

August - 12

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ According to the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, India's first Internet Governance Forum (IIGF) will be held in October 2021.
  - The IIGF 2021 will be held under the theme - "Inclusive Internet for Digital India".
- ❖ Karnataka has become the first state in the country to issue the order with regard to the implementation of the National Education Policy-2020.
  - The policy will be in effect from the current academic year 2021-2022.
- ❖ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has extended the term of service of Rajiv Gauba, as the Cabinet Secretary of India, for a further period of one year.
  - His term of service was to end on August 30, 2021.
- ❖ The Central Government has asked the States and UTs to ensure that people don't use plastic national flags.
  - This announcement has come out ahead of the Independence Day celebrations.
- ❖ On 9th August, National Traders Day is observed in India on the foundation day of Bhartiya Udyog Vyapar Mandal.
  - The Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal, addressed the traders on the occasion of this day.

## TAMIL NADU

### Mr. India competition

- ❖ Kaushik Ram, a final year student of Chennai Law College, won the title of 'Mr. India' and 'Mr. Tamil Nadu' in the Mr. India competition held in Delhi.
- ❖ The 'Indian Male - 2021' competition was held in Agra, Delhi by the organization 'Star' Life.

## NATIONAL

### 127th Constitution Amendment Bill

- ❖ The Union Government introduced the 127th Constitution (amendment) bill, 2021 in Lok Sabha on August 9, 2021.



- ❖ It was introduced in the Parliament to clarify some provisions of the 102nd Constitutional Amendment Bill, restoring the power of states to identify backward classes.

**Note**

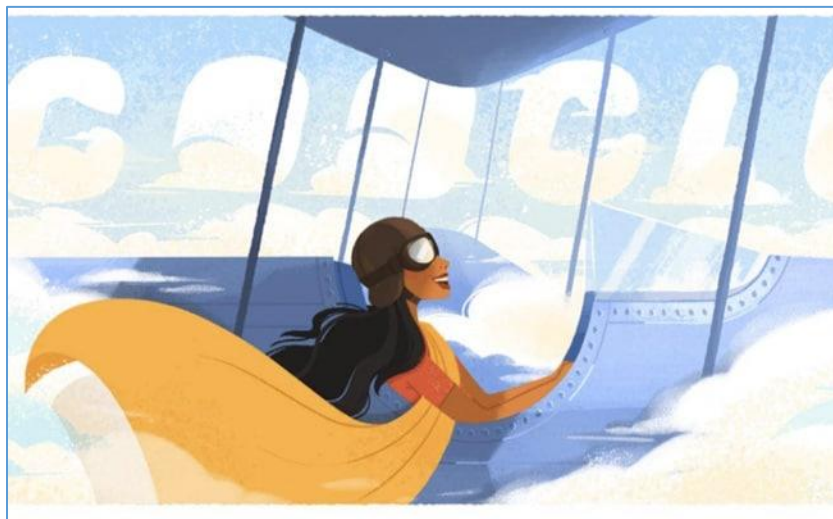
- ❖ Articles 15 (4), 15 (5), and 16 (4) of the Indian constitution confer power on the State Government to declare and identify a list of socially and educationally backward classes.
- ❖ The Central and state governments draw separate OBC lists as a practice.

**Empowering the States** | The 127th Constitution Amendment Bill benefits 671 castes in the country and restores the States' rights to make their own list of OBCs

<p><b>1</b> The Bill seeks to restore the power of the States to identify OBCs that are socially and educationally backward after a Supreme Court order in May 2021 empowered only the Centre for this</p>	<p><b>2</b> The amendment was thought necessary because the SC, in its order on Maratha reservations, upheld the 102nd Constitutional Amendment Act, which said the President of India, in consultation with Governors, would specify socially and educationally backward classes, taking away the powers of the State governments to do so</p>	<p><b>3</b> Several parties also demanded a caste-based census to get a real idea of the number of OBCs in the country and to remove the 50% cap on reservations currently in place</p>
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<p><b>You (BJP) tweaked the Constitution by bringing the 102nd Constitutional Amendment Bill, which gave people the opportunity to go to court and finally the SC removed the States' power</b></p> <p><b>ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY, CONGRESS LEADER</b></p> 	<p><b>When the Amendment was brought, the government's intent was that both at the Central and State level, OBC lists will be maintained</b></p> <p><b>BHUPENDRA YADAV, LABOUR MINISTER</b></p> 
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**Sarla Thukral**



- ❖ Google paid tribute to Sarla Thukral-India's first female pilot, on her 107 birth anniversary (August 8, 2021).

- ❖ Google designed a Doodle on the occasion of Thukral's birth anniversary.
- ❖ Born in 1914, Thukral became the first woman to accomplish an 'A' grade license after 1,000 hours of flying.

### **Rail Madad**

- ❖ The Indian Railways has launched an integrated one-stop solution called "Rail Madad".
- ❖ It has merged a number of existing helplines that were used for various purposes into one.
- ❖ The Railway ministry toll-free number 139 can be used for all kinds of enquiries and making complaints.
- ❖ The helpline facility is available round-the-clock in 12 languages.

### **India's 5-point agenda**

- ❖ The Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, has chaired the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) open debate.
- ❖ The UN Security Council then adopted India's presidential statement on maritime security.
- ❖ PM Modi has become the first Prime Minister of India to chair a UNSC open debate.
- ❖ The theme of the high-level open debate was 'Enhancing Maritime Security – A Case for International Cooperation'.
- ❖ Five-point agenda had been laid down by PM to increase the maritime cooperation.
- ❖ They are
  - Removal of barriers to legitimate maritime trade.
  - Resolution of maritime disputes peacefully in accordance with international law.
  - Fight threats from natural disasters, non-state actors.
  - Conservation of marine resources.
  - Promoting responsible maritime connectivity.

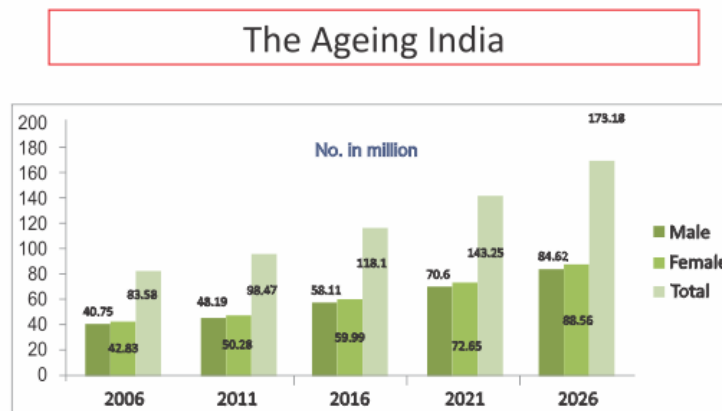
## National Mission on Edible Oil - Oil Palm

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced this new national initiative on palm oil production to help increase farm incomes.
- ❖ Aims and Objectives of the scheme are given below,
  - Achieve self-reliance in edible oil.
  - Harness domestic edible oil prices that are dictated by expensive palm oil imports.
  - To raise the domestic production of palm oil by three times to 11 lakh MT by 2025-26.
- ❖ The special emphasis of the scheme will be in India's north-eastern states and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

### Note

- ❖ India is the largest consumer of vegetable oil in the world
- ❖ Palm oil is currently the world's most consumed vegetable oil.

## India's elderly population



➤ ≥ 60 aged have increased from 83.6 m in 2006 to 98.47 m in 2011

➤ Projected increase by 2016 is 118.1 m, by 2021 143.25 to 173.18 m by 2026.

Population India Chapter-2.Census of India 2010. Vital statistics .SRS report.

- ❖ India's elderly population (aged 60 and above) is projected to touch 194 million in 2031 from 138 million in 2021 (41 per cent increase).
- ❖ This is according to the National Statistical Office (NSO)'s Elderly in India 2021 report.
- ❖ According to the report, Kerala currently has the highest elderly population.
- ❖ It is followed by Tamil Nadu.

- ❖ Himachal Pradesh is in third place.
- ❖ Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Assam have the least proportion.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

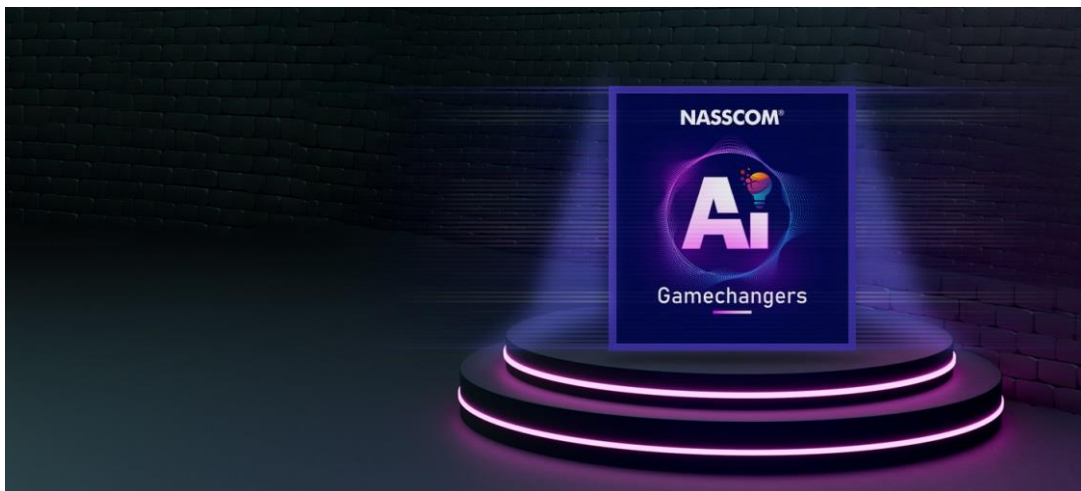
### **SCO Meeting of Ministers of Justice**

- ❖ The three days meeting was hosted by Tajikistan.
- ❖ It was chaired by Tajikistan's Justice Minister, MK Ashuriyon.
- ❖ The Ministers of (Law and) Justice and senior officials and experts from the Ministries of Law & Justice of 'India, Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan' participated in the meeting.
- ❖ The Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju has virtually attended the meeting.
- ❖ The Minister of State for Law & Justice, Prof SP Singh Baghel also attended the meeting.

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

### **AI Gamechanger Award**

- ❖ The Telangana government has bagged the AI Gamechanger Award in the Xperience-AI Summit organised by NASSCOM.
- ❖ 'Crowd Monitoring using AI' of the government was selected for this award.
- ❖ A start-up Awiros was the technology partner for this project.



## SPORTS

### International Army Games

- ❖ The Indian Army is to take part in the International Army Games 2021 to be held in Russia.
- ❖ 101 members of the Indian Army will participate in this.
- ❖ The International Army Games is an annual Russian military sports event organized by the Ministry of Défense of Russia (MoD).
- ❖ The event was first staged in August 2015.
- ❖ The games have been referred to as the War Olympics.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### World Lion Day - August 10



- ❖ The Day is marked to raise awareness about the king of beasts and the efforts undertaken for their conservation.
- ❖ "Slow elimination of the African lion" is the theme for the year 2021.
- ❖ It was launched in 2013.
- ❖ The big cat is listed as an endangered species in the IUCN Red List.
- ❖ The majestic animal is the second-largest member of the Felidae (cat family), after the tiger.



## **World Biofuel Day - August 10**

- ❖ The day is celebrated to raise awareness about the importance of non-fossil fuels as an alternative to conventional fossil fuels.
- ❖ It also highlights the various efforts made by Government in the biofuel sector.
- ❖ The theme of 2021 is the "promotion of biofuels for a better environment".
- ❖ Since 2015, World Biofuel Day is celebrated by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- ❖ The day honours the research experiments by Sir Rudolf Diesel.
- ❖ In 1893, he ran an engine with peanut oil.

