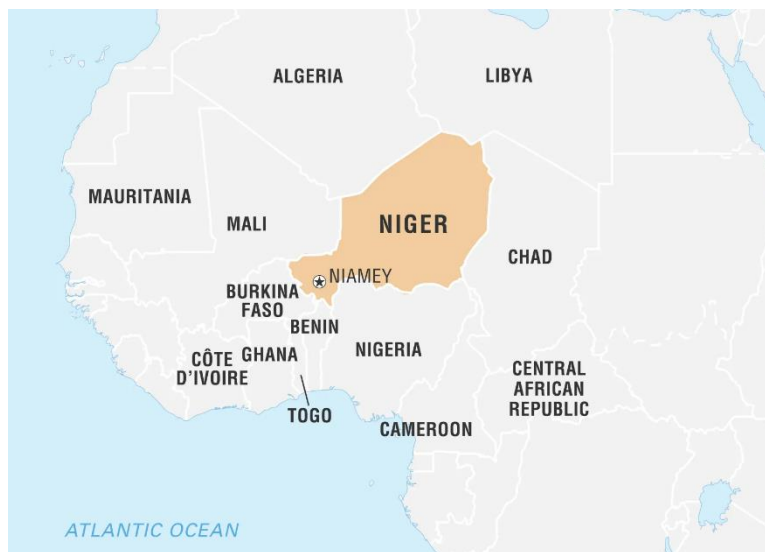
- ❖ For the first time, 7 members of the Shompen, took part in the election process by casting their votes in the Andaman and Nicobar Lok Sabha constituency.
- ❖ Shompen, one of the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in the country, reside in the dense tropical rain forests of the Great Nicobar Island.
- ❖ The estimated population of Shompen was 229 as per the 2011 Census data.

- ❖ According to the provisional figures made available, the voter turnout was 63.99%.
- ❖ In 2019, the voter turnout was 65.09%

## INTERNATIONAL

### US Troops Withdrawal from Niger

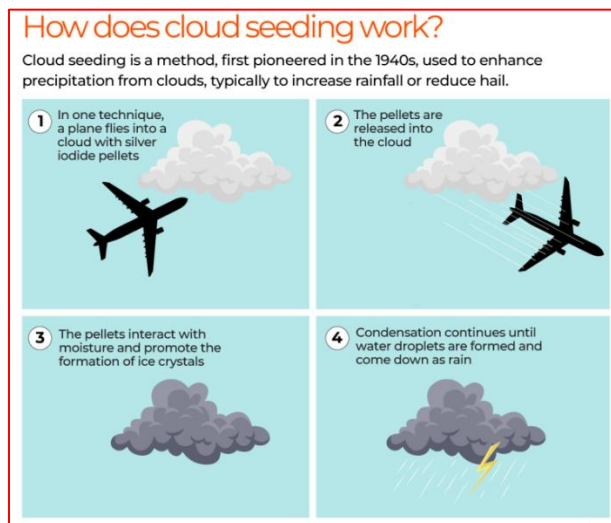
- ❖ The United States has agreed to withdraw the US troops from the West African country Niger.
- ❖ Over 1,000 US troops were stationed in Niger last year, utilising two bases.
- ❖ Since 2018, the base has been used to target Islamic State militants and Jama'at Nusrat al-Islam wal Muslimeen, an al Qaeda affiliate, in the Sahel region.
- ❖ Last year, Niger's army seized power in a coup.
- ❖ Until the coup, Niger had remained a key security partner of the United States and France.
- ❖ The new governments, like that of neighbouring Mali and Burkina Faso, have detached military ties with Western nations like the US and France.
- ❖ They have also withdrawn from the regional economic bloc ECOWAS and pursued closer relations with Russia.



### Dubai Flood 2024

- ❖ United Arab Emirates witnessed the heaviest rainfall in 75 years.

- ❖ Some areas recording more than 250 mm (around 10 inches) of precipitation in fewer than 24 hours.
- ❖ It was the largest ever in a 24-hour period since records started in 1949.
- ❖ Experts and officials have contradicted the speculations that cloud seeding caused the rainfall.
- ❖ Cloud seeding is a type of weather modification process that normally tries to increase the rain or snow.
- ❖ Cloud seeding uses planes and ground-based cannons to shoot particles into clouds making more nuclei, attracting moisture.
- ❖ Once enough droplets merge, they become heavy and fall to Earth as rain or snow.
- ❖ Silver iodide can potentially serve the same function.
- ❖ Other substances, such as dry ice, may also be used for similar purposes.
- ❖ The method can't create water from a clear sky – particles must be shot into a cloud that already holds moisture to get it to fall, or to fall more than it otherwise would naturally.
- ❖ About 50 countries including the US, China, Australia, UAE, Germany, India, Malaysia, Russia and Mexico employ cloud seeding.

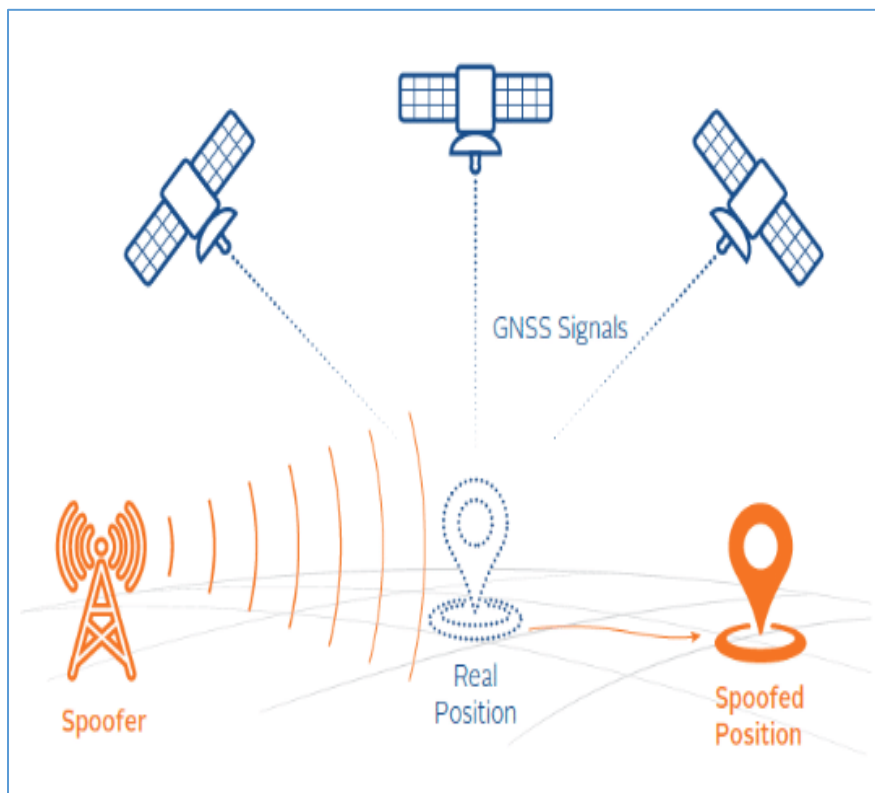


## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### GPS Spoofing – Israel

- ❖ Ahead of Iran's first-ever direct attack on Israel, Israeli intelligence jammed GPS navigation system signals within their territory to confuse Tehran's missile targeting teams.

- ❖ Almost all of the more than 300 drones and ballistic and cruise missiles Iran launched at Israel failed to hit their targets.
- ❖ Around 99 per cent of the projectiles being downed as Israel, the US, the United Kingdom (UK) and Jordan intercepted them before they got to Israel.
- ❖ Generally, the GPS jamming or ‘spoofing’ are used in warfare to disrupt communications and GPS receptions in combat zones or during military operations.
- ❖ They can disrupt communications, causing signal losses or disturbances, but also disrupt enemies’ navigation systems and precision-guided weapons.
- ❖ The U.S. and other Western countries have conducted large-scale spoofing exercises before, but not in times of war.



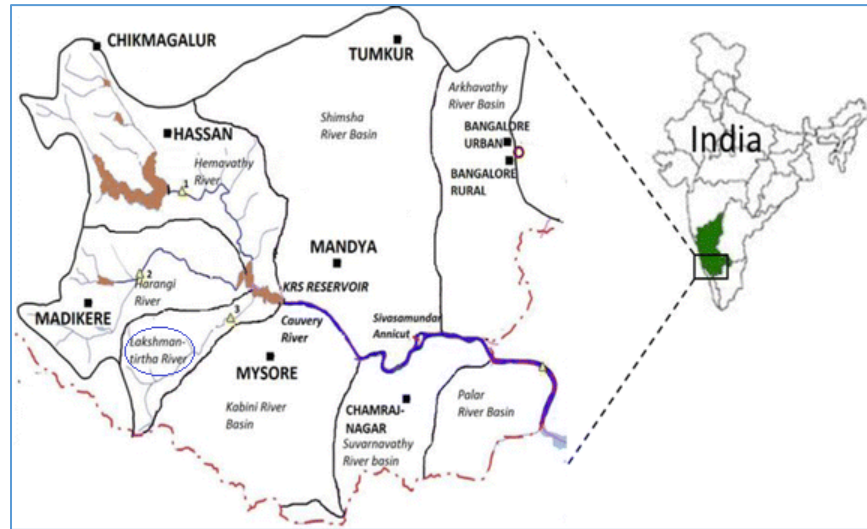
## STATES

### Lakshmana Tirtha River

- ❖ Severe drought and intense heat have caused the complete drying up of the Lakshmana Tirtha River, a tributary of the Kaveri in Karnataka.
- ❖ It is originating in the Brahma Giri hills and flows 180 Km eastward before merging with the Kaveri River at Krishna Raja Sagara Lake.

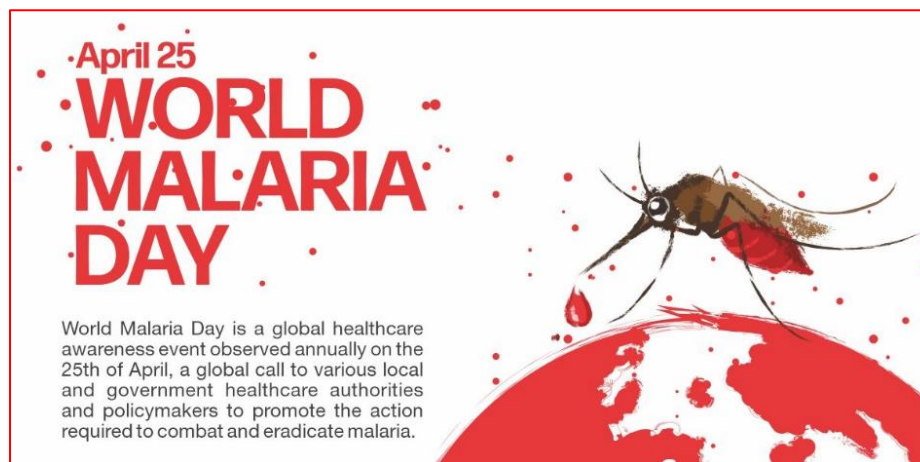


- ❖ The famous Lakshmana tirtha Falls, or Irupu Falls, adorns its path, near Kerala's border.



## IMPORTANT DAYS

### World Malaria Day 2024 - April 25



- ❖ It aims to acknowledge the prevalence of malaria around the world and to raise awareness of the global campaign to eradicate the disease.
- ❖ This day was first commemorated in 2008.
- ❖ It had evolved from Africa Malaria Day, which had been observed by African countries since 2001.
- ❖ The WHO African Region has the heaviest burden of the disease – accounting, in 2022, for 94% and 95% of malaria case and deaths.
- ❖ 6,08,000 malaria deaths occurred in 2022.



- ❖ 249 million new cases of malaria confirmed in 2022.
- ❖ The theme for 2024 is “Accelerating the fight against malaria for a more equitable world”.

### **World Penguin Day 2024 - April 25**

- ❖ This day was created in an American research center on Ross Island called McMurdo Station.
- ❖ Scientists at this station discovered that Adélie penguins start their northward migration around this day every year.
- ❖ They decided to create this day to celebrate this migration and to raise awareness about the decreasing numbers of wild penguins.

