



December - 26

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ Spandana, an Andhra Pradesh Government initiative to make police stations more approachable for the public, especially women, is winning accolades and awards.
- ❖ The peregrine falcon, one of the world's most common predatory birds, has the fastest vision in the animal kingdom.

## **NATIONAL**

### **‘Burden of Mental Disorders Across the States of India: Global Burden of Disease Study 1990-2017’**

- ❖ It has been conducted by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI).
- ❖ Mental disorders of various kinds are adversely affecting a large population of Indians, especially in South Indian States.
- ❖ Prevalence of depressive disorders was highest in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Goa and Telangana in the high Socio- demographic index (SDI) State group and Andhra Pradesh in the middle SDI State group.
- ❖ One in every seven Indians were affected by mental disorders of varying severity in 2017.
- ❖ The higher prevalence of depressive and anxiety disorders in southern States could be related to the higher levels of modernisation and urbanisation in these States.

### **The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Second Amendment) Bill, 2019**

- ❖ It was introduced in Rajya Sabha by the Minister of State for Tribal Affairs Renuka Singh Saruta in Upper House.
- ❖ The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950, specifies the tribal and tribal communities which are deemed to be Scheduled Tribes.
- ❖ The Bill amends Part VI of the Order which specifies the Scheduled Tribes in Karnataka.
- ❖ It amends the Order by substituting:
  - “Naikda, Nayaka” with “Naikda, Nayaka (including Parivara and Talawara)”, and



- “Siddi (in Uttar Kannada district)” with “Siddi (in Belagavi, Dharwad and Uttar Kannada districts)”.

### **Operation Dolphin's Nose**

- ❖ In a joint operation with the Naval Intelligence and Central Intelligence Agencies, the Andhra Pradesh police have arrested seven navy personnel who have been allegedly involved in espionage.
- ❖ The Eastern Naval Command headquarters is based in Visakhapatnam and aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya is based in Karwar.

### **Future Skills**

- ❖ Wipro has partnered with NASSCOM (National Association of Software and Services Companies) to launch a skilling platform called ‘Future Skills’ for 10,000 students from over 20 engineering colleges in India.
- ❖ This is a part of Wipro’s Corporate Social Responsibility programme, TalentNext.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **Rohingya Crisis**

- ❖ Myanmar’s leader Aung San Suu Kyi is defending Myanmar in ICJ against accusations of genocide.
- ❖ It was a case brought by the country of Gambia at the United Nations’ International Court of Justice.
- ❖ Rohingya Muslims represent the largest percentage of Muslims in Myanmar, with the majority living in Rakhine state.

### **Global Tobacco use trends**

- ❖ The World Health Organization released its report on Global Tobacco use trends.
- ❖ According to the report, number of males using tobacco has declined globally for the first time.
- ❖ Of all the regions of the world, South East Asian region has the highest use of tobacco.
- ❖ According to the report, India is off track to achieve the target of 30% reduction by 2025 as compared to 2010 level.
- ❖ The only region on track to achieve the target is the Americas.



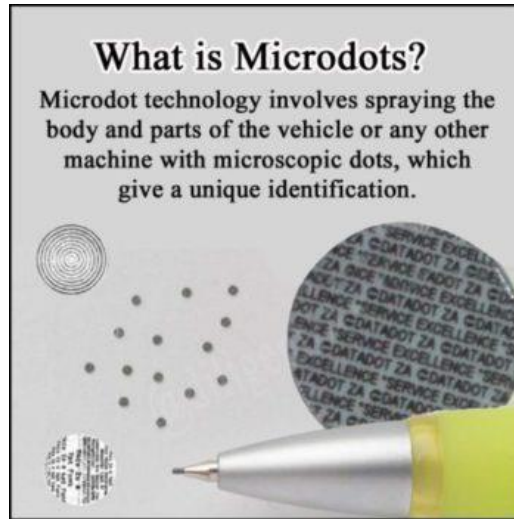
## **European Green Deal**

- ❖ The EU has promised to bring a law, binding on all member countries, to ensure it becomes “climate neutral” by 2050.
- ❖ It was on the side-lines of recently concluded annual Madrid Climate talks.
- ❖ EU with 28 member countries are together the third-largest emitter of greenhouse gases in the world after China and the United States.
- ❖ The EU is now the first major emitter to agree to the 2050 climate neutrality target.
- ❖ The EU also happens to be only one among major emitters to retain the 1990 baseline for emission cuts, originally mandated under the Kyoto Protocol for all developed countries.
- ❖ Most other countries have shifted their baselines to 2005 or even later under the 2015 Paris Agreement.
- ❖ The Kyoto Protocol required the rich and developed countries to provide finance and technology to the developing countries to help them fight climate change.

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **Microdots**

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways notified rules for fixation of microdots identifiers on vehicles
- ❖ Microdot technology involves spraying the body and parts of the vehicle or any other machine with microscopic dots, which give a unique identification.
- ❖ These microdots can be read physically with a microscope and identified with ultra violet light source.
- ❖ The microdots and adhesive will become permanent fixtures/affixation which cannot be removed without damaging the asset, that is the vehicle itself.



### **DBT and NII study - Transmission of chickenpox virus**

- ❖ The researchers of National Institute of Immunology (NII) and Department of Biotechnology (DBT) found that the transfer of anti - viral DNA from mother to child during their pregnancy is long lasting.
- ❖ A person being infected by the virus and treated gains immunity lifelong.
- ❖ This immunity is transferred to babies during pregnancy.
- ❖ Chicken Pox is a highly contagious disease caused by Varicella Zoster Virus.

### **DNA Analysis Centre**

- ❖ The Home Ministry inaugurated a State-of-the-Art DNA Analysis Centre at Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL), Chandigarh.
- ❖ This new Advanced Forensic DNA Analysis Lab has been established under Nirbhaya Fund scheme.
- ❖ Directorate of Forensic Science services (DFSS) comes under Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **Ecoclub programme**

- ❖ The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) organized an annual meeting of state nodal agencies implementing the Ecoclub programme for the first time.

- ❖ Ecoclub was launched under the Environment Education Awareness and Training (EEAT)
- ❖ The event was organized in collaboration with GEER foundation, Gujarat.
- ❖ Two books were released at the event namely “Glimpses of Ecoclubs” and a handbook on International Environment Conventions and Programmes.
- ❖ The National Green Corps (NGC) was launched by the MoEFCC covering 1,20,000 schools in India.

## STATES

### Oxygen Parlour

- ❖ Indian Railways has opened an ‘Oxygen Parlour’ in collaboration with Airo Guard at Nashik railway station in Maharashtra.
- ❖ The initiative seeks to provide an experience of breathing clean air to the commuters.
- ❖ The concept of Oxygen Parlour is based on recommendation of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).



## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### New Foreign Secretary

- ❖ The Appointments Committee of Cabinet (ACC) led by the Prime Minister of India, has approved the appointment of Harsh Vardhan Shringla, currently serving as India’s ambassador to United States (US), as the next foreign secretary.
- ❖ HV Shringla will take over the charge from incumbent, Vijay Gokhale for a two-year tenure.

### Composition of ACC

- ❖ Prime Minister.



- ❖ Minister of Home Affairs.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### Good Governance Day – December 25

- ❖ It was established by Central Government in 2014.
- ❖ It is celebrated to mark the birthday anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- ❖ Atal Bihari Vajpayee was born on 25 December 1924.
- ❖ He is a three-time Prime Minister of India.
- ❖ For first time he had served as PM for just 13 days in 1996 and second time for 13 months in 1998-1999.
- ❖ In his third term as PM he completed his full five-year term, making him first PM from outside the Congress party to serve a full term.
- ❖ In December 2014, Mr Vajpayee, and Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya (posthumously) were awarded Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award.

