

December - 22

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India has decided to make the Scheduled payments banks and scheduled small finance banks eligible to conduct Government agency business.
  - The decision was made with consultation with the Department of Financial Services, the Ministry of Finance.
- ❖ India's first international arbitration and mediation center was inaugurated in Hyderabad.
  - It was jointly inaugurated by Chief Justice of India NV Ramana and Telangana chief minister K Chandrasekhar Rao.

## NATIONAL

### Controlled aerial delivery system



- ❖ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) demonstrated the Controlled Aerial Delivery System recently.
- ❖ The Flight demonstration of Controlled Aerial Delivery System was demonstrated by Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment (ADRDE).
- ❖ The System was of 500 kg capacity (CADS-500).

- ❖ The demonstration of the flight was part of a series of activities that were organized to celebrate 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'.
- ❖ The System performance was demonstrated at Drop Zone, Malpura in Rajasthan from an altitude of 5000 m.

### **Good Governance Week - December 20 to 25**

## **Good Governance Week**

**December 20-25, 2021**

- ❖ The Good Governance Week is being organized in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Panchayati Raj & Rural Development.
- ❖ It is being celebrated as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- ❖ On this occasion, the Good Governance Week Portal will be launched.
- ❖ A film on "Prashasan Gaon Ki Aur" will also be screened.
- ❖ The Good Governance Week is being organized under the theme "Prashasan Gaon Ki Aur".

### **Mormugao**



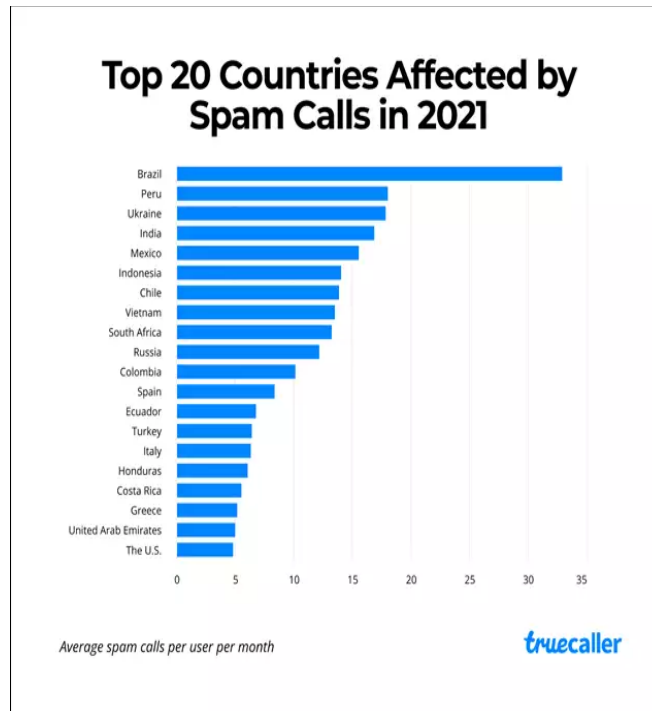
- ❖ The Indian Navy conducted the first sea trials for the Indian Navy's indigenously built stealth destroyer called Mormugao, in the Arabian Sea.
- ❖ The maiden sea voyage of the warship has been built under project P-15B.

- ❖ Its development coincides with the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Goa from Portuguese rule.
- ❖ Mormugao is the second indigenous stealth destroyer, that is being built under Project P-15B.
- ❖ This Stealth destroyer Mormugao is being built at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd.

### Rashtriya Ekta Geet

- ❖ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh recently launched Rashtriya Ekta Geet.
- ❖ It has been composed by the National Cadet Core cadets.
- ❖ Rashtriya Ekta Geet has been composed in 22 languages.
- ❖ It is based on the theme of national integration.

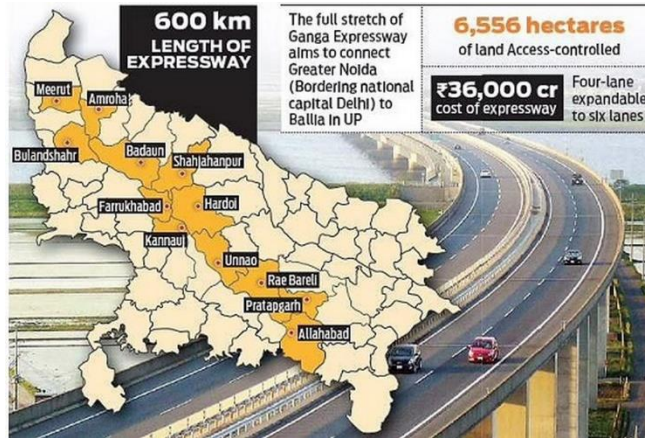
### Spam calls in India



- ❖ Spam call rates in India had moved up in global rankings from 9th position to 4th position.
- ❖ This is owing to a significant increase in sales and telemarketing calls in 2021.
- ❖ This is according to the latest insights by callerID, spam detection and blocking company, Truecaller.

- ❖ The top three countries in the world with maximum spam-based calls were Brazil, Peru, and Ukraine.

## Ganga Expressway



- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has laid the foundation stone of Ganga Expressway in Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ After completion of work, it will become the longest expressway of Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ Ganga Expressway is a 594 Km long Expressway.

## Election Laws (Amendment) Bill 2021



- ❖ The Union government introduced 'The Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021' in Lok Sabha.
- ❖ This is in order to link Aadhaar with the electoral roll.
- ❖ Election Laws (Amendment) Bill 2021 will allow electoral registration officers to ask for Aadhaar number of people who want to register as voters.



- ❖ Bill also seeks to allow electoral registration officers to ask for Aadhaar number from people who have already been included in the electoral roll.
- ❖ The bill will amend several sections of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and 1951.

### **Reintroduction of Gharials in Beas Conservation Reserve**

## **BEAS CONSERVATION RESERVE, PUNJAB**

AREA: **185-km stretch  
along Beas**

THEN: **Sand mining and  
overfishing were  
destroying the river**

CONSERVATION EFFORT:  
**Beas becomes the  
first river in India to  
be declared a  
conservation reserve**

NOW: **Home to Indus  
dolphins and  
gharials**

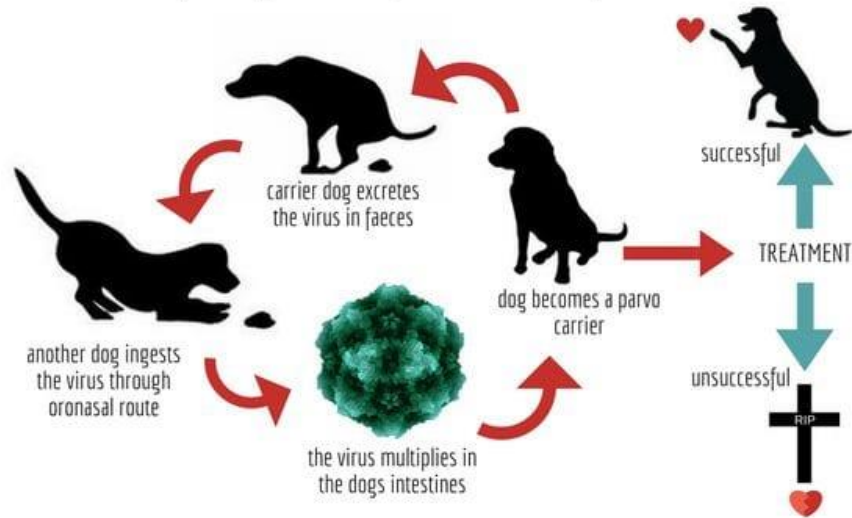
- ❖ Punjab's wildlife preservation wing has reintroduced the Gharials in the rivers of Punjab where it had become extinct half a century ago.
- ❖ Gharials (*Gavialis gangeticus*) or gavials are critically endangered species of Asian crocodiles.
- ❖ The population of Gharials is a good indicator of clean river water.

### **Parvovirus**

- ❖ Nearly 2,000 pet and stray dogs in Amravati city in Maharashtra were affected by the canine parvovirus virus last month.

- ❖ It is a highly contagious viral disease affecting puppies and dogs.
- ❖ It affects the intestinal tract of canines with puppies being more susceptible.
- ❖ This virus was discovered in 1967.

## The life cycle of canine parvovirus



## ECONOMY

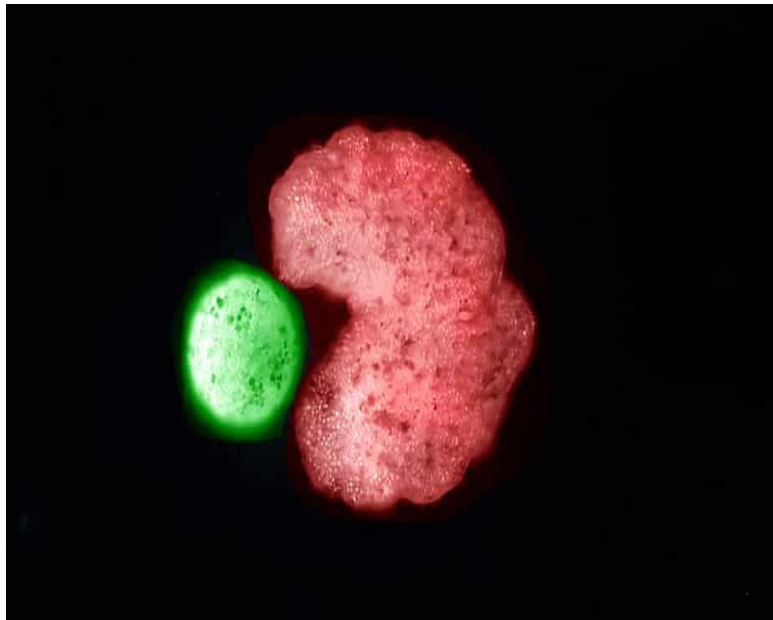
### ICICI Prudential Life Insurance



- ❖ ICICI Prudential Life Insurance became the first Indian insurance company to sign United Nations-supported Principles for Responsible Investment (UNPRI).
- ❖ This is to demonstrate the commitment towards environmental, social, and governance issues.
- ❖ In order to promote sustainability, IPRULIFE is integrating Environmental, social, and governance factors into its investment management framework.
- ❖ The UNPRI is an investor initiative in partnership with the two bodies of the United Nations – the UN Environment Programme Finance Initiative and the UN Global Compact.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Xenobots



- ❖ Scientists have witnessed a never-before-seen type of self-replication in the world's first living robots (Xenobots).
- ❖ These are created in the lab using frog cells.
- ❖ Xenobots are synthetic life forms that are designed by computers to perform some desired function and built by combining together different biological tissues.
- ❖ Xenobots are named after the African clawed frog (*Xenopus laevis*).
- ❖ The world's first Xenobots were developed in 2020 by assembling African clawed frog cells.



- ❖ One day these Xenobots could be programmed to perform useful functions such as finding cancer cells in the human body or trapping harmful microplastics in the ocean.

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

### **Mohit Jain**



- ❖ Mohit Jain of The Economic Times was elected president of The Indian Newspaper Society for the year 2021-22.
- ❖ Indian Newspaper Society is an apex body of Publishers of Newspapers, Magazines & Periodicals in the country.
- ❖ He succeeds L Adimoolam of Health & The Antiseptic.

### **Gandhi Topi Governor - Telugu book**



- ❖ Vice President of India M Venkaiah Naidu has released the Telugu book titled 'Gandhi Topi Governor'.



- ❖ It is written by Padma Awardee Dr. Yarlagadda Lakshmi Prasad, Chairman, Official Language Commission, Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ The book chronicles the life of Barrister Idpuganti Raghavendra Rao.
- ❖ Rao was a prominent freedom fighter, Legislator, and the Governor of the Central Provinces in the British Administration.

## SPORTS

### **BWF World Championships**



- ❖ Shuttler Kidambi Srikanth became the first Indian man to win a silver medal at BWF World Championships held at Huelva, Spain.
- ❖ In the final, he was defeated by Singapore's Loh Kean Yew.
- ❖ This was also the first time that a men's player from Singapore won gold at BWF World Championships.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### **International Human Solidarity - December 20**

- ❖ The day is observed every year to celebrate unity in diversity and raise awareness about the importance of solidarity.



- ❖ According to the United Nations Millennium Declaration, solidarity is among the fundamental values that are essential to international relations.

