

December - 18

TNPSC BITS

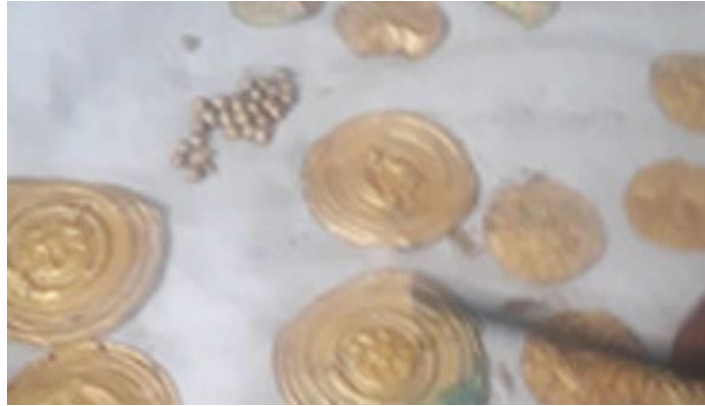
- ❖ According to the recently released Smuggling in India report of 2020, Mizoram has emerged as one of the major drug trafficking routes from Myanmar.
- ❖ CinemaSCOpe is a movie series launched by the Indian Embassy in Beijing exclusively for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) countries.
- ❖ International Olympic Committee has recently confirmed Breakdancing as an official Olympic sport.
 - It is to be added at the 2024 Paris Games.
- ❖ The Indian Railways has recently launched Hospital Management Information System (HMIS).
 - The trial version of this project has been launched in South Central Railway.
- ❖ The Saksham Offshore Patrol vessel is being built at Goa Shipyard Limited.
 - It is the first and last Offshore Patrol vessel.
- ❖ The US Senate recently passed the National Defence Authorisation Act.
 - It has brought India at par with the NATO allies of America and other countries like South Korea and Israel.
- ❖ Gujarat is the first Indian state to have approved a system to modernise fire safety certification process.
- ❖ Manipur's Ngangom Bala Devi created history by becoming the first Indian woman to score in a professional European football league.
 - She joined the Scottish club in January 2020 and became the first Indian woman to sign a professional football contract overseas.

TAMIL NADU

Gold Treasure

- ❖ This treasure was found from the Kuzhambeswarar (குழம்பேஸ்வரர்) temple located near Uthiramerur.
- ❖ The temple is said to belong during the reign of Kulotunga Chola II in the 11th century.
- ❖ Uthiramerur is a place in the Kancheepuram district of Tamil Nadu.

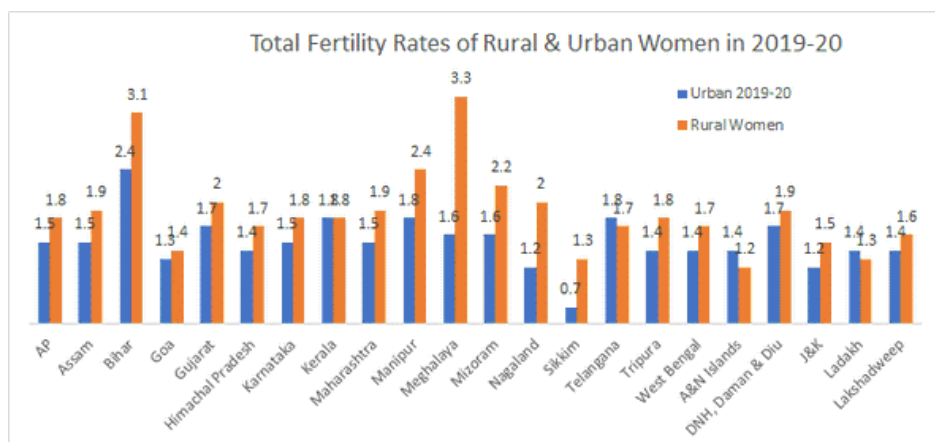
- ❖ There are also inscriptions at Uthiramerur from the period of Parantaka Chola I (907–950), Rajaraja Chola I (985–1014), Rajendra Chola I (1012–1044) and Kulothunga Chola I (1070–1120).
- ❖ The temple inscriptions of Uthiramerur are notable for their historical descriptions of the rural self-governance.



NATIONAL

National Family Health Survey for the 2019-20 fiscal (NFHS-5)

- ❖ It was released by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- ❖ It was released by four years after the last survey (NFHS-4, 2015-16)
- ❖ The total fertility rate (TFR) has decreased across majority of the states.
- ❖ Except for Bihar, Manipur and Meghalaya, all other states have a TFR of 2.1 or less.
- ❖ It implies that most states have attained replacement level fertility.
- ❖ Sex ratio in Assam is now skewed in favour of females.
- ❖ There were 1,012 females born during 2019-2020 per 1,000 males.



Vigyan yatra

- ❖ It is a promotional activity to promote scientific temper.
- ❖ It is being carried out as a part of the 6th India International Science Festival.
- ❖ The festival is organised by the Ministry of Science and Technology.
- ❖ Theme of this year is Science for Self-Reliant India and Global Welfare.



INTERNATIONAL

Lives in the Balance summit

- ❖ It was organised by WHO's the Partnership for Maternal, New born & Child Health (PMNCH).
- ❖ India pledged a commitment of USD 2 billion to provide essential services to women, new born, young children and adolescents across the world.

ECONOMY

Automated Banknote Processing Centre

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India will be setting up its first Automated Banknote Processing Centre (ABPC) in Jaipur for storage, receipt and dispatch of currency notes.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India is the sole issuer of bank notes in the country.



BEAM Platform

- ❖ The Bombay Stock Exchange launched an electronic spot platform, 'BSE E-Agricultural Markets Limited' or BEAM.
- ❖ It will function as a national level, electronic, institutionalized, transparent commodity spot trading platform.
- ❖ BEAM will be the only company in India to fulfil this requirement.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Angara A5

- ❖ It is Russia's Heavy lift space rocket.
- ❖ It is capable of carrying payloads bigger than 20 tonnes into orbit.
- ❖ It is being developed to replace Proton M, as Russia's heavy-lift rocket.
- ❖ Russia's heavy-lift rocket was first test-launched in 2014.

Himgiri of Project 17A

- ❖ The Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) recently launched a new Project 17A ship called Himgiri for the Indian Navy.
- ❖ It is the first of the three ships built by GRSE.
- ❖ The ship was launched into the waters of Hooghly river.
- ❖ It is a Nilgiri-class Stealth Frigate.
- ❖ The Nilgiri class Frigates of Indian Navy are Himgiri, Dunagiri, Udaygiri, Vindhyagiri and Taragiri.
- ❖ This project was approved by the Government of India in 2015.
- ❖ Under the project, a total of seven advanced frigates are to be delivered to the Indian Navy.
- ❖ Four of these are to be constructed by the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited and three are to be launched by GRSE.
- ❖ The Project 17A ships are guided missile frigates.
- ❖ Frigate is a type of warship that has different roles over time.



ENVIRONMENT

Myristica Swamp Tree Frog

- ❖ This rare arboreal species is endemic to the Western Ghats.
- ❖ It was first spotted in Myristica swamps of Arippa, near the Kulathupuzha Reserve Forest, in the western foothills of Agasthyamalai.
- ❖ It is now spotted north of the Shencottah gap in the Vazhachal Reserve Forest in Kerala's Thrissur district.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Colonel Prithipal Singh Gill

- ❖ He has turned 100.
- ❖ He is a World War 2 veteran.
- ❖ He holds a unique distinction of having served in all three defence services.
- ❖ Gill has the distinction of serving in the Royal Indian Air Force, Royal Indian Navy and the Indian Army.



Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2020

- ❖ Ashraf Patel was conferred this award.
- ❖ He is the co-founder of two organizations - Pravah and ComMutiny Youth Collective.
- ❖ The award has been instituted by the Schwab Foundation and Jubilant Bhartia Foundation.

