

December - 21

## TNPSC BITS

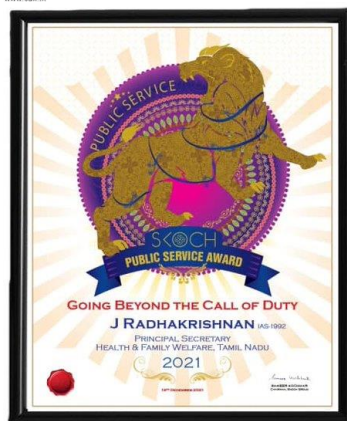
- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved a Rs 76,000-crore production linked incentive (PLI) scheme for boosting semiconductor and display manufacturing in India.
  - With this, the total amount of PLI announced for the electronics sector increase to Rs 2.30 lakh crore.
- ❖ The Chief Minister of Jharkhand has launched a Sports Action toward Harnessing Aspiration of Youth (SAHAY) scheme in Maoist-hit districts of the state.
  - This scheme aims at nurturing young sporting talents.
- ❖ Indian shooter Avani Lekhara won the "Best Female Debut" honor at the 2021 Paralympic Awards.
  - This is for her record-breaking gold medal at the Tokyo Games.
- ❖ Hyundai India appoints Unsoo Kim as the new Managing Director.
  - He will take up responsibilities from Seon Seob Kim.

## TAMIL NADU

### Radhakrishnan - SKOCH award



**77th SKOCH Summit**  
18th Dec 2021



#PublicServiceAward #SKOCHParivar #SKOCHSummit  
#SKOCHAward

- ❖ Tamilnadu Health Secretary J. Radhakrishnan received the SKOCH Public Service Award for Disaster Management and Mitigation in New Delhi.

- ❖ The award was presented to him for handling the aftermath of the Kumbakonam fire tragedy, tsunami relief, and rehabilitation in Nagapattinam district in 2004 and to handling the COVID-19 pandemic.

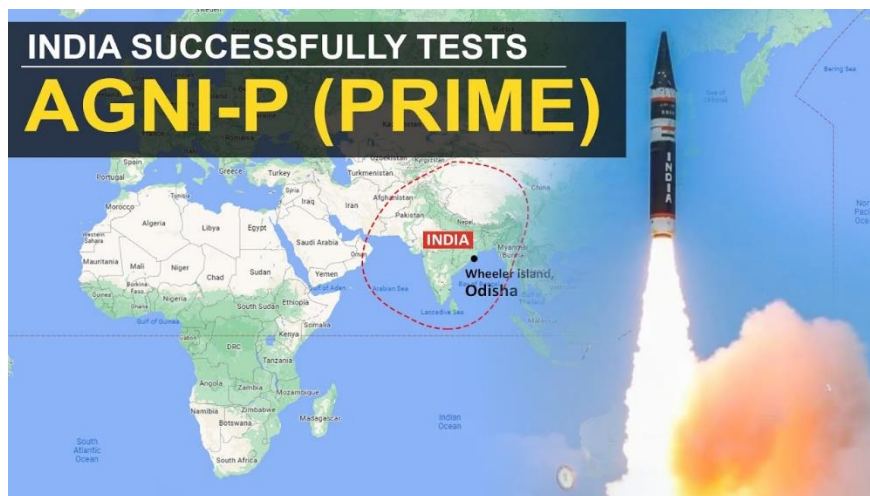
## NATIONAL

### Barn owl in Bihar

- ❖ The forest officials rescued a barn owl in Supaul district of Bihar, in a rare sighting.
- ❖ The Barn owl is usually native to the US, the UK, and other parts of Europe.
- ❖ It is rarely seen in the Indian subcontinent.
- ❖ The Barn Owl is scientifically called *Tyto alba*.



### Agni P Missile



- ❖ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully tested the new generation nuclear-capable ballistic missile 'Agni P'.
- ❖ Agni P was launched from Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam island off the coast of Odisha.
- ❖ It is a medium-range ballistic missile, developed by DRDO as the successor of Agni-I and Agni-II missiles.
- ❖ It is the sixth missile in the Agni series of ballistic missiles.

### **Fine on Amazon**

**Deal goes awry** | A brief look at the tussle between Amazon and Future Group

- In Aug. 2019, Amazon signed a **\$200 million deal** to acquire a **49% stake** in Future Coupons, which owns 7.3% equity in Future Retail, with the right to buy into Future Retail after a period of three to 10 years
- In August 2020, Reliance entered into a deal with Future Group to acquire its retail assets for **₹24,713 crore**
- **Amazon contested the deal, arguing that the terms agreed in its 2019 deal prevented Future Group from selling its retail business to certain rivals, including Reliance**



- ❖ The Competition Commission of India (CCI) fined US e-commerce giant, Amazon Rs 200 crore.
- ❖ The CCI has also suspended the 2019 Amazon deal with Future Coupons, a unit of Future Retail Ltd.
- ❖ Amazon was fined for concealing facts while obtaining approval for this deal.

### **Mission Shakti Living Lab**

- ❖ Odisha inked an agreement with United Nations Capital Development Fund to launch "Mission Shakti Living Lab" for the financial empowerment of women.
- ❖ It will address the barriers related to the autonomy and financial freedom of women.



- ❖ Mission Shakti was launched in 2001 to enhance the holistic development of women.

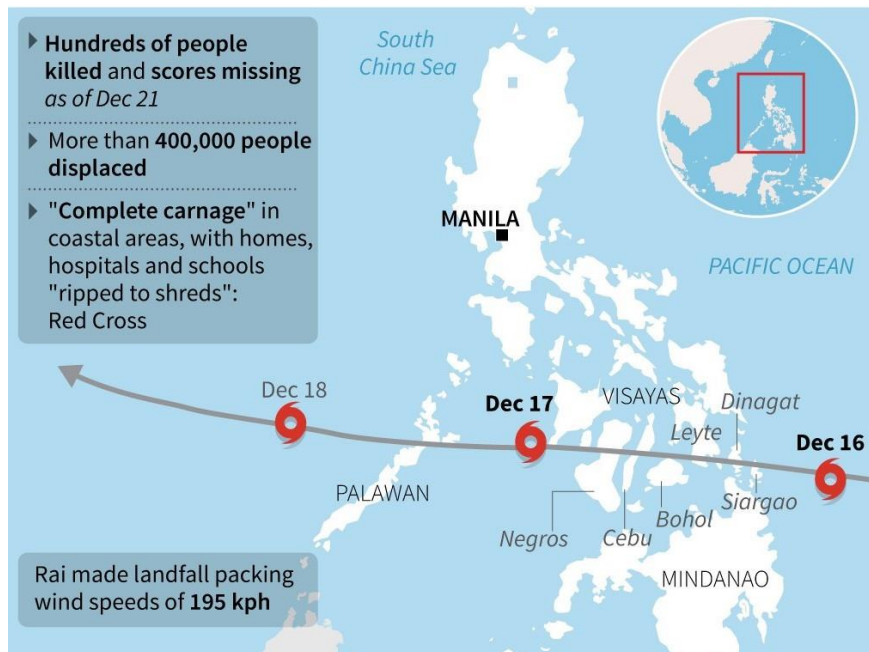


## INTERNATIONAL

### Typhoon Rai

#### Super Typhoon Rai

Strongest storm to hit the Philippines this year



- ❖ Typhoon Rai hit the south-eastern part of the Philippines, bringing heavy rains and flooding causing displacement of thousands over a large area.

- ❖ Rai typhoon was the 15th major weather disturbance that hit the country in the year 2021.
- ❖ It intensified rapidly with sustained winds of 120 miles per hour so that it is classified as a super typhoon,.
- ❖ This designation is similar to a Category 5 hurricane in the United States.
- ❖ Typhoon Rai is called Typhoon Odette in the Philippines.

### **Kalibari temple**



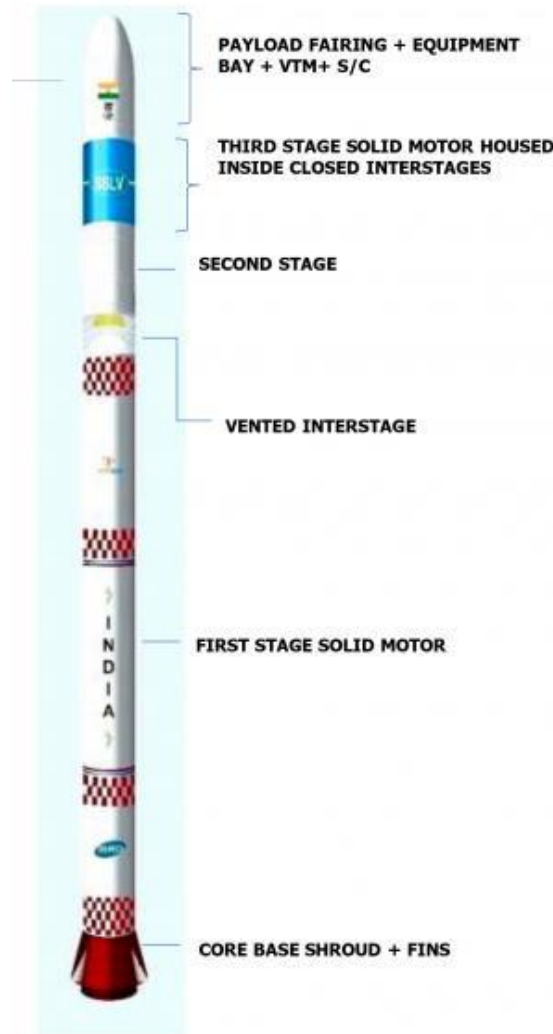
- ❖ This Hindu temple is located in Bangladesh.
- ❖ It was recently inaugurated by President Ram Nath Kovind.
- ❖ It was destroyed by Pakistani forces in 1971.
- ❖ The original Ramna Kalibari was built during the medieval era and was famous for its tall structure.
- ❖ In 1929, the temple complex acquired an additional building for the devotees of the famous saint Anandamayee.

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **Small Satellite Launch Vehicle**

- ❖ Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is in process of developing a Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) with private participation.
- ❖ SSLV will provide a payload capability of 500 kg to a planar orbit of 500 km.

- ❖ SSLV is being developed with the aim of launching small satellites commercially at a reduced price and higher launch rate as against the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV).



## ENVIRONMENT

### Tackling climate and clean energy challenges - India and the US

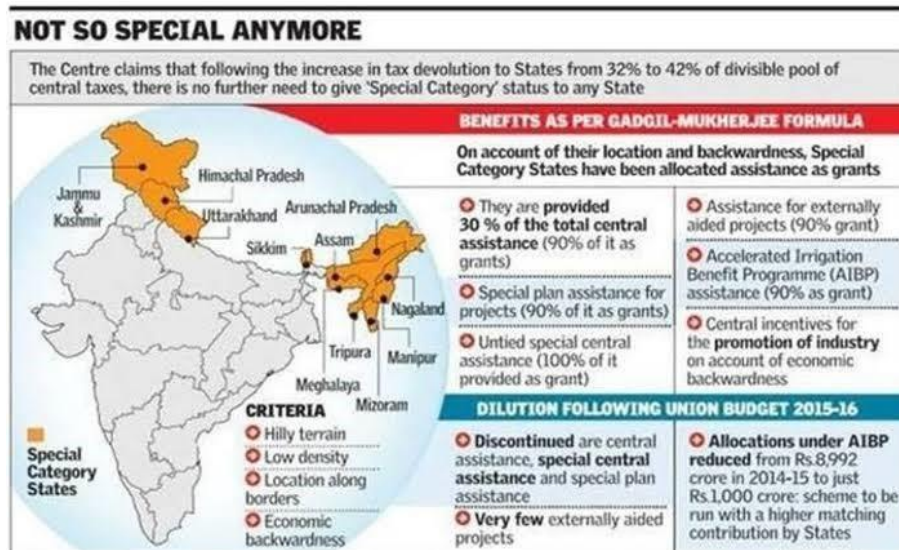
- ❖ India and the US have announced a new program supporting innovations to tackle climate and clean energy challenges.
- ❖ The program is titled 'Technology-based Energy Solutions: Innovations for Net Zero'.

- ❖ It constitutes a call for Ignition Grants by the United States-India Science and Technology Endowment Fund.
- ❖ It will identify and support ‘technology showstoppers’ or promising joint India-US Science and Tech-based entrepreneurial initiatives in this area.



## STATES

### Special status for Bihar



- ❖ Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has again raised his nearly 15-year-old demand for the status of special category state for Bihar.
- ❖ The latest report of the NITI Aayog puts Bihar among the bottom states in terms of growth rate and human development indices.



- ❖ Bihar's annual per capita income lags the national figure by a significant distance.
- ❖ According to the report, 51.91 percent of the state's population lives below the poverty line.
- ❖ Bihar is also doing badly in terms of school dropouts, child malnourishment, maternal health, and infant mortality.
- ❖ There is no provision of Special Category Status in the Constitution.
- ❖ The Central government extends financial assistance to states that are at a comparative disadvantage against others.
- ❖ This classification was done on the recommendations of the Fifth Finance Commission in 1969.

### **Goa Pink Police Force**



- ❖ The Chief Minister of Goa has inaugurated Goa Pink Police Force.
- ❖ It will patrol the beach areas and will provide aid in case a woman complains of abuse or accidents.
- ❖ The Pink Force in Goa is not only for women but it is for children as well.

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

### **World's most admired men**

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has ranked 8th on the list of the world's top 20 most admired men.
- ❖ This is according to the survey carried out by data analytics company YouGov.
- ❖ PM Modi is ahead of Shah Rukh Khan, Amitabh Bachchan, and Virat Kohli.



- ❖ The list also includes the most admired Indian women of 2021 has Priyanka Chopra, Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, and Sudha Murthy.

Rank	Personality
1	Barack Obama
2	Bill Gates
3	Xi Jinping
4	Cristiano Ronaldo
5	Jackie Chan
6	Elon Musk
7	Lionel Messi
8	<b>Narendra Modi</b>
9	Vladimir Putin
10	Jack Ma

## SPORTS

### Kidambi Srikanth

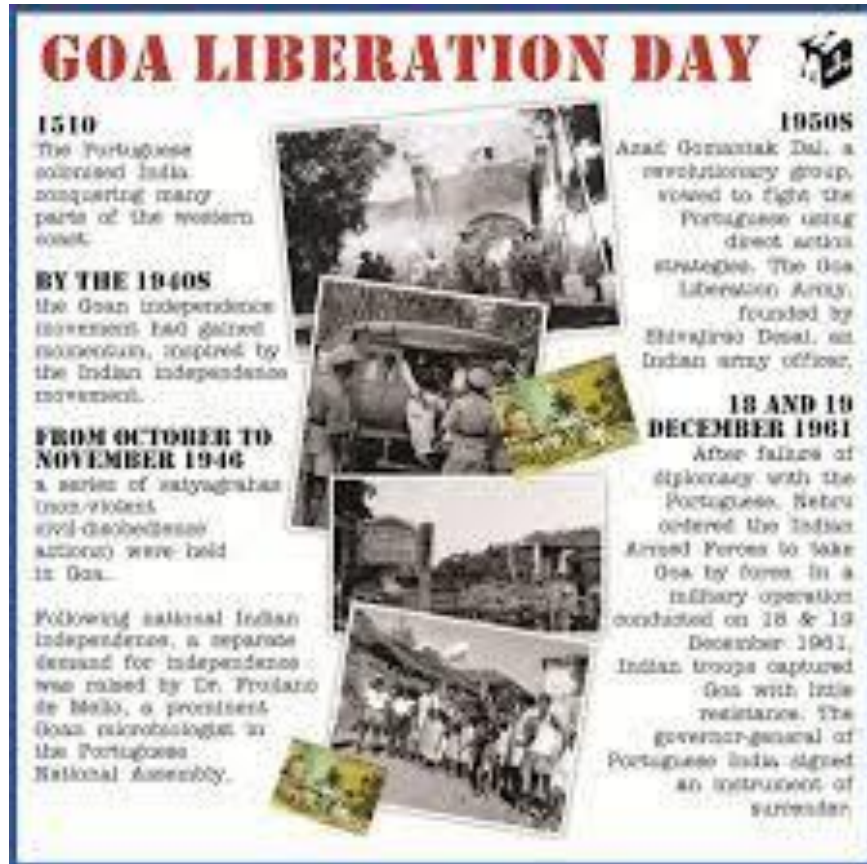


- ❖ Kidambi Srikanth created history by becoming the first Indian shuttler to enter the men's singles final of the BWF World Championships in Huelva, Spain.
- ❖ Kidambi Srikanth is currently ranked world no.14.

- ❖ He has not only become the first Indian male shuttler to qualify for the final at the prestigious event but he is also the third Indian after PV Sindhu and Saina Nehwal.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### 60<sup>th</sup> Goa Liberation Day - December 19



- ❖ It is celebrated in the state as Goa was liberated from Portuguese rule on that day in 1961.
- ❖ Goa was a Portuguese colony for 451 years.
- ❖ The government of India under Jawaharlal Nehru in 1961 adopted a plan called Operation Vijay to free the Portuguese colonies in India.

