

February - 24

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Lt Gen B S Raju will be the new Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) of the Indian Army.
- ❖ The Chief Minister of Assam, Sarbananda Sonowal has laid the foundation of the first skill university of eastern India in the Darrang district in Assam.

## NATIONAL

### National Toy Fair

- ❖ The first-ever National Toy Fair will be starting from the February 27th.
- ❖ During this event, the Centre for Creative Learning (CCL), IIT Gandhinagar, will showcase its 75 toy creations in the fair.
- ❖ IIT Gandhinagar is the only IIT in the country running this centre for creative learning.
- ❖ The toy fair is being organised by the Ministry of Textiles.



## INTERNATIONAL

### Asia Economic Dialogue

- ❖ The Pune International Centre will co-chair this year's Asia Economic Dialogue.
- ❖ That will be addressed by External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar.

- ❖ Other participants are Japan, Australia, Maldives, Mauritius and Bhutan.
- ❖ It will be co-hosted by the Ministry of External Affairs and the Asia Economic Dialogue.
- ❖ Its theme is 'The post-COVID global trade and finance dynamics'.

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **Clone of black-footed ferret**

- ❖ The US scientists have successfully cloned an endangered black-footed ferret using frozen cells from a long-dead wild animal.
- ❖ It is named as Elizabeth Ann.
- ❖ It is created from the cells of Willa, a black-footed ferret that has lived more than 30 years ago.
- ❖ This is the first time that any native endangered species has been cloned in the United States.



## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **Rare Birds sighted in Mangalore**

- ❖ The rare birds namely the Yellow-Billed Babbler, Green Sandpiper and Grey-Necked Bunting were spotted in the Mangalore University.
- ❖ The team of birdwatchers spotted 108 species of birds in Mangalore University.
- ❖ The Mangalore University was running the campus bird count.
- ❖ The campus bird count is the part of the Great Backyard Bird Count.

- ❖ It is organised by the Bird Count of India.

### **Mass Migration of Blue Earthworms**

- ❖ The Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) has prepared a report on two-way mass migration of the blue earthworms in the state of Meghalaya.
- ❖ The Uphill migration of the earthworms starts in April-May.
- ❖ With the onset of monsoon, they emerge from the rivers and streams.
- ❖ Downhill migration occurs during September-October when the vegetation starts to dry and temperature & humidity drop.
- ❖ The scientific name of the blue earthworm is *Perionyx excavates*.
- ❖ It is also called as composting worms, blues, or Indian blues.

## **STATES**

### **100% tap water connections to schools**

- ❖ Telangana has provided tap water connections to all schools and anganwadis in the State.
- ❖ Nalgonda has the highest share of schools and anganwadis among all districts.
- ❖ Previously, the State had become the only one, along with Goa, to provide functional tap connections to all households.
- ❖ It was taken up under the 100-day special campaign of the Ministry of Jal Shakti under the Jal Jeevan Mission.

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

### **Book 'Maverick Messiah'**



- ❖ The Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu released a book 'Maverick Messiah'.
- ❖ The book is a political biography of 'N T Rama Rao', the former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ It has been authored by senior journalist, Ramesh Kandula.

## SPORTS

### Australian Open 2021

- ❖ Novak Djokovic, the world-number one Serbian Tennis player, won his 9th Australian Title.
- ❖ This is also the 18<sup>th</sup> Grand Slam win for Djokovic.
- ❖ It is just two behind from Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer.
- ❖ Naomi Osaka won her second Australian Open 2021 women's singles trophy and a fourth Grand Slam title.
- ❖ Osaka has won the Australian Open immediately after becoming the US Open champion in the previous year.
- ❖ This is the second time for such winning.
- ❖ Now she has two US Open titles (2018, 2020) and two Australian Open trophies (2019, 2021).

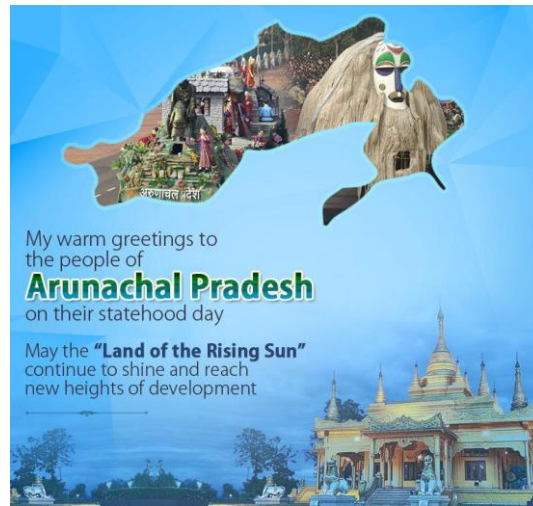


## IMPORTANT DAYS

### Arunachal Pradesh Foundation Day – February 20

- ❖ Arunachal Pradesh became a full-fledged State on 20th February, 1987.
- ❖ Till 1972, it was known as the North-East Frontier Agency (NEFA).

- ❖ It gained the Union Territory status on 20 January 1972.
- ❖ Then it was renamed as Arunachal Pradesh.



## Mizoram state Day – February 20



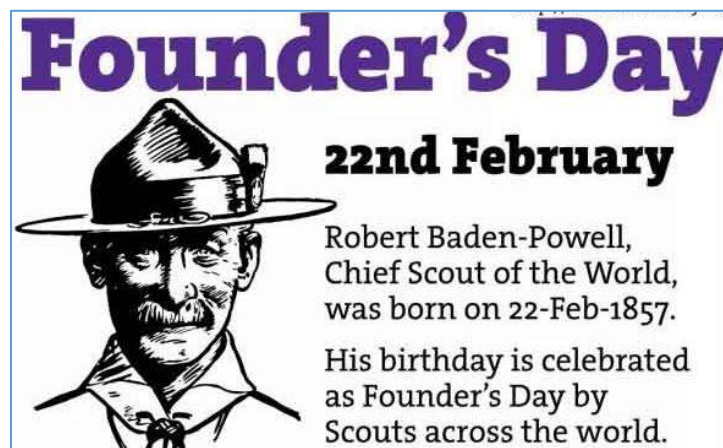
- ❖ The Mizo hills area became the Lushai Hills district within Assam at the time of independence.
- ❖ Further, in 1954, it was renamed the Mizo Hills District of Assam.
- ❖ After signing an accord with the moderates of the Mizo National Front, the Union Government established Mizoram with the status of a Union Territory in 1972.
- ❖ Mizoram was granted statehood by the State of Mizoram Act, 1986.
- ❖ The formalization of Mizoram State took place on 20th February, 1987.

## International Mother Language Day – February 21

- ❖ It aims to raise awareness regarding linguistic and cultural diversity and to promote multilingualism.
- ❖ The theme of the Day this year is “Fostering multilingualism for inclusion in education and society”.
- ❖ It was proclaimed by the General Conference of UNESCO in November 1999.



## World Scout Day – February 22



- ❖ The World Scout Day celebrations commemorate the birth anniversary of Robert Baden-Powell.
- ❖ He was born in 1857.
- ❖ He is the founder of Scouting in 1908.
- ❖ Scouts is a voluntary non-political educational movement for young people.

## **World Thinking Day – February 22**

- ❖ It is originally known as Thinking Day,
- ❖ It is celebrated by all Girl Scouts, Girl Guides and other girl groups worldwide.
- ❖ The day is observed to think about fellow brothers and sisters around the world,
- ❖ It aims to address their concerns and understand the true meaning of guiding.
- ❖ Theme for this year is ‘peacebuilding’.

