

August - 16

## TAMIL NADU

### e-budget - Tamil Nadu

- ❖ Finance Minister P.T.R. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan presented DMK government's first Budget after the election on August 13.
- ❖ It is the first time in the country that a state is presenting an e-budget.
- ❖ The revenue deficit for 2021-22 is expected to go up from the unrealistic interim budget estimates of ₹41,417.30 crore to ₹58,692.68 crore in the revised budget estimates.
- ❖ Mr. Rajan announced a Green Tamil Nadu Mission to increase the total areas under forest and tree cover to 33% of the land areas in the state.
- ❖ Mr. Rajan also unveiled the Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission to focus on climate change adaptation and mitigation activities.
- ❖ The allocation for the mission is ₹500 crore.
- ❖ The State government also announced a waiver of loans to the tune of ₹2,756 crore due from self-help groups to the co-operative credit societies.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has already borrowed ₹36,000 crore so far in 2021-22.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu is the top borrower among the States.

### Chief pontiff of Madurai Adheenam



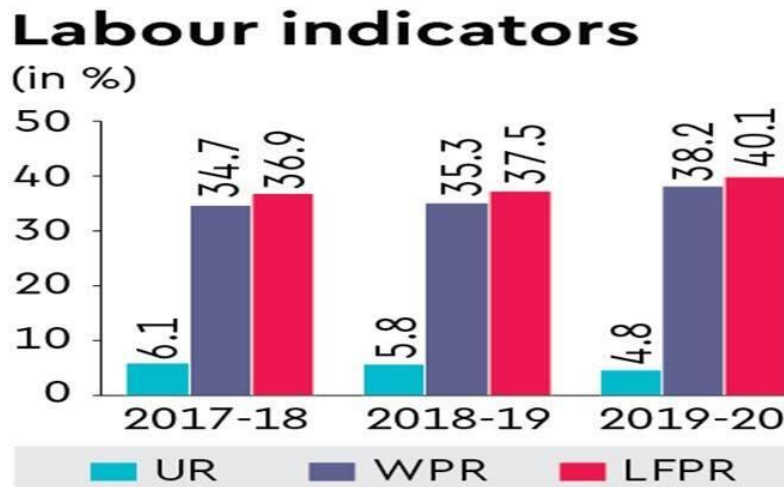
- ❖ Arunagirinatha Gnanasambantha Desika Paramacharya, one of the oldest Saivite mutts, passed away at the age of 77.
- ❖ He was the 292nd pontiff of Madurai Adheenam.
- ❖ he monastery, said to have been established nearly 1,300 years ago.

- ❖ It was revived by Saivite saint Thirugnanasambandar.

## NATIONAL

### Periodic Labour Force Survey (2019 - 2020)

- ❖ It is India's first computer-based survey launched by the National Statistical Office (NSO) in 2017.
- ❖ The findings of the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) 2019-2020 was released recently.
- ❖ It offers a credulity-stretching picture of a decline in the unemployment rate between 2017-18 and 2019-2020, together with an increase in the Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR).
- ❖ PLFS reports a reduction in the usual - status unemployment rate from 6.1% in 2017-18 to 5.8% in 2018-19 and further to 4.8% in 2019-20.
- ❖ It also shows a corresponding increase in the proportion of people participating in the country's labour force from 36.9% to 37.5% and then further to 40.1% in 2019-20.
- ❖ These positive trends have occurred amid a decline in the economy's real growth rate from 7% to 4.2% over that period.
- ❖ Thus, from a paradox of jobless growth in the past, India seems to have come full circle with 'growthless employment'.



### Doctor - population ratio

- ❖ India is well on the path to achieving the World Health Organisation-recommended ratio of one doctor per thousand population by 2024.



- ❖ India is also increasing the number of hospital beds from 11 lakh to 22 lakh.
- ❖ In the last 75 years, India has made significant progress in the health sector.
- ❖ At the time of independence, the average life was just 28 years and it has now reached close to 70 years.

### **Satellite phone facility**

- ❖ Kaziranga National Park (KZP) in Assam has become the first National Park in India to be equipped with satellite phones.
- ❖ In a first-of-its-kind move to provide assistance to prevent poaching and ensure coordinated functioning.
- ❖ BSNL will be the service provider and the park authorities will bear the monthly expenses.

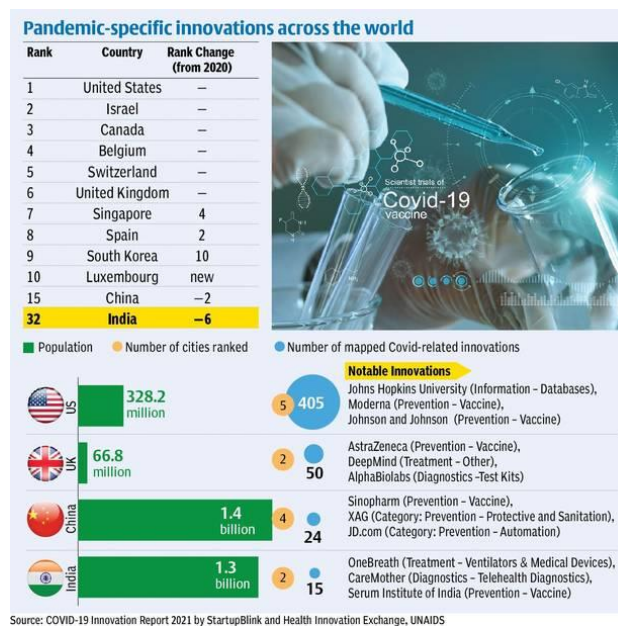
### **Quality of Life for Elderly Index 2021**

- ❖ Dr Bibek Debroy, Chairman of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) released the Quality of Life for Elderly Index 2021.
- ❖ It measures the quality of life led by the elderly in India.
- ❖ It has been created by the Institute for Competitiveness.
- ❖ The report identifies the regional patterns of ageing across Indian States and assesses the overall well-being of the ageing population in India.
- ❖ The index analysed 45 different indicators across four key domains viz. Financial Well-being, Social Well-being, Health System, and Income Security.
- ❖ Among the 4 domains, the domain of Health System observed the highest national average of 66.97, followed by 62.34 in Social Well-being, 44.7 in Financial Well-being, and 33.03 in Income Security.
- ❖ The index also provided 'Quality of Life for Elderly Scores' in 4 categories viz. Aged states, Relatively Aged States, Union Territory (UT), and North-East States.
- ❖ Rajasthan has topped the ranking of Aged states.
- ❖ Himachal Pradesh is top-scorer in Relatively Aged States.
- ❖ The Aged States refer to States with an elderly population of more than 5 million.
- ❖ Relatively Aged States refer to States with an Elderly population of less than 5 million.

- ❖ Chandigarh and Mizoram are top-scoring regions in Union Territory (UT) and North-East States category, respectively.
- ❖ Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) scored the lowest among UTs.
- ❖ Arunachal Pradesh, among the north eastern states, scored the lowest score.
- ❖ In the aged states, Telangana scored the lowest.
- ❖ In relatively aged states categories Gujarat ranked last.

## INTERNATIONAL

### Coronavirus innovation rankings



- ❖ India fell six spots to the 32nd place in the global coronavirus innovation rankings for countries.
- ❖ This is as per a report prepared by StartupBlink in association with Health Innovation Exchange, UNAIDS.
- ❖ The report features the top-ranked 40 countries and 100 cities in the world based on innovative solutions developed to face the pandemic.
- ❖ India has two cities featured - Bengaluru, 49th rank, New Delhi, 55th rank – among the top 100.
- ❖ India has 15 Covid-related innovations mapped this year. They include
  - four in 'prevention',
  - three in 'grants and support initiatives',
  - one in 'information',



- three in 'treatment' and
  - four in 'diagnostics.
- ❖ The US remains on top of the list.

### **Wolf-warrior diplomacy**

- ❖ Recently the Chinese foreign ministry has taken an increasingly strident tone against the United States, Australia, and other countries.
- ❖ Dubbed as “wolf-warrior diplomacy,” this new approach seems popular inside China.
- ❖ It reinforces a presumed transition of Chinese diplomacy from conservative, passive, and low-key to assertive, proactive, and high-profile.
- ❖ Wolf Warrior and Wolf Warrior II are Chinese action blockbusters that highlight agents of Chinese special operation forces.
- ❖ Wolf-warrior diplomacy, named after these movies, describes offensives by Chinese diplomat to defend China’s national interests, often in confrontational ways.

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **New method to identify proteins in the living brain**

- ❖ Researchers, for the first time, have come up with a new and successful approach to identify the proteins inside different types of neurons in the brain of a living animal.
- ❖ The new study was led by North western University and the University of Pittsburgh.

#### **Note**

- ❖ Researchers in the new study designed a virus to send an enzyme to a precise location in the brain of a living mouse.
- ❖ The enzyme, derived from soybeans, genetically tagged its neighbouring proteins in a predetermined location.
- ❖ This technique took a snapshot of the entire set of proteins inside the living neurons, which can then be analysed post-mortem with mass spectroscopy.

