

December - 03

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Outdoor air pollution from all source's accounts for 2.18 million deaths per year in India, second only to China according to a modelling study published in the BMJ.
 - The research found that air pollution from using fossil fuels in industry, power generation, and transportation accounts for 5.1 million extra deaths a year worldwide.
- ❖ Despite a tangible growth downturn in the farm and services sectors as well as consumer spending, India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew at a higher-than-expected 7.6% in the July-September 2023 quarter, as per initial estimates from the National Statistical Office.
- ❖ Former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger has died at the age of 100.
 - He was behind the US bombing of Cambodia during the Vietnam War, the US's involvement in the 1973 Chilean military coup, the US's tacit support to Argentina's military junta, and notably, the US support for Pakistan during the Bangladesh Liberation War in 1971.
- ❖ Nepal becomes first South Asian nation to register same-sex marriage.
 - Taiwan is the only other country to legalise same-sex marriage in Asia

TAMIL NADU

Madras University as category I institution



MADRAS
UNIVERSITY

- ❖ In the recent round of accreditation by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council, the university secured a score of 3.59, an improvement from 3.32.

- ❖ The UGC came up with a regulation for graded autonomy around five years ago.
- ❖ The main benefit is that category I universities can start programmes without the UGC's approval, and they need to only report it to the UGC.
- ❖ The UGC (Categorisation of universities for grant of graded autonomy regulations) 2018 Committee recognised 60 institutions across the country that year as category I.

NATIONAL

Fast Track Special Court (FTSCs)

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of Fast Track Special Court (FTSCs) as, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) from 01.04.2023 to 31.03.2026 with financial implication.
- ❖ The government's unwavering priority towards ensuring the safety and security of women and children is evident through several initiatives, such as the 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' programme.
- ❖ FTSCs, designed as dedicated courts, are expected to ensure swift dispensation of justice, offering quick relief to victims while strengthening the deterrence framework for sexual offenders.




UNLF peace agreement

- ❖ The Centre and the Manipur government have successfully signed a peace agreement with the United National Liberation Front (UNLF).

- ❖ The UNLF is recognized as the oldest valley-based armed group in Manipur.
- ❖ It has committed to returning to the mainstream, renouncing all illegal activities.
- ❖ The agreement emphasises pursuing a peaceful resolution within the constitutional framework.
- ❖ Notably, the UNLF are comprising armed Meitei rebels, many of whom are situated in Myanmar.

PAMBEI'S CLAIMS

A list of 'successful major strikes' provided by the UNLF, against 'Indian Occupational Forces'

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nov. 23, 2009: 5 security personnel killed in Chandel 	 <p>UNLF chairman Khundongbam Pambei</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Oct. 31, 2009: 7 Assam Rifles personnel killed in Chandel 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 14, 2009: 14 Assam Rifles personnel killed in Ukhrul 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● March 15, 2008: More than 10 Assam Rifles jawans killed at T. Minnou, 5km west of Moreh 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jan. 20, 2006: Several security personnel killed in Parbung and Tipaimukh sub-division 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jan. 3, 2006: More than 10 Assam Rifles personnel killed in Tamenglong 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Oct. 22, 2005: 10 security personnel killed in Jiribam 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dec. 9, 2004: 12 Rashtriya Rifles personnel killed in Churachandpur. On the same day, five other personnel killed in Chandel 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nov. 13, 2004: More than 6 security personnel killed in Singhat sub-division 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● July 28, 2004: 3 Assam Rifles personnel killed at Mahadev Hill, Namthilok on the Imphal-Ukhrul Road 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Oct. 21, 2003: 5 security personnel killed when a column of Garhwal Rifles team attacked a UNLF mobile task force area 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nov. 20, 2002: 7 CRPF jawans killed in Churachandpur 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Oct. 3, 1999: 8 CRPF personnel killed at Tonsen Lamkhai 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Feb. 13, 1999: 9 Rashtriya Rifles personnel killed in Imphal 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nov. 1, 1997: 10 CRPF personnel killed at Ehou Bazar, Sadar Hills 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● June 7, 1997: 7 CRPF jawans killed in Bishnupur 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nov. 15, 1991: 5 CRPF jawans killed in Lamdan, Tamenglong 	

Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan

- ❖ The Union Cabinet approves Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN).
- ❖ It is a comprehensive effort to tackle challenges confronting Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).

- ❖ Seventy-five communities spread across 18 states and the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands have been identified as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).
- ❖ It aims to implement 11 critical interventions through nine ministries, including the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.



PM-JANMAN

PM Modi's Guarantee to Tribal Communities

Launched on **Janjatiya Gaurav Divas** with an outlay of **Rs. 24,000 crore**

PM Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) is aimed at the holistic development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups and improving their socio-economic conditions

Ensuring access of PVTG families to basic facilities such as:

- safe housing
- clean drinking water and sanitation
- improved access to education
- health and nutrition
- road and telecom connectivity

MAHASAGAR

- ❖ It is a high-level virtual interaction aimed at promoting active and security and growth in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) by the Indian Navy.
- ❖ It means Maritime Heads for Active Security And Growth for All in the Region.
- ❖ It is engaging with leaders from Bangladesh, Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Sri Lanka and Tanzania
- ❖ MAHASAGAR, which translates to “vast ocean,” aptly captures the essence of the Indian Navy’s outreach initiative.

- ❖ It served as a platform for dialogue and cooperation, reflecting the commitment to the Government of India's vision of SAGAR – 'Security and Growth for All in the Region.'
- ❖ The chosen theme is "Collective Maritime Approach towards Countering Common Challenges".



ENVIRONMENT

IUCN's Comprehensive Conservation Action Plans for Threatened Pollinator Groups in Europe

- ❖ In May 2023, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), in collaboration with the IUCN Species Survival Commission, the Invertebrate Conservation Committee, the Hoverfly Specialist Group, and Buglife, finalised three Action Plans outlining conservation needs and priorities for threatened pollinator species in the EU.
- ❖ These Action Plans were developed within the framework of an EU-funded project initiated in April 2021.

- ❖ The initial Action Plan, "Canarian Islands endemic pollinators of the Laurel Forest zone - Conservation plan 2023-2028," focuses on four insect species—two butterflies, one bee, and one hoverfly—cohabiting the ancient Laurel Forest habitat.
- ❖ The second Action Plan, "Teasel-plant specialised bees in Europe - Conservation action plan 2023–2030," highlights the challenges faced by wild bees specialised in teasel plants.
- ❖ The final Action Plan is dedicated to six hoverfly species specialised in veteran trees and wet, decaying wood.
- ❖ These saproxylic insects, vital pollinators, also serve as nutrient recyclers, pest predators, and indicators of ecosystem health.
- ❖ "Hoverflies specialised to veteran trees in Europe – Conservation Action Plan 2023–2030" emphasizes the significance of forestry practices that consider the needs of pollinator species dependent on dead wood and ancient trees.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Nansen Award

- ❖ Established in 1954, the UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award honours individuals, groups and organizations, as well as internally displaced and stateless people.

- ❖ UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, announced that Abdullahi Mire will be the UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award's 2023 global laureate.
- ❖ Mire is a former refugee and journalist who has championed the right to education while putting 100,000 books in the hands of refugee children in Kenya.
- ❖ He found work in Kenya as a journalist and set up the Refugee Youth Education HubLink.
- ❖ It is an external, refugee-led organization.



IMPORTANT DAYS

Nagaland Statehood Day 2023 - December 01



- ❖ Nagaland is jubilantly celebrating its 61st Statehood Day on December 1, 2023.



- ❖ This marks a significant milestone of the Nagas.
- ❖ It became the 16th state of the Union of India in 1963.

World Day of the Handicapped or International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2023 - December 03



- ❖ It was proclaimed in 1992 by the United Nations General Assembly resolution.
- ❖ The observance of the Day aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities.
- ❖ The theme of this year will be "United in action to rescue and achieve the SDGs for, with and by persons with disabilities".

World Computer Literacy Day 2023 - December 02

- ❖ This day was initiated by an Indian multinational corporation, NIIT, to mark its 20th anniversary.
- ❖ World Computer Literacy Day was first celebrated in 2001.



- ❖ It aims to increase computer literacy among people, especially women and children.

