

February - 09

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Union Minister for Finance Nirmala Sitharaman announced that the Hydrogen Energy Mission will be launched in 2021-22.
- ❖ Amazon announced that it would step down Jeff Bezos from the CEO of the company.
 - Jassy will take over as the new CEO of the company.
- ❖ India hosted the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) Defence Ministers' Conclave.
 - Theme of the conclave is 'Enhanced Peace, Security and Cooperation in the Indian Ocean'.

NATIONAL

National Tribal Festival "Aadi Mahotsav"

- ❖ The Vice President Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated the "Aadi Mahotsav", a National Tribal Festival.
- ❖ It was organized by TRIFED, Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- ❖ It is a Celebration of the Spirit of Tribal Culture, Crafts, Cuisine and Commerce.
- ❖ It is an annual initiative that was commenced in 2017.

Aero India 2021

- ❖ The 13th edition of India's premier aerospace and defence exhibition, Aero India 2021 kickstarted in Bengaluru at Air Force Station Yelahanka.
- ❖ It held a combination of both physical and virtual exhibition.
- ❖ It is the biennial international event.
- ❖ This edition is the world's first hybrid aerospace show.

Using mobile phones in Rajya Sabha

- ❖ The Rajya Sabha Chairman, recently warned MPs against using the mobile phones to record the proceedings of the House.
- ❖ Unauthorised recordings and its circulation on social media are a breach of Parliamentary privilege.
- ❖ It will be considered as contempt of the House.

- ❖ The Parliamentary rules does not allow the usage of mobile phones within Rajya Sabha chambers.

Second most resilient economy in 2021

- ❖ India will emerge as the second most resilient economy in 2021.
- ❖ It is stated in the International Economic Resilience (IER) Rank.
- ❖ It is released by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI).
- ❖ The ranking has been topped by Germany, among the top-10 leading economies.
- ❖ South Korea is at the third position in the list.

Top 10 Leading Economies	International Economic Resilience (IER) Rank	Real GDP growth Rate	Merchandise Export Growth	Current Account Balance % of GDP	General Govt. net lending / borrowing (% of GDP)	Gross Debt to GDP ratio	Aggregate of ranks of each leading indicator
Germany	1	7	5	1	2	3	18
India	2	1	1	6	8	4	20
South Korea	3	8	10	2	1	1	22
China	4	2	8	5	9	2	26
Canada	5	6	2	9	6	6	29
France	5	3	7	7	5	7	29
Japan	5	8	4	3	4	10	29
U S A	5	4	3	8	6	8	29
Italy	6	9	6	4	3	9	31
U K	7	5	9	10	7	5	36

Yudh Abhyas joint military exercise

- ❖ The 16th edition of 'Yudh Abhyas', India-US joint military exercise, will be held in Rajasthan.
- ❖ The drill has come days after the air forces of France and India held a 5-day joint exercise in Rajasthan.
- ❖ The joint military exercise near the India-Pakistan border aims at enhancing the interoperability and cooperation between the two armies.
- ❖ It will also be focusing on counter-terrorism operations under the United Nations mandate.



INTERNATIONAL

U.K. to join Asia-Pacific free trade pact

- ❖ U.K. government will join the Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).
- ❖ It is one of the world's largest free-trade Partnership.
- ❖ It made up of 11 developed and emerging economies in the Pacific.
- ❖ U.K. left the European Union (EU) on January 31 last year.

ECONOMY

Risk-based internal audit (RBIA)

- ❖ RBI on has introduced a risk-based internal audit (RBIA) system.
- ❖ It has made it mandatory for select non-banking financial companies and urban co-operative banks (UCBs).
- ❖ As per the norms, all the deposit-taking non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) with the asset size of Rs 5,000 crore will have to implement this system.
- ❖ The system is required to be implemented by March 31, 2022.

ENVIRONMENT

Kaliveli Wetlands- Bird Sanctuary

- ❖ Villupuram district administration in Tamil Nadu has issued the first declaration under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
- ❖ The declaration was issued in a bid to declare Kaliveli wetlands as a bird sanctuary.
- ❖ It will boost their efforts to protect the wetland.
- ❖ The Kaliveli Wetlands is the second-largest brackish water lake in South India.
- ❖ The first largest is the Pulicat lake.
- ❖ The Kaliveli lake is connected to the Bay of Bengal through the Uppukalli Creek and the Edayanthittu sanctuary.
- ❖ The Southern part of this wetland was declared a reserved land in the year 2001.

STATES

Lithium deposits in Karnataka

- ❖ The Central Government has confirmed the presence of 1600 tonnes of lithium deposits in Mandya district of Karnataka.
- ❖ The survey was done on the surface and limited subsurface in the pegmatites of Marlagalla – Allapatna area.
- ❖ This Survey was done by the Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD).
- ❖ The AMD is a constituent unit under the Department of Atomic Energy.
- ❖ The first Lithium plant of India has been set up at Gujarat in the year 2021.

India's first Igloo Cafe

- ❖ This is country's first café built of snow.
- ❖ It is Asia's biggest Igloo Café.
- ❖ It is located at the ski resort in Gulmarg, Kashmir.
- ❖ The resort is situated in the Pir Panjal Range of the Himalayas at an altitude of 2,650 metre.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Birth Anniversary Celebrations of Pandit Bhimsen Joshi

- ❖ The year-long Birth Centenary celebrations of legendary classical singer Pandit Bhimsen Joshi began on February 04, 2021.
- ❖ He was an Indian vocalist from Karnataka.
- ❖ He is known for the khayal form of singing.
- ❖ He belongs to the Kirana gharana of Hindustani Classical Music.
- ❖ His concerts were advertised by posters in New York.
- ❖ This happened for the first time for a musician from India.
- ❖ He also organised the Sawai Gandharva Music Festival annually.
- ❖ He was awarded the Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship in the year 1998.
- ❖ In 2009 he received, the India's highest civilian honour, Bharat Ratna.

MISCELLANEOUS

EIU Democracy Index 2020

- ❖ India slipped two places to 53rd position in the annual Democracy Index.
- ❖ It is published by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU).
- ❖ It analysed 167 countries.
- ❖ It classified 23 countries as full democracies, 52 as flawed democracies, 35 as hybrid regimes and 57 as authoritarian regimes.
- ❖ India's ranking has slipped from 27th in 2014.
- ❖ India is classified as a "flawed democracy" along with countries like the US, France, Belgium and Brazil.

Rank	Country	Score
1	Norway	9.81
2	Iceland	9.37
3	Sweden	9.26
53	India	6.61

