

December - 18

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has formed a committee for the differently-abled cricketers of the country.
  - The Proposal was approved by BCCI headed by president Sourav Ganguly & secretary Jay Shah.
- ❖ The French fashion house Chanel named Leena Nair as its new global CEO.
  - She is a British national born in India.
- ❖ The Nupi Lal Day is observed every year on December 12 in Manipur.
  - This is to pay rich homage to the brave women of Manipur who fought for justice against the British colonial rule.
- ❖ Maharashtra (0.64 million) has topped the list of states with the maximum number of beneficiaries under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana (ABRY).
  - It is followed by Tamil Nadu (0.53 million), Gujarat (0.44 million), Karnataka (0.31 million) and Uttar Pradesh (0.27 million) with Nagaland was at the bottom with just 43 beneficiaries.

## NATIONAL

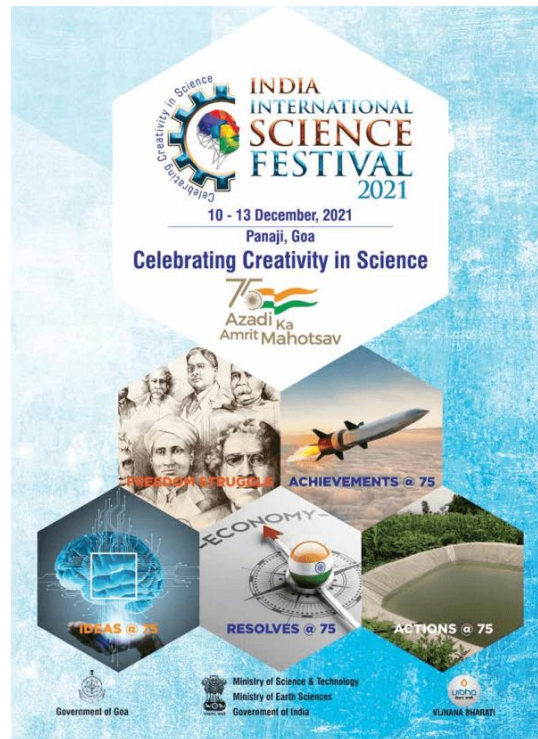
### India's first Green Hydrogen Microgrid Projects



- ❖ State-run NTPC Ltd has been awarded India's first green hydrogen microgrid project in Andhra Pradesh.

- ❖ The project has been awarded at the Simhadri plant of NTPC Ltd at Vishaka Patnam in Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ NTPC will involve in the “Standalone Fuel-cell based Microgrid along with hydrogen production using electrolyzer” project at NTPC Simhadri.

## Science Festival



- ❖ Union Minister of State Science & Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated the seventh edition of the India International Science Festival at Panaji, Goa.
- ❖ The theme of the 4-day science festival is ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’ – “Celebrating Creativity, Science, Technology, and Innovation for a prosperous India”.
- ❖ The First India International Science Festival was held in 2015 at IIT Delhi.
- ❖ The main aim of the Science Festival is to bring into use the innovations by the people and develop technology that is affordable to the masses.

## Electric Vehicles in India

- ❖ Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways, informed Rajya Sabha on the state of Electric Vehicles (EV) in India.
- ❖ As per the data, Uttar Pradesh (UP) holds the top spot in the number of registered EVs.

- ❖ UP is followed by Delhi, Karnataka, Bihar, and Maharashtra in successive positions.
- ❖ The Central Government of India has reduced the Goods & Service Tax (GST) on Electric Vehicles & related products.
  - GST on EVs: 5% (previously 12%)
  - GST on EV Chargers & Charging Stations: 5% (previously 18%)

### **#Care4Hockey Campaign**



- ❖ Bajaj Allianz General Insurance has started its '#Care4Hockey' Campaign to elevate field Hockey's recognition in India.
- ❖ The company has partnered with Padma Shri (2020) Rani Rampal, Indian Women's Hockey Team Captain, who will be the face of the campaign.
- ❖ '#Care4Hockey' is a one of its kind campaigns which aims to support the development of Hockey in India from the grass-root level.

### **Chairman of Chiefs of Staff Committee**

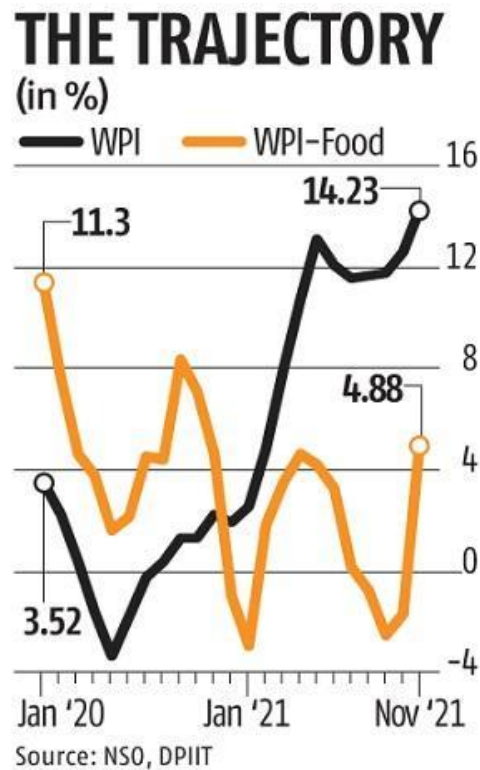
- ❖ Indian Army Chief Gen MM Naravane has taken charge as the Chairman of Chiefs of Staff Committee comprising the three service chiefs.
- ❖ The post of the Chairman of Chiefs of Staff Committee had fallen vacant after the death of the Chief of Defence Staff Bipin Rawat in the IAF helicopter crash in Tamil Nadu on December 8, 2021.

- ❖ Army Chief Gen MM Naravane has been appointed as the current Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee because of his seniority among the three service Chiefs.



## ECONOMY

### Wholesale inflation

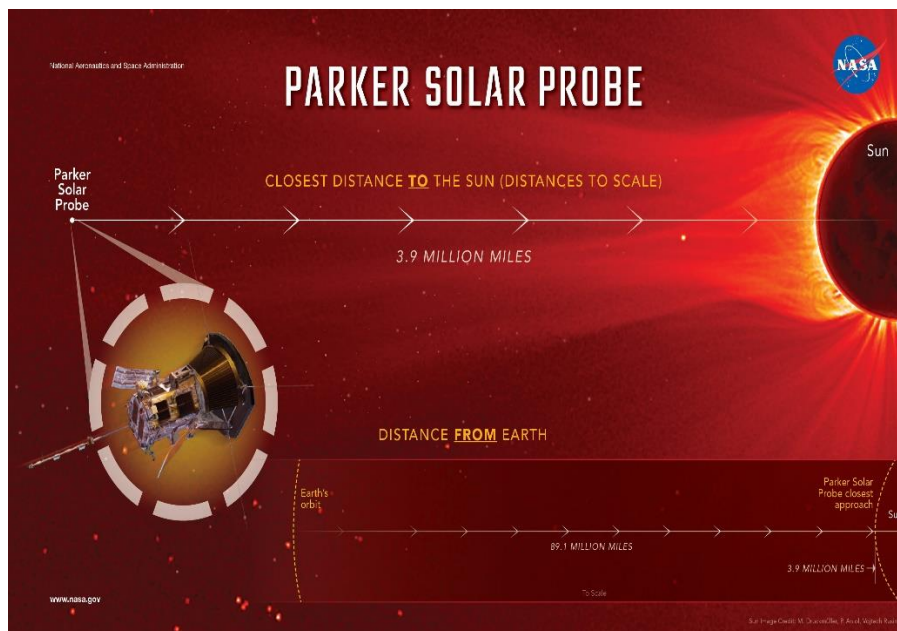


- ❖ Annual wholesale price-based inflation in India had accelerated to a record high in November 2021.

- ❖ The wholesale price inflation is accelerated by increases in manufacturing and food prices.
- ❖ Thus, it raised concerns about rising inflationary pressure.
- ❖ Annual wholesale price-based inflation increased to 14.23% in November.
- ❖ It was highest since April 2005.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Parker Solar Probe



- ❖ Recently, a scientific paper revealed that NASA's Parker Solar Probe successfully entered the Sun's Corona on April 28, 2021.
- ❖ Corona is the outermost layer of the Sun's atmosphere
- ❖ Parker Solar Probe is the first spacecraft to fly into the low solar corona.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Askot Wildlife Sanctuary - Eco-Sensitive Zone

- ❖ The area around the boundary of Askot Wildlife Sanctuary in the Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand has been declared as the Askot Wildlife Sanctuary Eco-Sensitive Zone.
- ❖ The notified area extends from 0 to 22 km around the Askot Wildlife Sanctuary.

- ❖ The Askot Wildlife Sanctuary was established to protect the endangered flagship species Musk Deer and its habitat.
- ❖ The Askot Wildlife Sanctuary is also known as Musk Deer Park.



## STATES

### Kolkata's Durga Puja

Custom/ Cultural Expression	Year included
1. Tradition of Vedic Chanting	2008
2. Ramlila, the traditional performance of Ramayana	2008
3. Kutiyattam, Sanskrit Theatre	2008
4. Ramman, religious festival and ritual theatre of the Garhwal Himalayas, India	2009
5. Navroj*	2009
6. Mudi yettu, ritual theatre and dance drama of Kerala	2010
7. Kalbelia folk songs and dances of Rajasthan	2010
8. Chhau dance	2010
9. Buddhist chanting of Ladakh	2012
10. Sankirtana, ritual singing, drumming and dancing of Manipur	2013
11. Traditional brass and copper craft of utensil making among the Thatheras of Jandiala Guru, Punjab	2014
12. Yoga	2016
13. Kumbh Mela	2017

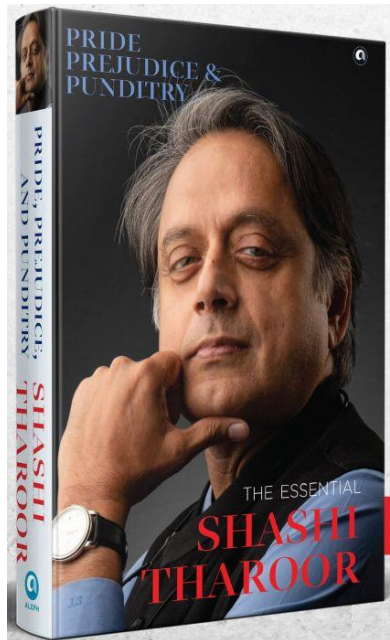
- ❖ UNESCO has added Durga Puja in Kolkata to its 2021 list of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

- ❖ This gives international recognition to the biggest religious festival of the 331-year-old city and the state of West Bengal.
- ❖ With the inclusion of Durga Puja, the number of elements in the list of Intangible Cultural Heritage from India has increased to 14.

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

### **Shashi Tharoor's new book**

- ❖ Dr. Shashi Tharoor's 23rd book titled 'Pride, Prejudice, and Punditry' was launched in Hyderabad, Telangana.
- ❖ He is the former Union Minister and the present Lok Sabha Member of Parliament.
- ❖ There are ten sections in this book, each devoted to a particular topic such as modern Indian history, Indian Politics, etc.
- ❖ He has won 'Sahitya Akademi Award' for 2019 for his book - An Era of Darkness.



## **SPORTS**

### **List of TOPS athletes for 2024**

- ❖ A total of 148 athletes have been identified for support under the Target Olympic Podium Scheme at a meeting of the Mission Olympic Cell of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

- ❖ The 148 athletes include 20 new inductees and other athletes in seven Olympic disciplines and six Paralympic disciplines.
- ❖ The TOP scheme is an attempt to provide assistance to India's top athletes.
- ❖ This scheme was started in 2014.



### **Lewis Hamilton receives knighthood**



- ❖ Seven-times Formula One (F1) champion Lewis Hamilton of British has received “knighthood” for services to motorsport.
- ❖ Lewis Hamilton holds the record for most race wins with 103.



- ❖ Hamilton is the fourth F1 driver to be knighted.
- ❖ However, Lewis Hamilton is the only one to have received this award while still racing.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### Vijay Diwas - December 16

- ❖ In India Vijay Diwas also called Victory Day is celebrated every year.
- ❖ The country is celebrating the 50th Vijay Diwas in 2021.
- ❖ Vijay Diwas is observed to commemorate the service, valour, and sacrifices of the gallant men of the Indian Armed Forces' victory over Pakistan in the 1971 war.
- ❖ The Indo-Pakistan war of 1971 which began on December 3 lasted for 13 days and officially ended on December 16.

