

February - 11

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Parliamentary Committee recently recommended increasing guaranteed days of work from 100 to 150 under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.
  - The Committee also asked the Rural Development Ministry to increase wage rates under the scheme.

## NATIONAL

### PMKSY till March 2026



- ❖ The 'Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY)' has been extended till March 2026.
- ❖ The scheme is administered by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.
- ❖ The scheme aims for the overall growth and development of the food processing sector.
- ❖ In May 2017, the Central Government had launched SAMPADA (Scheme for Agro-Marine Processing and Development of Agro-Processing Clusters).
- ❖ The scheme was renamed PMKSY in August 2017.

### SAMRIDH initiative

- ❖ Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog, and the U.S. Agency for International Development have announced a new partnership under the Sustainable Access to Markets and Resources for Innovative Delivery of Healthcare (SAMRIDH) initiative.

- ❖ It aims to improve access to affordable and quality healthcare for vulnerable populations in tier-2 and tier-3 cities, and rural and tribal regions.



### **Amazon India signed MoU with Karnataka**

- ❖ Amazon India signed an MoU with Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Promotion Society (KSRLPS) to support the growth of women entrepreneurs.
- ❖ Amazon India will launch 'Sanjeevini-KSRLPS' in its platform and extend the benefits of the 'Saheli' Program.
- ❖ The Saheli Programme offers training and skill development workshops to help women entrepreneurs.

### **White-cheeked macaque**

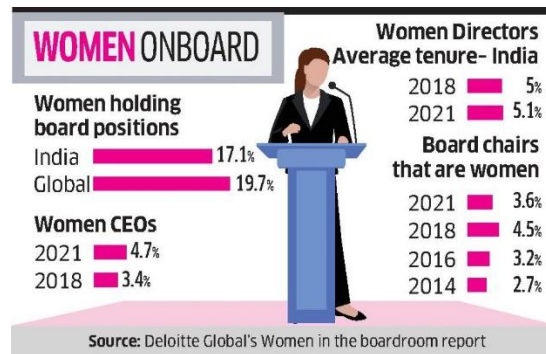


- ❖ The Scientists recently found white-cheeked macaque in Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ The White Cheeked macaque was first discovered in southeastern Tibet.

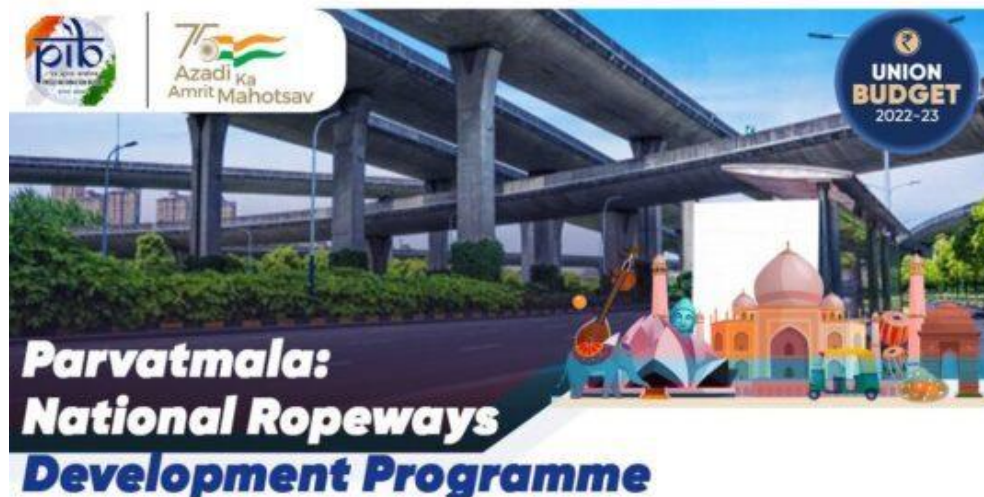
- ❖ These macaques are different from the other macaques mainly because of their white cheeks.
- ❖ Also, they have a longer tail, long and thick hairs in the neck area.
- ❖ With the discovery of White Cheeked macaque, the total mammal count has increased to 438.

### Women in Boardroom report

- ❖ The Women in the Boardroom report was recently released by Deloitte Global.
- ❖ This is the seventh edition of the report.
- ❖ According to the report, women hold only 17.1% of board seats in India.
- ❖ The report said that only 3.6% of the chairpersons are women in the country.
- ❖ Around 4.7% of the CEOs in India were women in 2021.

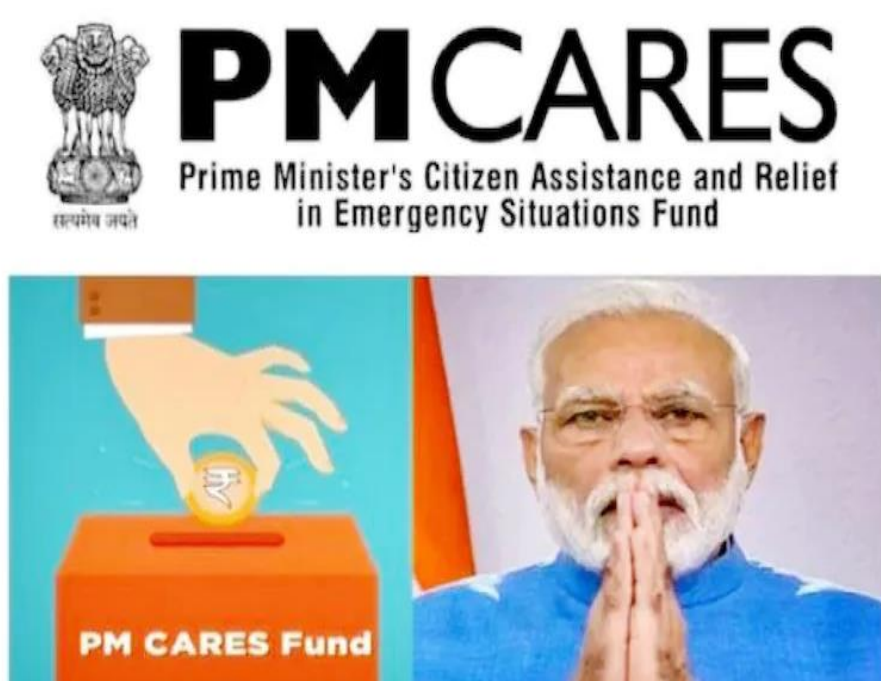


### Parvatmala



- ❖ The National Ropeways Development Programme - “Parvatmala” was announced recently.
- ❖ It was announced by the Union Finance Minister in the Union Budget for 2022-23 to improve connectivity in hilly areas.
- ❖ This will be a preferred ecologically sustainable alternative in place of conventional roads in difficult hilly areas.
- ❖ The idea is to improve connectivity and convenience for commuters, besides promoting tourism.
- ❖ This may also cover congested urban areas, where conventional mass transit systems are not feasible.
- ❖ The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MORTH) will have responsibility for its development.

### **PM CARES Fund**



- ❖ The total corpus under the PM CARES Funds in 2020-21 was Rs 10,990.17 crore.
- ❖ It triples in FY 2020-21.
- ❖ While Rs 3,976.17 crore was spent from the fund in 2020-21, according to the latest audited statement of PM CARES Funds.
- ❖ As of March 31, 2021, the Fund had an unspent balance of Rs 7,013.99 crore.

- ❖ The government has used a part of the money to buy medical equipment, including ventilators, to boost the battle against the COVID-19 and has also provided relief to migrants.

### **Light House Tourism**

- ❖ The Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways is to develop five lighthouses in the state of Odisha.
- ❖ The Four districts have been identified.
- ❖ The Odisha Lighthouse tourism being developed is a part of Marine aids to Navigation 2021.
- ❖ Under the aid, the development was to be brought in the states of Gujarat, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Andaman, and Nicobar Islands.
- ❖ The aid will help develop the lighthouses into tourism destinations.
- ❖ It will preserve the historical and traditional values of the lighthouses.

### **Life Insurance Corporation**



- ❖ According to a brand valuation report by London-based Brand Finance, LIC is India's strongest and the largest brand in the country.
- ❖ With this, it also becomes the third-strongest insurance brand globally after Poste Italiane of Italy, and Mapfre of Spain at 1st and 2nd rank respectively.





- ❖ It is also the world's 10th most valuable insurance brand.

### Asia's richest person

- ❖ Adani Group founder and billionaire Gautam Adani has become Asia's richest person.
- ❖ He ranks 10th among the wealthiest people in the world.
- ❖ This is as per Bloomberg Billionaires Index on February 8, 2022.

Rank	Name	Total Net Worth	Country
1	Elon Musk	\$235B	US
2	Jeff Bezos	\$183B	US
3	Bernard Arnault	\$168B	France
10	Gautam Adani	\$88.5B	India
11	Mukesh Ambani	\$87.9B	India
38	Azim Premji	\$33.8B	India

## ECONOMY

### Redemption of Sovereign Gold Bonds

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to prematurely redeem sovereign gold bonds (SGBs), which were issued in 2016 at a price of Rs 4,813 per unit of SGB.
- ❖ Under central government rules, premature redemption is permitted after the fifth year from the date of issue of such gold bonds on the date on which interest is payable.

## STATES

### Haryana Anti-conversion Bill

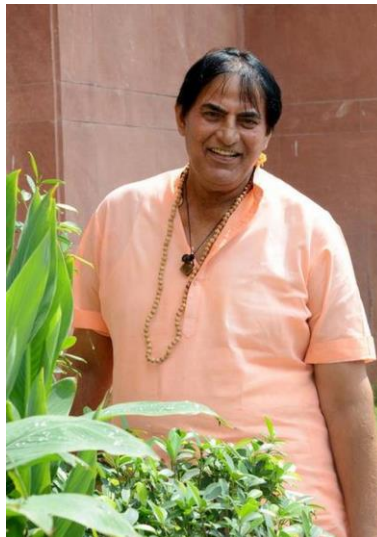
- ❖ The bill is being brought in the state of Haryana to prevent unlawful religious conversions.
- ❖ Haryana is a BJP ruled state.

- ❖ The other BJP ruled states that brought this bill were Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Karnataka.

## **PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS**

### **Praveen Kumar Sobti**

- ❖ Actor-athlete Praveen Kumar Sobti passed away.
- ❖ He was best known for playing Bheem in the TV series “Mahabharat” and for winning an Asian Games gold medal.
- ❖ He represented the country across various athletic events in hammer and discus throw.
- ❖ He won four medals at the Asian Games, including two gold medals in 1966 and 1970.
- ❖ Praveen Kumar Sobti also won a silver medal in Hammer Throw during the 1966 Commonwealth Games.

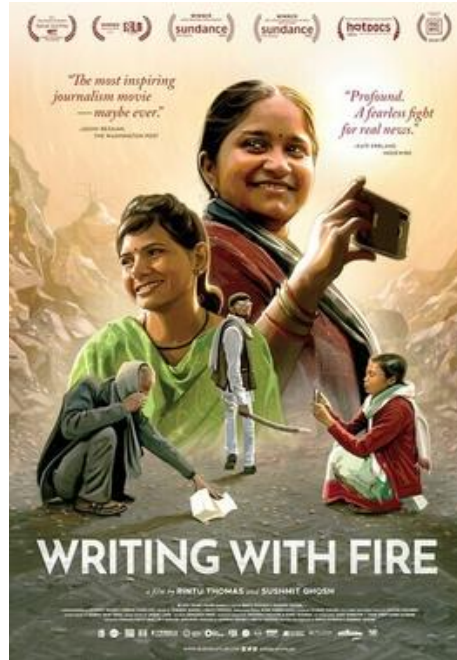


### **Indian documentary - Oscars 2022**

- ❖ The Indian documentary ‘Writing with Fire’ has won an Oscar nomination in the Best Documentary Feature category
- ❖ Directed and produced by Indian filmmakers Rintu Thomas and Sushmit Ghosh, the film has made it to the 94th Academy Awards nominations.
- ❖ It is the first-ever Indian nominee in this category.
- ❖ The film documents the journey of women journalists.



- ❖ Previously, two documentaries set in India have won an Oscar for Best Documentary Short - 'Smile Pinki' and 'Period. End Of Sentence'.



## IMPORTANT DAYS

**Financial Literacy week 2022 - February 14 to 18**







- ❖ Reserve Bank of India has been conducting Financial Literacy Week every year since 2016 to propagate financial education messages on a particular theme across the country.
- ❖ The theme of Financial Literacy week 2022 is: “Go Digital, Go Secure”.

