

August - 04

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The BRICS Counter-Terrorism Action Plan has been finalized to strengthen BRICS counter-terrorism cooperation.
  - This discussion took place at the sixth meeting of the BRICS Anti-Terrorism Working Group.
- ❖ Myanmar's military has extended emergency for two years.
  - The Military government named itself as "caretaker government" and Min Aung Hlaing as the prime minister.
- ❖ The Chief Ministers of Assam and Mizoram have sought to ease tension along their troubled inter-State border.
  - The two States share a 164.6 km volatile border.

## TAMIL NADU

### Tamil Nadu legislature turns 100

- ❖ The Assembly chambers at Fort St. George witnessed a historic event when President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the centenary celebrations of the State legislature.
- ❖ Mr. Kovind also unveiled the portrait of five-time Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi.
- ❖ This is the first time in four decades that a portrait of an eminent figure of the State is getting unveiled by the President.
- ❖ In August 1977, then President N. Sanjeeva Reddi had unveiled the portrait of former Chief Minister K. Kamaraj.

## NATIONAL

### Hotline for Sikkim sector

- ❖ The Indian and Chinese armies have established a hotline in the North Sikkim Sector.
- ❖ This is established in order to further boost the confidence along the Line of Actual Control in the region.

- ❖ The hotline has been established between the Indian Army in Kongra La, North Sikkim, and China's People's Liberation Army at Khamba Dzong in Tibetan Autonomous Region.
- ❖ This is the sixth such hotline between the ground commanders along the 3,488-km Line of Actual Control.
- ❖ Now, there are two hotlines each in eastern Ladakh, Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim.



### **e-RUPI Digital Payment Solution**



e-RUPI is a **cashless and contactless** instrument for **digital payment** developed by **National Payments Corporation of India**



Connects sponsors of the services with beneficiaries & service providers in a **digital manner without any physical interface**



Assures timely payment **without involvement of any intermediary.**



It can also be used for **delivering services** meant for **providing drugs & nutritional support under Mother & Child welfare schemes, TB eradication programmes, etc**

- ❖ The Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched “e-RUPI Digital Payment Solution” on August 2, 2021.
- ❖ e-RUPI is an e-voucher-based payment solution.

- ❖ e-RUPI initiative was launched to limit touch points between government and beneficiary.
- ❖ This Platform will also ensure that benefits reach its intended beneficiaries in a targeted and leak-proof manner.
- ❖ e-RUPI is a one-time payment mechanism that will allow users to redeem voucher without using card, digital payments app or internet banking access.
- ❖ The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) developed e-RUPI platform on its UPI platform.
- ❖ It was launched in collaboration with Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and National Health Authority.

### **Lightest metro train**

- ❖ According to Titagarh Wagons Ltd, its plant in Italy has rolled out first train for Pune Metro coach.
- ❖ In total, 34 trains will be sent from Italy.
- ❖ Each train will comprise of three coaches.
- ❖ These metro coaches for Pune metro are manufactured with Aluminium for first time in India.
- ❖ Titagarh Wagons is a railway wagon manufacturer based in Titagarh, West Bengal.



### **Ashwagandha**

- ❖ AYUSH Ministry is to conduct clinical trials of “Ashwagandha”.
- ❖ It is to be done in the collaboration with UK’s London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM).



- ❖ This Team will check its efficacy on COVID-19 infection.
- ❖ All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) and LSHTM signed a memorandum of understanding to conduct clinical trials of Ashwagandha, recently.
- ❖ Clinical trials would be conducted in three UK cities namely Leicester, Birmingham and London.
- ❖ This is the first time Ministry of AYUSH has collaborated with foreign institution to check its efficacy on COVID-19 patients.

#### **Note**

- ❖ Ashwagandha is scientifically called as withania somnifera.
- ❖ It is commonly called as 'Indian winter cherry'.

### **National Research Foundation (NRF)**

- ❖ Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister of Education announced that the government of India is planning to set up a National Research Foundation (NRF).
- ❖ Its primary aim to strengthen the country's research ecosystem.
- ❖ The NRF will be functioning as a structure that will connect the industry, academia and the R&D of the country.

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

### **Controller General of Accounts**

- ❖ Deepak Das has taken over as the Controller General of Accounts (CGA).
- ❖ Deepak Das is the 25th officer to hold the position of CGA.
- ❖ CGA is the account keeper of the government and derives its mandate from Article 150 of the Constitution.

### **New Vice Chief of Naval Staff**

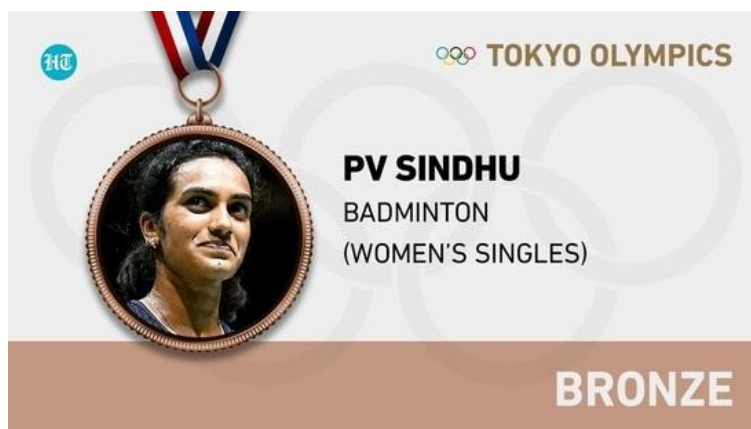
- ❖ Vice Admiral SN Ghormade has assumed charge as the Vice Chief of Naval Staff.
- ❖ He succeeds Vice Admiral G Ashok Kumar.
- ❖ SN Ghormade is an awardee of the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM) and Nausena Medal.



## SPORTS

### PV Sindhu's achievement

- ❖ PV Sindhu has become first Indian woman to win two Olympic medals after defeating 'He Bingjiao' of China.
- ❖ She is the first Indian woman to win Olympic silver.
- ❖ At Rio Olympics of 2016, Sindhu had won women's singles badminton silver in her Olympics debut.
- ❖ She won bronze at the Tokyo Olympics.
- ❖ She has become second Indian athlete to win 2 Olympic medals in individual events following Sushil Kumar.
- ❖ Sushil Kumar had won wrestling bronze in 2008 in Beijing and won Silver at London Games in 2012.
- ❖ In London Olympics of 2012, India achieved its best-ever tally of 6 medals.



## IMPORTANT DAYS

### Friendship Day 2021 - August 01

- ❖ Friendship Day is celebrated in India on the first Sunday of August.
- ❖ On this day, we honour the bonds of friendship we form through the course of our lives that enrich us and make us happier.
- ❖ This day was first proposed in Paraguay in 1958 as International Friendship Day.
- ❖ However, it is believed that it first originated from Hallmark cards in the 1930s, whose founder was Joyce Hall.



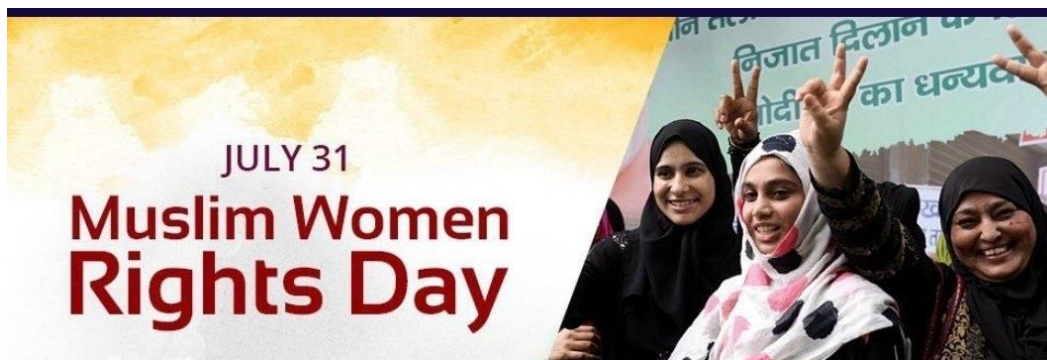
### National Mountain Climbing Day - August 01

- ❖ The day was established in order to honour Bobby Matthews and his friend Josh Madigan, for successfully climbing the 46th peak of New York State's Adirondack Mountains.
- ❖ In 1965, Avatar Singh Cheema became the first Indian to climb Mount Everest.
- ❖ The first Indian woman to climb Everest was Bachendri Pal who did so in 1984, at the age of 30.



### **Muslim Women Rights Day - August 01**

- ❖ The Muslim Women Rights Day celebrated across the nation to celebrate the enactment of the law against Triple Talaq.
- ❖ The first Muslim Women's Rights Day was observed in 2020.
- ❖ The Government of India enacted the law against Triple Talaq on August 01, 2019.
- ❖ The law is formally called the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act, 2019.
- ❖ This law prohibits the practice of instant divorce by Muslim men.



### **World Breastfeeding Week - August 1 to 7**

- ❖ This week is marked every year to raise awareness on the importance of breastfeeding for mothers and infants.
- ❖ The theme of the World Breastfeeding Week 2021 is "Protect Breastfeeding: A Shared Responsibility".
- ❖ The annual week is organized by WABA, WHO and UNICEF since 1991.

