

December - 16

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ India voted against a UN Security Council (UNSC) draft resolution to securitize climate change.
 - The draft resolution was moved jointly by Niger and Ireland.
- ❖ India has invited the five central Asian countries namely Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, as the chief guest for Republic Day celebrations, 2022.
 - This is for the first time that representatives of all five Central Asian countries would be guests at the Republic Day celebrations.
- ❖ Saudi Arabia has banned the Tablighi and Da'wah group, also known as Al Ahbab, calling it a 'danger to society'.
- ❖ Tesla CEO Elon Musk has been named Time Magazine's "person of the year 2021".
 - Musk is also the Founder and Chief Executive of space exploration company SpaceX.
- ❖ India has been re-elected to International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Council for the 2022-2023 biennium under category B states.
 - The Council is the executive organ of IMO whose headquarters is at London.

NATIONAL

Atmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana



- ❖ Atmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana was rolled out during the covid-19 pandemic for generating jobs.

- ❖ Maharashtra has topped the list of states with the highest number of beneficiaries.
- ❖ Maharashtra is followed by Gujarat and Karnataka.

SMART system



- ❖ India successfully launched Supersonic Missile Assisted Release of Torpedo System (SMART) from Abdul Kalam Island, off the Odisha coast.
- ❖ The SMART system has been designed for enhancing anti-submarine warfare capability far beyond the conventional range of torpedoes.
- ❖ SMART carried a torpedo, release mechanisms, and parachute delivery system.
- ❖ The Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) has developed the weapon for the Indian Navy.

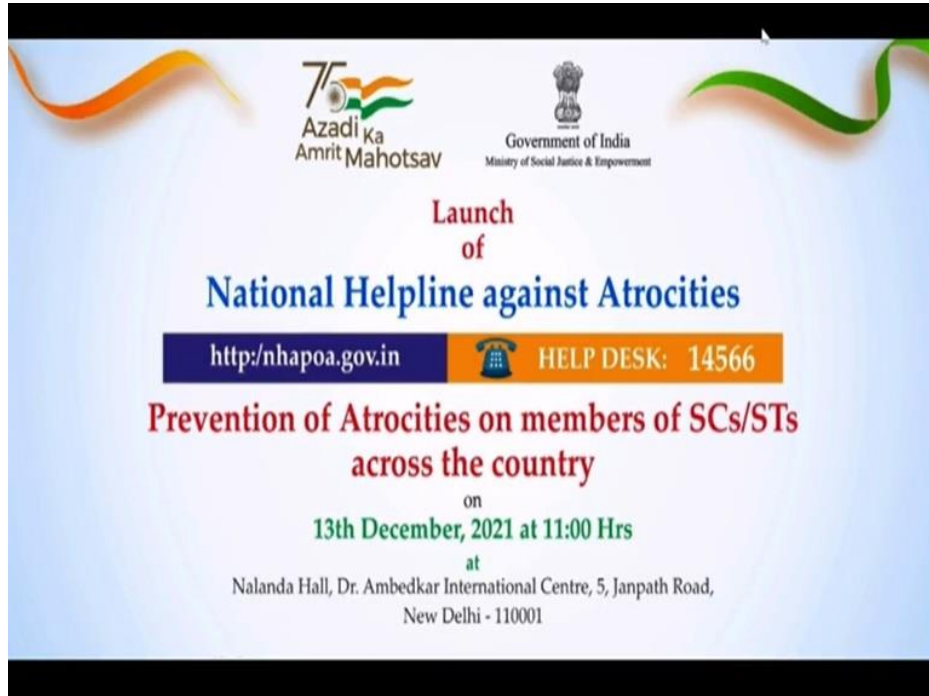
General Category Commission

- ❖ Himachal Pradesh government announced setting up a Commission for general castes.
- ❖ The Commission is to be named as 'Samanya Varg Aayog'.
- ❖ A Scheduled Caste Commission is already in operation in Himachal Pradesh.
- ❖ It is chaired by former Shimla MP Virendra Kashyap.

National Helpline against atrocities on SCs, STs

- ❖ The union minister Social Justice and Empowerment, Virendra Kumar has launched National Helpline against atrocities on SCs, STs.

- ❖ The objective of the helpline, reportedly, is to build awareness about the provisions of the Act that are aimed at ending discrimination and providing protection to all.
- ❖ The Helpline will be available 24-7 on toll-free number – 14566.



First drone Mela



- ❖ In Madhya Pradesh, the first drone fair in the country was organized at Gwalior.

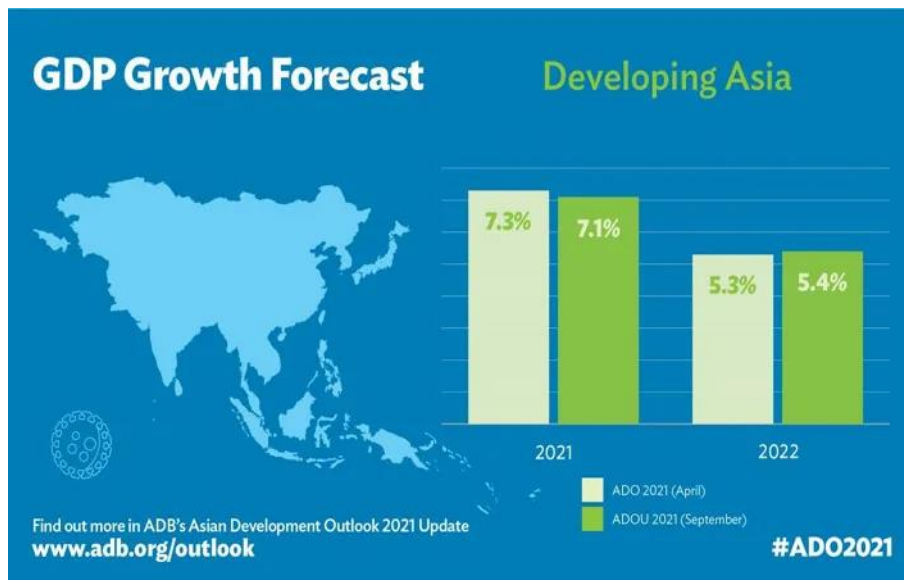
- ❖ Gwalior Drone Mela was organized jointly by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, the Government of India, the Government of Madhya Pradesh, and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI).

High Court and Supreme Court Judges Amendment Bill

- ❖ This Bill was passed with the Rajya Sabha returning it to the Lok Sabha following the discussion.
- ❖ This Bill was returned to Lok Sabha since it was a money bill.
- ❖ The Bill seeks to amend the “Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1958” as well as the “High Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1954”.
- ❖ These Acts regulate the conditions of services and salaries of High Courts & Supreme court judges in India.

INTERNATIONAL

Asian Development Outlook Report



- ❖ The Asian Development Bank (ADB) released the report recently.
- ❖ It has reduced the growth forecasts for developing Asia for the year 2021.
- ❖ This move came in line with the uncertainty that the new Omicron coronavirus variant has brought.
- ❖ The ADB now sees 2021 gross domestic product (GDP) growth of 7.0% for developing Asia, as opposed to the 7.1% forecast.

- ❖ For 2022, it forecasted a growth of 5.3%.

ECONOMY

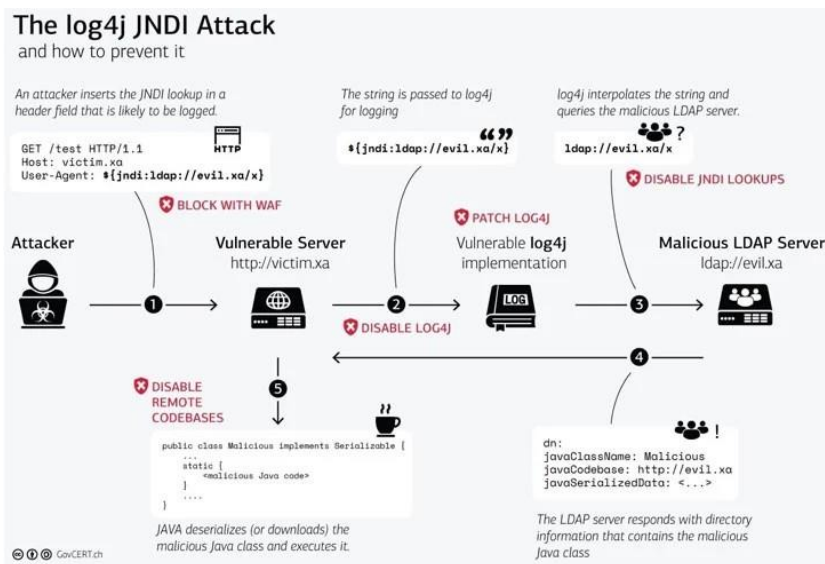
Tether

- ❖ Myanmar's shadow government has allowed the use of the world's largest cryptocurrency called Tether.
- ❖ Tether Cryptocurrency will be used as an official currency.
- ❖ This move will make it easier to raise funds and make payments.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Log4Shell



- ❖ A new vulnerability named Log4Shell is being touted as one of the worst cybersecurity flaws to have been discovered.
- ❖ The vulnerability is based on an open-source logging library used in most applications by enterprises and even government agencies.
- ❖ This vulnerability grants hackers' access to an application, and could potentially let them run malicious software on a device or servers.

ENVIRONMENT

Atlantification



- ❖ A recent study has found that Atlantification started at the beginning of the 20th century.
- ❖ The Arctic has warmed by 2 degrees Celsius since 1900.
- ❖ The larger Atlantic Ocean began flowing faster than the Arctic Ocean could accommodate.
- ❖ This weakened the distinction between the layers and transformed Arctic waters into something closer to the Atlantic.
- ❖ This process is called Atlantification.
- ❖ It is part of the reason why the Arctic is warming faster than any other ocean.

New Arctic temperature

- ❖ The United Nations has officially recognized 38 degrees Celsius as a new record high for the Arctic.

- ❖ The temperature was measured in Siberia in 2020.
- ❖ The move has come as an alarm over climate change.
- ❖ The World Meteorological Organisation said that the sweltering heat which is equivalent to 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit was seen in 2020.
- ❖ This marks the highest temperature ever recorded above the Arctic Circle.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Sonali Garg



- ❖ Sonali Garg has won a prestigious postdoctoral fellowship on biodiversity at Harvard University.
- ❖ Sonali Garg is a researcher at Delhi University.

- ❖ She has described 50 new species of frogs from India, Sri Lanka, and Indonesia.

SPORTS

Chess Championship



- ❖ World chess champion Magnus Carlsen of Norway defended his title and won the FIDE World Championship in Dubai.
- ❖ He beat Ian Nepomniachtchi of Russia.
- ❖ Carlsen clinched his fifth world championship title.

Asian Rowing Championship



- ❖ India won a total of six medals, including two gold and 4 silver medals in the Asian Rowing Championship in Thailand.

- ❖ Arvind Singh bagged a gold in the lightweight Men's single sculls event while his compatriots won three silver medals.
- ❖ In Lightweight Men's Double Sculls, India's Ashish Phugat and Sukhjinder Singh won the silver.

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Energy Conservation Day 2021 - December 14



- ❖ This occasion has been celebrated since 1991 led by the Ministry of power.
- ❖ This day is celebrated to raise awareness regarding the conservation of energy as it is the best way to have a greener and brighter future.
- ❖ 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav: Energy Efficient India' and 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav: Clearer Planet' will be this year's theme.

