

August - 02

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ National Legal Services Authority has launched a campaign 'Release UTRC@75' for identifying eligible prisoners and recommending the release of fit cases to the Under Trial Review Committee.
- ❖ The first-ever national level meet of District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) was organised by National Legal Services Authority (NALSA).
- ❖ Reliance Industries has partnered with Indian Olympic Association to set up first-ever India House at Paris Olympics 2024.
- ❖ The World Day Against Trafficking in Persons observed on July 30 to make people aware of who is being trafficked.
 - This year's theme was "Use and abuse of technology"
- ❖ International Friendship Day is observed on July 30 annually.
 - In India, this day is observed on the first Sunday of August (August 7).
- ❖ The World Ranger Day is observed on 31st July every year.
 - The theme for this year is "Rangers are no strangers to diversity".

TAMIL NADU

President's Colors award



- ❖ The Vice-President presented the prestigious President's Colours to the Tamil Nadu police.

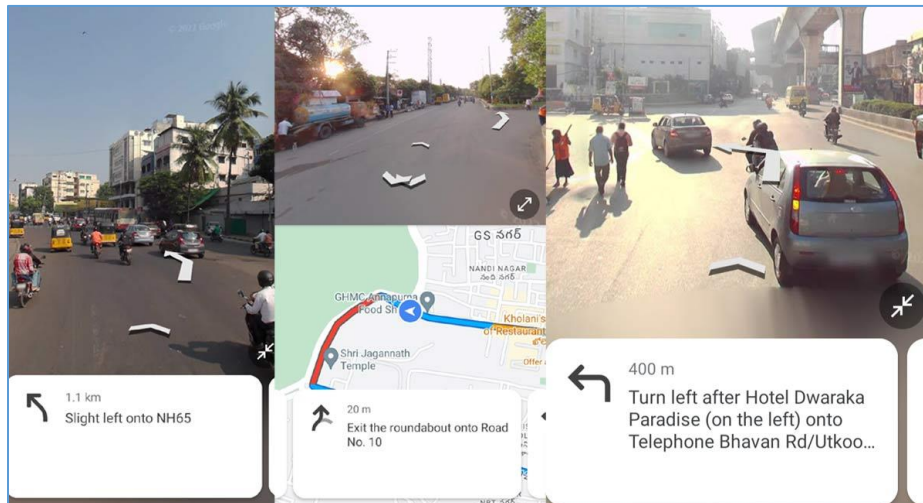
- ❖ It is a recognition of the State police's commendable service and many achievements.
- ❖ Tamilnadu will be the first in Southern India to receive this award.
- ❖ Only ten police forces in India have won the prestigious President's Colour Award.
- ❖ The Tamilnadu state Police force celebrated its 150th year of existence in 2009.

Urban animal rescue center

- ❖ Urban animal rescue centre set up in Guindy National Park
- ❖ The first of its kind by the Tamil Nadu Forest Department has been helping injured and rescued wildlife.
- ❖ The centre is a transit facility.
- ❖ There we take rescued animals, treat their injuries and release them when they are sufficiently stable.

NATIONAL

Google Maps Street View

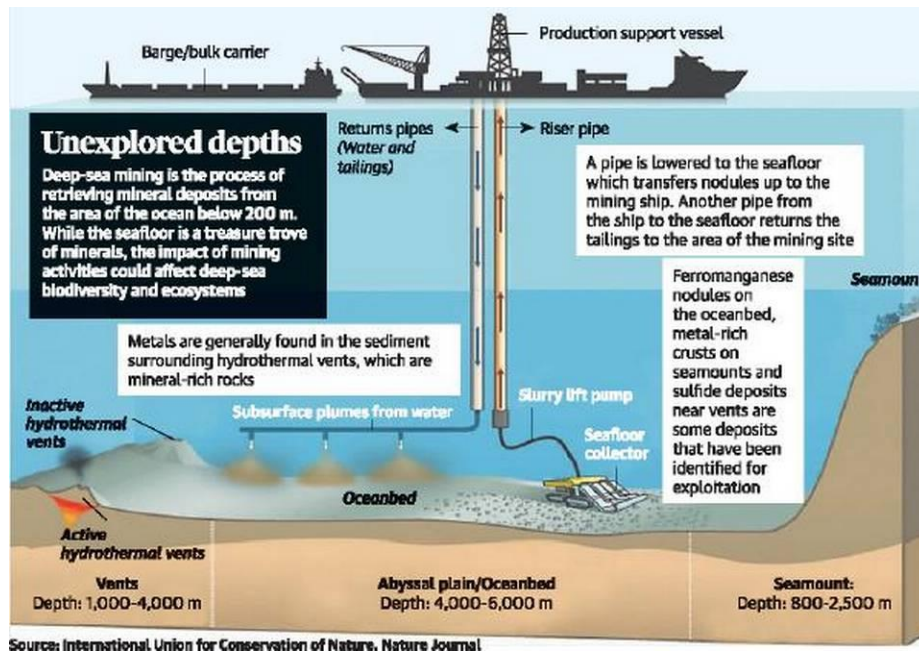


- ❖ Google Maps launched Street View service in Hyderabad along with 10 cities in India.
- ❖ Google Maps has introduced the service in association with two Hyderabad-based companies.
- ❖ It made available of latest images of 10 cities including Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Pune, Nasik, Vadodara and Ahmed Nagar.

- ❖ It covers an area of 1,50,000 km in the above said cities in partnership with local companies.

Deep Sea Mining – National Science Award

- ❖ The Minister of State of Science & Technology Jitendra Singh presented a national science award to Indian scientists who conducted the world's first locomotive trials of a deep-sea mining system in the central Indian ocean.
- ❖ He also inaugurated a first-of-its-kind and state-of-art fully automated buoy-based coastal observation and water quality now casting system for the Indian Ocean.
- ❖ It was developed by Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services.
- ❖ It is the part of India's Deep Ocean Mission.
- ❖ The part of the ocean that lies below a depth of 200 meters is defined as the deep sea.
- ❖ The process of extracting minerals from this area is known as deep-sea mining.



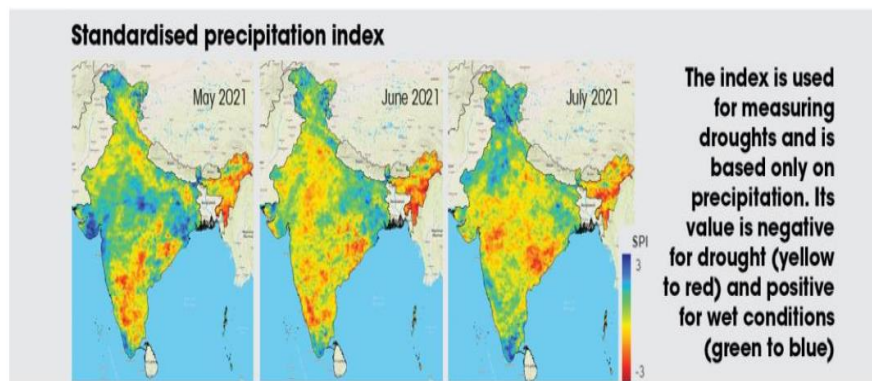
Karikiyoor rock paintings

- ❖ The Karikiyoor rock paintings, a series of over 300 images, carved on the side of the cliff-face.
- ❖ They are believed to be more than 5,000-years old.

- ❖ They are just one of a series of cave and rock paintings that have been rediscovered across the Nilgiris in recent decades.
- ❖ Karikiyoor is probably one of the biggest rock art sites in India.
- ❖ The images depict a gradual shift from a hunter-gatherer lifestyle in the initial drawings to a pastoral.
- ❖ Eventually, a settled agrarian lifestyle depicted in the later drawings.



Aridity Anomaly Outlook Index



Source: India Meteorological Department

- ❖ Recently Indian Meteorological Department released the Index for the month of July, 2021.
- ❖ Nearly 69% of India is dry land.
- ❖ Nearly 660 of 756 districts (85%) were facing different degrees of aridity, while only 63 are non-arid.
- ❖ At least 196 districts are in the grip of a 'severe' degree of dryness and 65 of these are in Uttar Pradesh

- ❖ Impacts of drought in agriculture, especially in the tropics where defined wet and dry seasons are part of the climate regime.
- ❖ Both winter and summer cropping seasons can be assessed using this method.
- ❖ Large Arid regions are found in the desert of Rajasthan, Rann of Kutch and semi-arid regions of Punjab and Gujarat, rain shadow areas of Western Ghats.

Aid for Trade

- ❖ India became highest recipient of aid from developed countries in 2020 and WTO's Aid for Trade Initiative.
- ❖ Aid for Trade is aimed at promoting trade for poverty reduction, by helping developing countries.
- ❖ Developed countries provide grants and concessional loans which targeted at trade-related programmes and projects.

ON TOP
Five biggest recipients of trade and related disbursements, 2018–20

Recipient	2020		2019		2018	
	Rank	Disbursement (in \$ bn)	Rank	Disbursement (in \$ bn)	Rank	Disbursement (in \$ bn)
India	①	2.74	①	3.86	①	3.57
Bangladesh	②	2.49	②	1.99	②	2.16
Egypt	③	1.79	③	1.75	③	1.94
Ethiopia	④	1.59	⑥	1.36	④	1.71
Kenya	⑤	1.31	⑤	1.49	⑧	0.94

Transparency Report on India

- ❖ Recently Twitter released a Transparency Report.
- ❖ India accounts for highest number of legal demands worldwide to remove content posted by journalists and news outlets on the platform.
- ❖ India made 114 such requests.
- ❖ India is only behind United States of America in asking for Twitter account information.
- ❖ India accounts for 19% of total information requests worldwide.
- ❖ India is among top five countries to give content-blocking orders to Twitter, for all kinds of users, in July-December 2021.

- ❖ After India, other countries accounting for high legal demands include Turkey, Russia, and Pakistan.
- ❖ Turkey made 78 such demands, Russia made 55, and Pakistan made 48 demands.

Report	Legal demands			Compliance rate			Accounts specified	
	Court orders	Other legal demands	Combined	Court orders	Other legal demands	Combined	Court orders	Other
Total	99	21,231	21,330	72.4 %	13.6 %	13.7 %	2,493	6
July - December 2021	23	3,969	3,992	69.6 %	19.2 %	19.5 %	420	1
January - June 2021	9	4,894	4,903	88.9 %	11.7 %	11.8 %	614	1
July - December 2020	15	6,956	6,971	73.3 %	9 %	9.1 %	220	1
January - June 2020	4	2,768	2,772	25 %	13.8 %	13.9 %	9	1
July - December 2019	7	775	782	85.7 %	36.3 %	36.7 %	1,230	6
January - June 2019	8	496	504	-	-	0 %	-	-
July - December 2018	10	657	667	-	-	0 %	-	-

Agriculture Infrastructure Fund Awards 2022

शुद्धि एवं किसानों का कल्याण
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

PM Modi Launches Agriculture Infrastructure Fund

- To provide debt financing facility for post-harvest management Infrastructure & community farming assets
- Corpus of ₹1 lakh crore for FPOs, SHGs, PACS*, Startups, Agri-entrepreneurs, for other farm processing-based activities
- Interest subvention of 3% per annum up to ₹2 crore for a max. period of 7 years
- Moratorium for repayment from 6 months up to 2 yrs
- Scheme to be implemented from August 2020

#AatmaNirbharKrishi *Primary Agri Credit Societies Date: 8 August, 2020

- ❖ Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar is set to present Agriculture Infrastructure Fund Awards.

- ❖ These Awards are presented as a part of Agriculture Infrastructure Fund.
- ❖ The fund was launched in the year 2020, under Atma nirbhar Bharat Initiative.
- ❖ It is a central government scheme.

INTERNATIONAL

Zimbabwe's Gold Coin

- ❖ Zimbabwe launched gold coins to control the inflation in country.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe announced the launch and distributed 2,000 coins to commercial banks.
- ❖ In July, the annual inflation rate increased to 190%.
- ❖ Thus interest rate of central bank increased by two times to 200%.
- ❖ They are also easily tradable in locally and internationally.
- ❖ The gold coin is called as “Mosi-oa-Tunya”.
- ❖ It means “The Smoke Which Thunders”.
- ❖ It also refers to Victoria Falls in native Tonga language.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Nilekani Centre at AI4Bharat

- ❖ “Nilekani Centre at AI4Bharat’ was launched to build Open-Source AI for Indian Languages.
- ❖ It was launched by the Indian Institute of Technology Madras.

- ❖ Rohini and Nandan Nilekani are supporting the centre, with a grant of Rs 36 crore via Nilekani Philanthropies.

