

August - 25

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ India has nominated the Indian dance form Garba to be inscribed on UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage list.
 - Last year, Durga Puja was included in UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage list and for 2022.

NATIONAL

Tricolour across the globe

- ❖ As part of the celebrations on 75 years of Independence, the Indian Navy have deployed warships to every continent except Antarctica.
- ❖ The Indian Navy warships hoisted the Tricolour across six continents, three oceans and six different time zones.
- ❖ The warships were deployed in Perth, Singapore, Muscat, Mombasa, London, Rio de Janeiro and San Diego.



National Conference of Women Police

- ❖ A two-day 'National Conference of Women Police' held in Shimla in collaboration with the Himachal Police.
- ❖ It was organised by Ministry of Home Affairs and Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD).
- ❖ The conference will showcase the achievements of women police officers and discuss challenges faced by them.

- ❖ It will also discuss the new roles and responsibilities of women in terms of emerging technologies and crimes.



Geothermal energy – Ladakh



- ❖ ONGC would making a project to tap the geothermal power at 14,000 feet in Ladakh.
- ❖ This will be India's first geothermal energy project and also the world's highest.
- ❖ It will boost Ladakh's potential to emerge as one of the country's clean energy bowls.
- ❖ The geothermal foray is part of a strategy adopted by India's largest oil and gas producer to offset its carbon footprint.

- ❖ The US, Indonesia, Philippines, Turkey and New Zealand have gigawatt-size geothermal capacities.
- ❖ Mexico and Italy have 900 megawatt-plus capacity, while Kenya has over 800 mw, followed by Iceland, Japan and others.

Vedh Project

- ❖ As part of a pilot project, the Ashramshalas, residential schools covered under the Tribal Development Project Office, in Nandurbar taluka in Maharashtra, have been experimenting with a unique way to learn.
- ❖ The pilot project is called 'Vedh Project'.
- ❖ It is based on the novel concept of heutagogy, a student-centred instructional strategy.
- ❖ Here, teachers are facilitators, who, instead of following the fixed pattern of facing the class and conducting lessons, set challenges for students and encourage them to learn their curricula by developing innovative methods on their own, in the form of group activities.

Legal Aid Defense Counsel System



- ❖ NALSA has launched Legal Aid Défense Counsel System (LADCS) in 365 district legal services authorities across India.
- ❖ It has full-time legal aid lawyers.
- ❖ LADC is a NALSA-funded project to provide free legal aid to accused persons to defend themselves in criminal trials.

- ❖ NALSA has been constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.
- ❖ It aims to provide free legal services to weaker sections of society.

INTERNATIONAL

Singapore to end ban on Gay Sex



377A: Singapore to end ban on gay sex



- ❖ Singapore announced that it would decriminalize same-sex/gay sex between men by scrapping a colonial-era law protecting the definition of marriage.
- ❖ Prior to this under Singapore's Section 377A of the Penal Code, men who have sex with men could be jailed for up to two years.
- ❖ Section 377 of the Indian penal code defines unnatural offences.
- ❖ In 2018, the Supreme Court ruled unanimously in Navtej Singh Johar v. Union of India that Section 377 was unconstitutional.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Commercial space situational awareness observatory

- ❖ India's first commercial space situational awareness observatory will be set up in the Garhwal region of Uttarakhand.
- ❖ It has the potential to track objects as small as 10 cm in size orbiting the earth.
- ❖ It will set up by a space sector start-up-Digantara.

- ❖ Currently, the United States is a dominant player in monitoring space debris with observatories in multiple locations and commercial companies providing additional inputs from across the world.



STATES

GI Tag - Mithila Makhana



- ❖ Geographical Indication (GI) tag was awarded to Bihar's Mithila Makhana.
- ❖ Its botanical name is 'Euryale Ferox Salisb'.
- ❖ And it is a special variety of aquatic fox nut.
- ❖ The move is expected to help growers get the maximum price for their premium produce.
- ❖ It is cultivated in the Mithila region of Bihar and some parts of Nepal.
- ❖ It is the fifth product from Bihar which has received the GI tag.

- ❖ Prior to this, Bhagalpur's Jardalu Mango, Katarni Dhaan (rice), Nawada's Maghai Paan and Muzaffarpur's Shahi Litchi have been recognised.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Pandurang Khankhoje statue



- ❖ Speaker Om Birla will unveil a statue of the freedom fighter and agricultural scientist Pandurang Khankhoje during his visit to Mexico.
- ❖ He was a Maharashtra-born freedom fighter and agriculturalist.
- ❖ Khankhoje was one of the founding members of the Ghadar Party.
- ❖ The Mexican Revolution of 1910 had led to the overthrow of the dictatorial regime, and this inspired Khankhoje.
- ❖ He also reached out to Indians working on farms in the US with the aim of discussing the idea of Indian independence with them.
- ❖ He reached out to Bhikaji Cama in Paris, and met with Vladimir Lenin in Russia among other leaders, seeking support for the Indian cause.
- ❖ However, as he was facing possible deportation from Europe and could not go to India, he sought shelter in Mexico.
- ❖ He was appointed a professor at the National School of Agriculture in Chapingo, near Mexico City.

- ❖ He researched corn, wheat, pulses and rubber, developing frost and drought-resistant varieties.
- ❖ He was revered as an agricultural scientist in Mexico and was part of efforts to bring in the Green Revolution in Mexico.
- ❖ Pandurang returned to India after 1947.

15th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics

- ❖ India has secured the third position by winning five medals at the 15th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA)-2022 held in Kutaisi, Georgia.
- ❖ From India, a total of five students have participated and each of them had won medals.
- ❖ The students were able to secure 3 gold and 2 silver medals at the event.
- ❖ In the medals tally, India was placed jointly in the third position along with Singapore.
- ❖ It is just behind Iran's team (5 golds) and guest team (4 golds, 1 silver).
- ❖ Raghav Goyal won a special prize for the best solution to the most challenging theoretical question.
- ❖ The IOAA is an annual competition.
- ❖ It also is one of the 'International science Olympiads'.

