

December - 21

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Pakistan has approved the death penalty and chemical castration for the rapists as the part of new legislation.
- ❖ PM Modi has accepted the invitation of Britain's Prime Minister, Boris Johnson to attend the G7 summit in the year 2021.
 - The summit will be hosted by the United Kingdom.
- ❖ The 55 years old Chilahati-Haldibari (West Bengal) rail link between India and Bangladesh was inaugurated.
 - The link was cut off during the Indo-Pak war in 1965.
- ❖ The Union Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Nitin Gadkari unveiled a 'Vedic Paint' to boost the rural economy and generate additional income for farmers.
 - The paint made of cow dung will be launched soon through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission.
- ❖ India has decided to contribute USD 1 million to the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) to ensure an atmosphere of the clean sport globally.
 - The contribution made by India is the highest among the contribution made by the governments of Saudi Arabia, China, and Egypt.
- ❖ The Pakistani cricketer Mohammad Amir confirms retirement from International cricket.
- ❖ The San Isidro Movement (MSI) began two years ago in Cuba in protest against the Cuba's censorship of artistic works.
- ❖ The CEO of Prasar Bharati, Shashi Shekhar vempati has been elected as the Vice President of Asia Pacific broadcasting union.
- ❖ The Government of India and the new Development bank has recently signed a loan Agreement of 1 billion USD to support the rural infrastructure of the country and the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee scheme.
- ❖ American media personality and reality TV star Kylie Jenner has been crowned the highest-paid celebrity of 2020 by Forbes.

NATIONAL

eSanjeevani Telemedicine

- ❖ The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare recently announced that the eSanjeevani Telemedicine has crossed one million tele-consultations.
- ❖ The eSanjeevani is the first of its kind in delivering health services online.
- ❖ It is implemented under the Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centre (AB-HWC) scheme.
- ❖ The top two states that have registered the highest number of tele-consultations are Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.



The poster features the Government of India emblem and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare logo. It displays the eSanjeevani OPD logo with the slogan 'STAY HOME OPD'. An illustration shows a doctor on a screen with a group of people. The text 'स्वस्थ भारत' (Healthy India) is at the bottom. A blue box on the right contains the following text:

"eSanjeevani"
telemedicine service
records 1 million
tele-consultations

- ❑ eSanjeevani used by patients in over 550 districts
- ❑ Volume of Consultations per day increases to around 14,000

INTERNATIONAL

'Currency manipulators' monitoring list

- ❖ The U.S. Treasury has labelled Switzerland and Vietnam as currency manipulators.
- ❖ It has also added three new names - Taiwan, Thailand and India - to a watch list of countries.
- ❖ It suspects of taking measures to devalue their currencies against the dollar.

WHAT IT MEANS...	
For India There will be pressure on RBI to cut down intervention , allow the rupee to appreciate	For economy A stronger rupee would partially offset the impact of rising oil prices on imports
In terms of restrictions The tag does not involve any kind of trade restrictions	For RBI The central bank can increase diversification of its reserves to include non-dollar assets



NETRA Control Centre

- ❖ The Indian Space Research Organisation has set up a dedicated control Centre for space situational awareness activities.
- ❖ The centre has been named “NETRA”.
- ❖ It has been located within the ISTRAC campus off Bengaluru.

Network of Central banks and supervisors

- ❖ The united states federal reserve joined the International Group of Central banks focusing on climate change risk.
- ❖ So far it was the only major Global Central Bank beside the Reserve Bank of India that was not a member of the network of Central banks and supervisors.

ECONOMY

23rd meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council

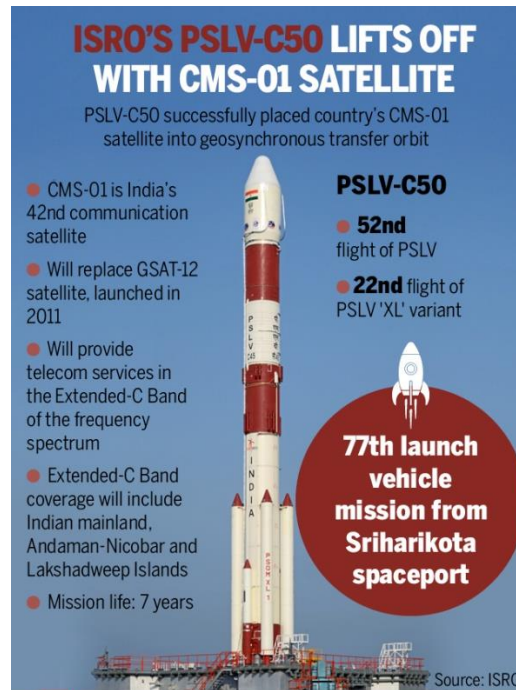
- ❖ The Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman recently chaired this.
- ❖ It was set up in 2010.
- ❖ It is a non-statutory apex body that consists of financial regulators of the country.
- ❖ The members of the council are Governor of RBI, secretary of Department of Economic Affairs, chief Economic Advisor of Ministry of Finance, Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority, Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority.
- ❖ It also includes the Chairman of IBBI (Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board).

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

CMS-01 satellite

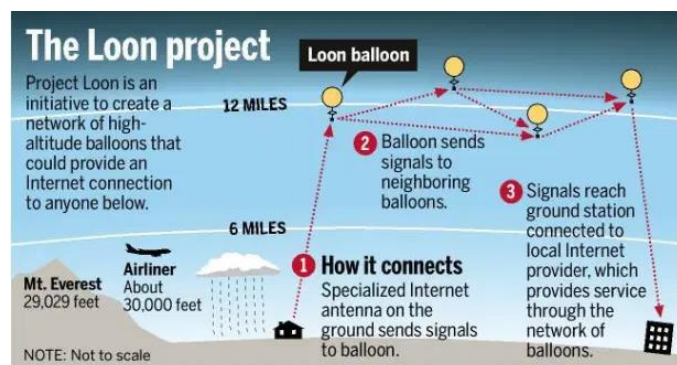
- ❖ It is a communication satellite launched by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on board the PSLV-C50.
- ❖ It is the 42nd communications satellite envisaged for providing services in extended C Band of the frequency spectrum.
- ❖ Its coverage will include the Indian mainland, and the Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep islands.
- ❖ It is to inject the CMS-01 in the geo-synchronous transfer orbit.
- ❖ This satellite’s mission life will be of 7 years.

- ❖ This was the 52nd flight for the PSLV rocket and for the Indian Space Research Organisation.
- ❖ The launch of Communication Satellite CMS-01 was the 77th launch mission from home.
- ❖ It was launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Siharikota, Andhra Pradesh.



Project Loon

- ❖ Project Loon aims to tap the Earth's stratosphere to provide internet connectivity to the remote parts of the world.
- ❖ It is implemented by Google.
- ❖ Google recently announced that its balloons have successfully stayed in the stratosphere for almost a year.





- ❖ The balloons are helium filled and cover a distance of 2.1 lakh kilo metres.
- ❖ Recently, Loon has created a new record for the longest stratospheric flight by staying in air for 312 days.

ENVIRONMENT

Red List of Indian Grasshoppers

- ❖ The Grasshopper Specialist Group of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is initiating the Red List Assessment of grasshoppers in India for the first time.
- ❖ So far, none of the Indian grasshopper species has been listed in the Red Data Book.
- ❖ The assessment would be initiated in the Nilgiris Biosphere Reserve (NBR) on the border between Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka.
- ❖ This assessment will include 30 endemic species of the NBR along with the new species of grasshopper 'Tettilobus trishula' or 'Shiva's pygmy trishula'
- ❖ Shiva's pygmy trishula was discovered in the Eravikulam National Park, Kerala in 2018.
- ❖ Red List of Threatened Species, founded in 1964, is the world's most comprehensive inventory of the global conservation status of biological species.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Forbes 2020 list of 100 most powerful women

- ❖ It is topped by German Chancellor Angela Merkel for the 10th year in a row.
- ❖ New Zealand's Prime Minister (PM) Jacinda Ardern and United States (US)'s Vice President (VP)-elect Kamala Harris have also been featured in the list.
- ❖ Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Biocon founder Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, HCL Enterprise CEO Roshni Nadar Malhotra, and the chairwoman of Landmark Group Renuka Jagtiani have been named among the world's 100 most powerful women by the Forbes Magazine.
- ❖ Sitharaman is ranked 41st on the list, Nadar Malhotra comes in at the 55th spot, Mazumdar-Shaw is ranked 68th and Renuka Jagtiani is ranked 98th.
- ❖ Nirmala Sitharaman is India's first full-time female finance minister.

THE WORLD'S 100 MOST POWERFUL WOMEN 2020



Golden Peacock Environment Management Award

- ❖ Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) received this award for 2020.
- ❖ This award was instituted in 1998 by World Environment Foundation (WEF).

