

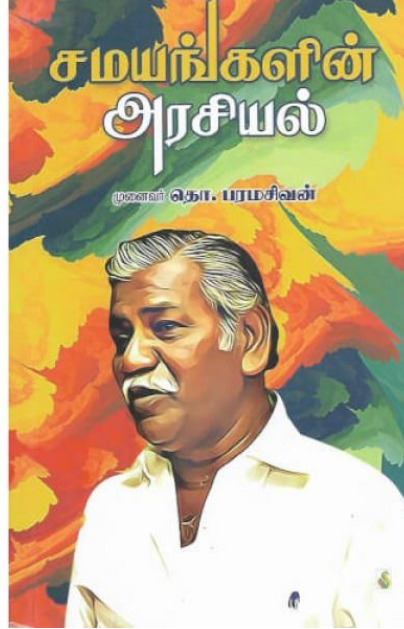
December - 27

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The 'FRUITS' (Farmer Registration and Unified Beneficiary Information System) portal, is a project of e-governance by Karnataka Government.
 - It was integrated to the Bhoomi portal of the State for validating land details.
- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved the merger of different film bodies - National Film Archives of India, Films Division, Directorate of Film Festivals and Children's Film Society India - with the National Film Development Corporation.
 - India is the largest producer of movies globally.
- ❖ The Kilauea Volcano in Hawaii's Big Island in the USA recently erupted.

TAMIL NADU

Tho. Paramasivan



- ❖ He passed away on December 24.
- ❖ He was an Indian anthropologist and writer of Tamil ancestry.
- ❖ He was a Tamil professor in the Manonmaniam Sundaranar University.
- ❖ He was Known for his research into the tradition of Tamil society.

- ❖ Paramasivan redefined the cultural space of the Tamils in the light of epics such as Chilapathikaram.
- ❖ Paramasivan authored more than 15 books, including Alagar Kovil, Panpaattu Asaivukal, Ariyappadaatha Thamilagam, Valithadangal, Samayam, Samayankalin Arasiyal, Uraikal, Naal Malarkal, Maanuda Vaasippu, Marabum Puthumaiyum and Idhuvu Jananaayagam.

NATIONAL

DigiBoxx

- ❖ It was announced by the NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant.
- ❖ It is India's First Digital asset management platform.
- ❖ It is a file sharing and cloud storage platform.
- ❖ It provides 20 GB of free cloud storage and 100 GB free space per month.
- ❖ It charges only 30 rupees per month for such large storages.
- ❖ It is first in its kind under "Make in India, Store in India" policy of India.
- ❖ It is a Software as a Service product that is in line with the National security and data localisation priorities.





INTERNATIONAL

UK-India Bilateral Investment Treaty

- ❖ The Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague of the Netherlands unanimously ruled in favour of Cairn Energy of the UK against India in a tax dispute.
- ❖ In 2011, Cairn Energy sold its majority stake in Cairn India to Vedanta Ltd
- ❖ In 2014, the Indian tax department had demanded Rs 10,247 crore as taxes.
- ❖ The Indian government was seeking taxes over an internal business reorganisation using the 2012 retrospective tax law.
- ❖ Earlier the Vodafone had won an international arbitration case against the Indian government in September this year.

A taxing journey

A timeline of the conflict

January 2014: Income Tax Department seeks information from Cairn Energy about group reorganisation done in 2006

March 2015: Cairn Energy receives draft assessment order from I-T Department, citing **retrospective legislation to seek ₹10,247 crore** in taxes. Cairn reacts by filing a notice of dispute

May 2018: Pending arbitration proceedings, I-T Department begins selling Cairn shares to recover tax dues

2018: Three-member international arbitration tribunal concludes hearings in tax dispute

December 23, 2020: Cairn Energy wins arbitration

Israel elections

- ❖ The national legislature of Israel Knesset failed to pass a budget.



- ❖ Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his coalition partner and leader of Blue and White party Benny Gantz blamed each other for the collapse of their seven-month-old government.
- ❖ Israel is now headed towards its fourth elections in two years.
- ❖ Israel will have elections probably in March 2021.
- ❖ After three inconclusive elections, Benny Gantz had agreed to join Benjamin Netanyahu to form an 'emergency coalition government' in April 2020.

ENVIRONMENT

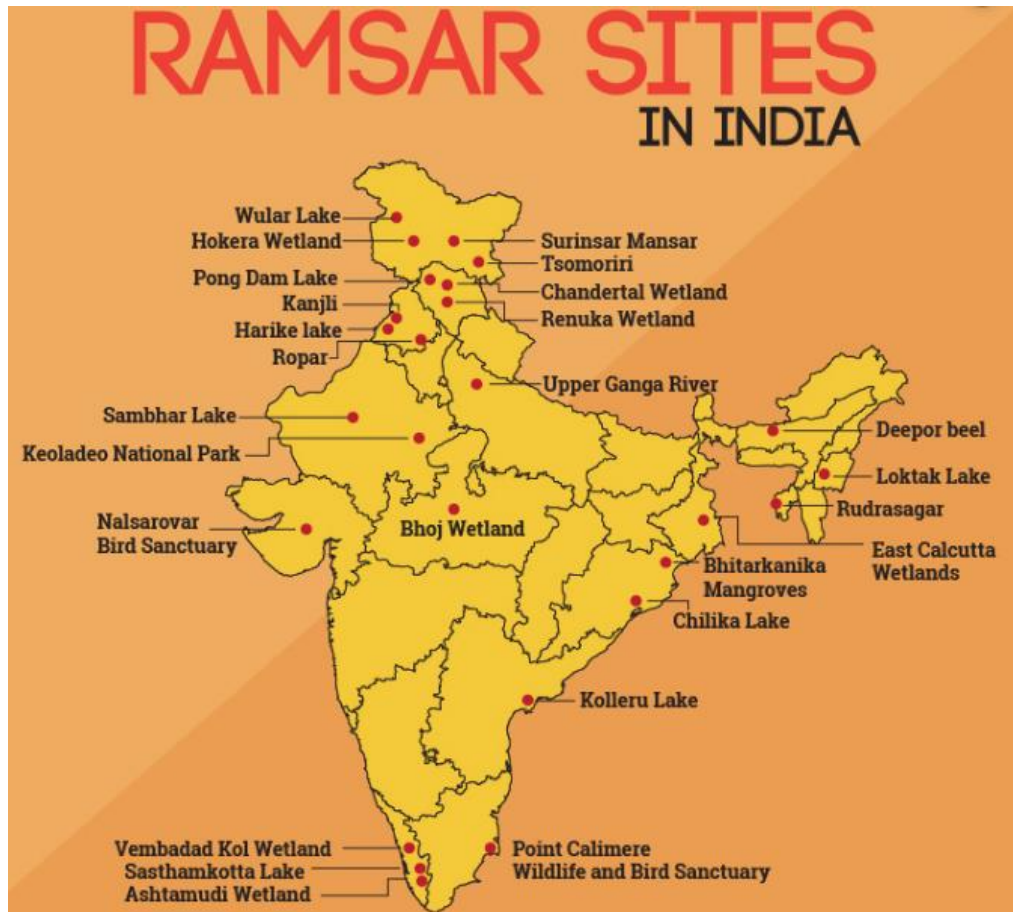
Population of Blue Whales

- ❖ The scientists have recently found evidence that there exists a new population of Blue Whale in the Western Indian Ocean.
- ❖ The Whales emit sounds and based on the echo received they track their prey in water.
- ❖ They analysed the recordings from the Arabian Sea coast of Oman till Madagascar.
- ❖ This population is being discovered for the first time in this area.
- ❖ The Blue Whale was once abundant in all the oceans of the earth.
- ❖ The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species lists Blue Whale as “Endangered species”.

Tso Kar Wetland Complex of Ladakh

- ❖ It was recognised as the wetland of international importance.
- ❖ With this, the Tso Kar Wetland became 42nd Ramsar site of India and 2nd Ramsar site of Ladakh.
- ❖ It is a fluctuating Salt Lake located in Rupushu plateau.
- ❖ This high-altitude wetland complex is located at the Changthang region of Ladakh.
- ❖ The TSO Kar basin is categorised as A1 Category Important Bird Area (IBA) as per the Bird Life International.
- ❖ It is also a key staging site in the Central Asian Flyway.
- ❖ This basin is one of the most important breeding areas of the Black-necked Crane in India.

- ❖ The Ramsar Convention was established on February 2, 1971 at a city of Iran called Ramsar.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Sugathakumari passed away

- ❖ She began her literary life in Malayalam literature under the pen name Sreekumar.
- ❖ She was one of the most active campaigners of the Save Silent Valley Movement in Kerala.
- ❖ She won the first Indira Priyadarshini Vriksha Mitra Award from the Government of India for her efforts in environmental conservation and afforestation.
- ❖ In 1996, she became the first chairperson of the Kerala State Women's Commission.
- ❖ Her tenure was marked by the launch of Kudumbashree Mission.

- ❖ Silent Valley is an evergreen tropical forest in the Palakkad district of Kerala, India.

Kailash Satyarthi new Book

- ❖ The book titled 'Covid-19: Sabhyata ka Sankat aur Samadhan' (Covid-19: Crisis of Civilisation and Solutions) was launched online by former Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra and Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh Narayan Singh.
- ❖ It is written by the Nobel laureate Kailash Satyarthi.
- ❖ In 2014, he was the co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, along with Malala Yousafzai of Pakistan.
- ❖ He is the founder of including Bachpan Bachao Andolan, Global March Against Child Labour, Global Campaign for Education and Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation.

SPORTS

FIH Rankings 2020

- ❖ The International Hockey Federation (FIH) confirmed that the Indian men's hockey team will end 2020 at the fourth spot while the Indian women's side will finish at the ninth spot.
- ❖ The Belgium men's team and the Netherlands' women will finish the year at the top of the world rankings.

Men's Rank List		
Rank	Country	Points Secured
4	India	2064.14
1	Belgium	2481.34
2	Australia	2393.58
3	Netherlands	2237.61



India men's hockey team achieves all-time highest FIH ranking, jumps to 4th spot

