

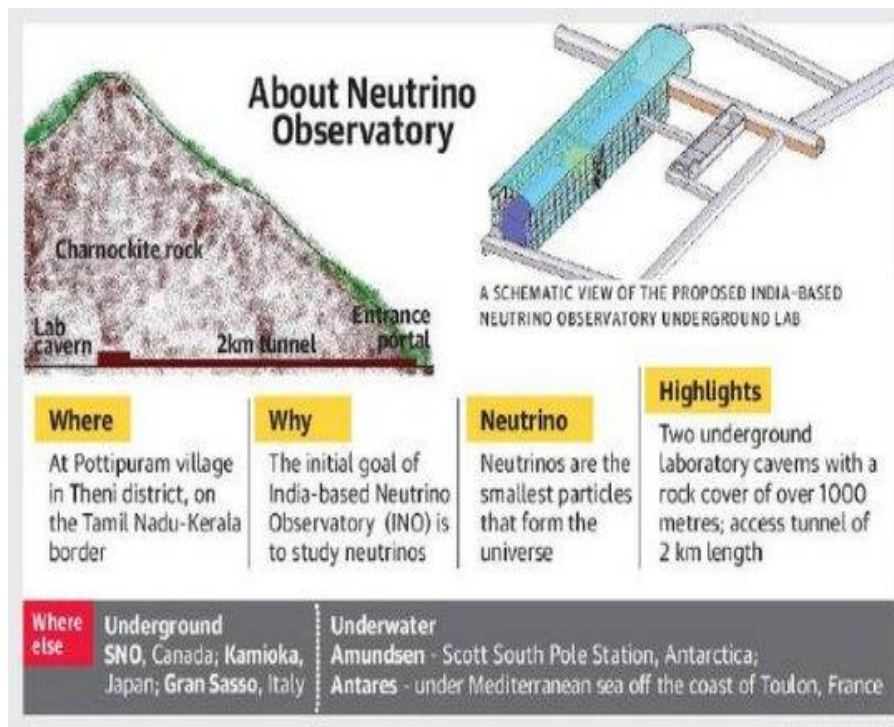
February - 20

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ US women have become the third person worldwide and the first woman, to be cured of HIV.
 - She received a stem cell transplant from a person with natural resistance to the Aids-causing virus.

TAMIL NADU

T.N. Neutrino Observatory



- ❖ Tamil Nadu has told the Supreme Court that it does not want the Indian Neutrino Observatory (INO) to be built in a vulnerable ecological zone in the Western Ghats, at the cost of wildlife and biodiversity, along with local opposition and public outcry against the project.
- ❖ The proposal for the observatory, according to the Tamil Nadu government, would create permanent damage to the Western Ghats.
- ❖ According to the State, this corridor connects the Periyar Tiger Reserve on the Kerala-Tamil Nadu border and the Mathikettan Shola National Park.

- ❖ The project area also has ecological ties to the Srivilliputhur Meghamalai Tiger Reserve, which is located in the eastern habitats.

NATIONAL

Mumbai Water Taxi



- ❖ The water taxi service between Mumbai and Navi Mumbai was inaugurated by Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray.
- ❖ This project was funded under the Sagarmala program.
- ❖ It is India's first such project.
- ❖ The newly inaugurated waterway will connect the water taxi service, with Belapur, Nerul, and Elephanta Islands.
- ❖ For the first time, Mumbai and Navi Mumbai will be linked by dependable and fast transportation services, which will help to cut travel time.

Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link

- ❖ Indian Railways connected the main and longest tunnel of T-49, under the Udhampur- Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project.
- ❖ The T-49 tunnel is in between the Sumber and Arpinchala station of the Katra-Banihal section of the USBRL project.
- ❖ It is a 12.758-Km-long tunnel.
- ❖ It is going to be the longest tunnel by Indian Railway.

- ❖ It has surpassed the Peer Panjal Tunnel of 11.2 Km length, which was constructed by USBRL on the Banihal-Qazigund section.



New India Literacy Programme



Ministry of Education
Government of India

75
Azadi Ka
Amrit Mahotsav

New India Literacy Program

A new scheme on 'Education for All'-
erstwhile termed as 'Adult Education'

Estimated budget for 5 years

Total budget
Rs. 1037.90 Cr.

- ❖ Ministry of Education has approved a new scheme named “New India Literacy Programme” for the period FYs 2022-2027.
- ❖ The scheme aims to align Adult Education with all aspects of National Education Policy 2020 and Budget Announcements 2021-22.

- ❖ The scheme will cover non-literates of the age of 15 years and above in all states/UTs in the country.
- ❖ The government has now replaced the term “Adult Education” with ‘Education for All’ in the country.

Asia’s largest Bio-CNG plant

- ❖ Asia’s largest Bio-CNG plant will virtually be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Indore.
- ❖ Indore is considered one of the cleanest cities in India.
- ❖ With the inauguration of the bio-CNG plant, it will set another high standard in cleanliness.
- ❖ The Bio-CNG plant will be operated using 100 percent wet waste.



India tourism vision document 2035

- ❖ Federation of Associations in Indian Tourism & Hospitality (FAITH) has released the FAITH 2035 vision document.
- ❖ It contains goals and an execution path for making Indian tourism preferred and loved by the world by the year 2035.



- ❖ The vision document has been launched commemorating the 75th year of Indian independence.
- ❖ It aims to position tourism as a 'Social-Economic Job and Infrastructure creator for India' as well as 'to be a role model for creating Sustainable and Inclusive Ecosystem'.



INTERNATIONAL

Munich Security Conference



- ❖ Since 1963, the Munich Security Conference has been held in Munich, Germany, as an annual conference on international security policy.
- ❖ It is the largest meeting of its kind in the world.

- ❖ External Affairs minister, S. Jaishankar will be representing India at this conference.

Study on Greater Maldive Ridge



- ❖ Recently, researchers traced the tectonic evolution of “Greater Maldive Ridge (GMR)” which is a geodynamic feature in the western Indian Ocean.
- ❖ The tectonic evolution can help in reconstructing the original Gondwanaland fracture.
- ❖ This feature led to the present-day configuration of continents, continental fragments, as well as the formation of ocean basins in the Indian Ocean.

STATES

Bihar Shahid Diwas

- ❖ Recently, Chief Minister of Bihar Nitish Kumar announced that February 15 would now be commemorated as “Shahid Diwas”.
- ❖ February 15 would be commemorated as Shahid Diwas, in the honor of 34 freedom fighters who were killed by police 90 years ago, in Tarapur town in Munger district of Bihar.

- ❖ This incident took place on February 15, 1932, when a group of young freedom fighters had planned to hoist the “Indian national flag” at Thana Bhavan in Tarapur.

Kerala’s first Caravan park

- ❖ Kerala’s first Caravan park is all set to come up in Vagamon, a scenic hill station located in the Idukki district.
- ❖ The park, as part of the state government’s new Caravan Tourism policy, would be thrown open to travelers.
- ❖ Caravan Tourism was introduced by the state Tourism department as a safe means for holidaying at a time when people are unable to step out or travel due to the outbreak of COVID-19.



SPORTS

2021 FIFA Club World Cup



- ❖ English club, Chelsea has defeated Brazilian club Palmeiras, to win the 2021 FIFA Club World Cup final held at Abh Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates.
- ❖ Chelsea has won the FIFA Club World Cup for the first time.
- ❖ Chelsea became the third English team to win the Club World Cup after Manchester United and Liverpool.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Soil Health Card Day - February 19



- ❖ Every year India observes the day to commemorate the launch of the Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme, and create awareness about the benefits of the scheme.
- ❖ 2022 marks the seventh year of the launch of the SHC Scheme.
- ❖ The scheme aims at issuing soil health cards to all farmers every two years.
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme on 19th February 2015 at Suratgarh in Rajasthan.

World Pangolin Day 2022 - February 19

- ❖ It is celebrated on the “Third Saturday of February” every year.
- ❖ In 2022, the annual World Pangolin Day is being celebrated on 19 February.
- ❖ It marks the 11th edition of the event.

- ❖ The day aims to raise awareness about these unique mammals and speed up conservation efforts.
- ❖ Pangolin numbers are rapidly declining in Asia and Africa.
- ❖ Pangolins are the only mammal to be covered in scales.



World Day of Social Justice - February 20

- ❖ The International Labour Organization unanimously adopted the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization on 10 June 2008.
- ❖ Social justice is an underlying principle for peaceful and prosperous coexistence within and among nations.
- ❖ The theme for this year is "Achieving Social Justice through Formal Employment".

