

December - 25

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Rajakannappan was re-designated as TN Minister for Higher Education and Backward Classes Welfare.
- ❖ Robin Minz created history in the Indian Premier League (IPL) by becoming the first tribal cricketer to ever participate in the tournament.
- ❖ The Centre informed that in 2022 a total of 112 deaths took place in the country due to tiger attacks.
- ❖ The Gaja Capital Business Book Prize 2023 has been jointly won by *Against All Odds: The IT Story of India* by Kris Gopalakrishnan, N Dayasindhu and Krishnan Narayanan, and *Winning Middle India: The Story of India's New-Age Entrepreneurs* by TN Hari and Bala Srinivasa.
- ❖ USV Pvt Ltd and Biogenomics announced the launch of INSUQUICK, India's first biosimilar insulin aspart.
  - It will improve access for people with diabetes.
- ❖ This year marks the 20th anniversary of the United Nations Convention against Corruption.
  - The Convention was signed on December 9, 2003 in Mexico and is the only legally binding multilateral international anti-corruption treaty.
- ❖ Maharashtra bagged women's and Airport Authority of India (AAI) won the men's title at the 75th Inter State-Inter Zonal Badminton Championship 2023 in Guwahati.

## TAMIL NADU

### Ennore Creek oil spill 2023

- ❖ Massive oil spill from Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL) resulted in a sheet of oil spreading into Buckingham Canal and Ennore Creek.
- ❖ Ennore Creek, an arm of the Kosathalaiyar River, is demarcated as Coastal Regulation Zone IV.
- ❖ Inadequate stormwater management at CPCL, led to overflowing of oil mixed water amid floods triggered by cyclone Michaung.
- ❖ Section 356J of the Merchant shipping Act, 1958, describes the power to give a notice to the owner, etc, of polluting ship when the central government is satisfied the ship is not as per the prescribed rules.

- ❖ Section 356K of the same Act states that if a person, after being served the notice under section 356J, fails to comply, the central government can convict the person of an offense.



### **1923 Rainfall**

- ❖ The 1923 Tamirabharani floods was caused by over 42.3 cm of rain spread over two days in composite Tirunelveli then.
- ❖ It had caused damage to Tirunelveli similar to that faced by south Tamil Nadu now.
- ❖ Around the same time, a century ago, Srivaikundam railway station and some other stations were flooded for four days.
- ❖ In 1923, Tirunelveli and Kadayam had received 44.2 cm and 43.4 cm of rains respectively in one week.
- ❖ Similarly, Palayamkottai (37.8 cm) and Tenkasi (37.2 cm) were among the locations that received heavy rain.
- ❖ This year, Kayalpattinam received nearly 118 cm of rain on December 17 and December 18.



- ❖ Kulasekarapattinam had recorded 10 cm or more of rain 44 times between 1901 and 1970.
- ❖ Similarly, Tiruchendur had recorded over 10 cm of rain 47 times between 1914 and 1970.

**A HUNDRED YEARS AGO** DECEMBER 20, 1923

## Madura floods

Madura, Dec. 19: There have been heavy floods in **Tambaraparani river** for the last four days. Besides, a few big tanks in the district have breached. Portions of **Tinnevelly town**, Sanniasigramam, Kailasapuram, Veeraraghavapuram, Sindupundurai are 3 to 5 feet under water. Tinnevelly bridge Srivaikuntam, Tiruchendur, Alwartirunagari, and some other Railway stations have been under water for the last three days. Station records, staff quarters, and property have all been washed away. Srivaikuntam Railway Station is surrounded by water to the extent of about four miles on both sides. All communications beyond Srivaikuntam have been cut off. Several telegraph posts have been washed away and the railway lines have sunk into earth. From Tenkasi upto Trivandrum the Railway line is unimpaired.

## INTERNATIONAL

### Operation Prosperity Guardian

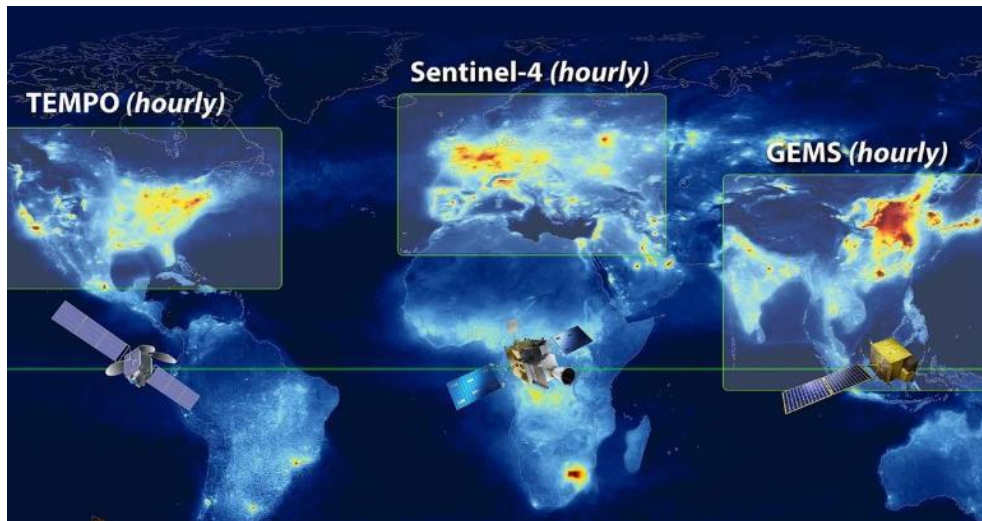
- ❖ The United States has launched Operation Prosperity Guardian to maintain security in the Red Sea.
- ❖ The United Kingdom, Bahrain, Canada, France, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Seychelles and Spain are Joined in this multi-national security initiative.
- ❖ The Red Sea is a critical waterway that has been essential to freedom of navigation and a major commercial corridor that facilitates international trade.
- ❖ Recently, Houthi militants from Yemen have attacked or seized commercial ships 12 times.

- ❖ Earlier in November, Houthi militants also hijacked an India-bound ship named Galaxy Leader.



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### TEMPO Satellite



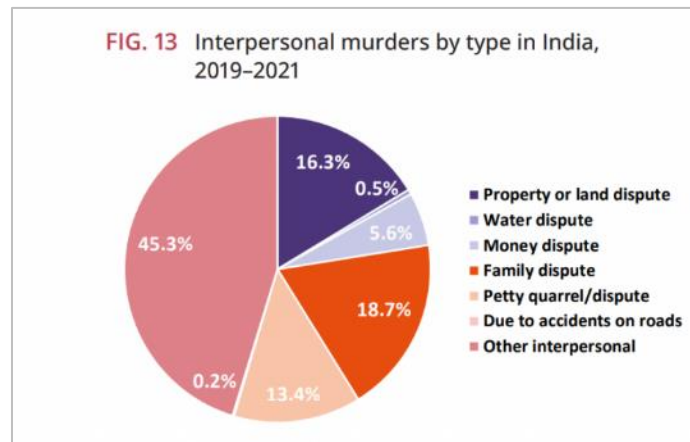
- ❖ TEMPO is NASA's first Earth-observation satellite in geostationary orbit.
- ❖ TEMPO provides hourly updates on atmospheric pollutants, offering a more dynamic view of air quality.
- ❖ It is part of a virtual constellation with South Korea's GEMS and the European Space Agency's upcoming satellite.

- ❖ Thus, it aiming for comprehensive air pollution monitoring over the Northern Hemisphere.
- ❖ TEMPO will help to analysis of pollution, including studies of rush hour pollution, the potential for improved air quality alerts, the effects of lightning on ozone, the movement of pollution from forest fires and volcanoes, and even the effects of fertilizer application.

## REPORTS AND INDICES

### Global Study on Homicide Report 2023

- ❖ The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has released its Global Study on Homicide Report 2023.
- ❖ One in every five murders occurred in India between 2019-21 is due to water-related conflicts.
- ❖ Southern Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, and Central America have reported most such incidents.
- ❖ Nearly 20 percent of all interpersonal murders recorded in India in the period 2019–2021 can be attributed to conflict over water.
- ❖ As per National Crime Records Bureau report 2020, at least 232 Indians lost their lives in conflicts related to water in the period of 2017-2019.



## STATES

### Local Resident of Jharkhand Bill

- ❖ The Jharkhand Assembly ratified the 'Local Resident of Jharkhand Bill', which had been returned twice since November 2022.

- ❖ It would keep 1932 as the cut-off year for 'proof of land records' for defining a local.
- ❖ Under the Bill, any person whose name or ancestors' name had been recorded in the khatiyani or survey of 1932 or before will be termed a local.
- ❖ In the case of landless persons, local persons shall be identified by the Gram Sabhas based on their culture, local customs, and tradition, among others.
- ❖ Similar policy brought up in 2002, but it was struck down by the courts.

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| <p><b>Jharkhand Definition of Local Persons and for Extending the Consequential Social, Cultural and Other Benefits to such Local Persons Bill, 2022</b></p> <p>➤ Local person shall mean domicile of Jharkhand, who is an Indian citizen and resides within the territorial and geographical limits of Jharkhand and he/she or his/her ancestor(s) name is recorded in the survey/khatiyani of 1932 or before</p> | <p><b>KEY TAKEAWAYS</b></p> <p>➤ In case landless persons or whose ancestors resided before 1932 but their land record is missing or illegible and they are unable to produce land record, the local gram sabha will be empowered to identify the locals</p> <p>Both the Acts shall take effect after it is included in the ninth schedule of the constitution of India</p> |
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## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### United Earth Amazonia prize



- ❖ Marcus Nobel emphasized that the winners of Green Nobel, 2023 will be awarded in June 2024 in the Opera House in Manaus, Brazil.

- ❖ United Earth Amazonia Prize is a "Green Nobel" award that recognizes environmental work in the Amazon rainforest.
- ❖ The prize will be awarded annually to spotlight projects that are helping preserve and sustain the rainforest and protect its biodiversity.
- ❖ It is an encouraging innovative approaches and sustainable practices that can be replicated worldwide.
- ❖ It is an independent environmental accolade that is unrelated to the Nobel Foundation.
- ❖ The 2023 prize winners are:
  - Alessandra Korap Munduruku from Brazil
  - Chilekwa Mumba from Zambia
  - Delima Silalahi from Indonesia
  - Diane Wilson from the U.S.A
  - Tero Mustonen from Finland
  - Zafer Kizilkaya from Turkey

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Andriamamelo Cave



- ❖ Unique, prehistoric rock art drawings have been discovered in the Andriamamelo Cave in western Madagascar.
- ❖ The dramatic discoveries contained hints at some remarkable cultural connections.



- ❖ First, scenes depicted in some cases linked up fairly directly to Egyptian religious motifs from the Ptolemaic period (300-30 BCE)
- ❖ Second, other inferences from symbols and writing on the walls showed connections to the Ethiopian and Afro-Arab worlds.
- ❖ Finally, prevalent symbology and motifs evoked a two-millennia-old cave art style from Borneo.
- ❖ At least three extinct animals of Madagascar (thought to have been extinct for many centuries) may be depicted – a giant sloth lemur, elephant birds and a giant tortoise.
- ❖ The art is about 2,000 years old – dating back to the time of Cleopatra or before.

