

February - 25

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) is organizing a crafts exhibition-cum-fair in Delhi.
  - It is with the aim of popularising traditional Indian crafts among the diplomatic community.
- ❖ Indian Air Force will participate in a multi-nation air exercise named 'Exercise Cobra Warrior 22' at Waddington, in the United Kingdom.
  - IAF Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas will participate in the exercise.
- ❖ Russian President, Vladimir Putin has recognized the independence of separatist regions in eastern Ukraine.
  - It is divided into Donetsk and Luhansk.

## NATIONAL

### Roadmap on Blue Economy



- ❖ India and France have inked a roadmap to enhance their bilateral exchanges on the blue economy and ocean governance.

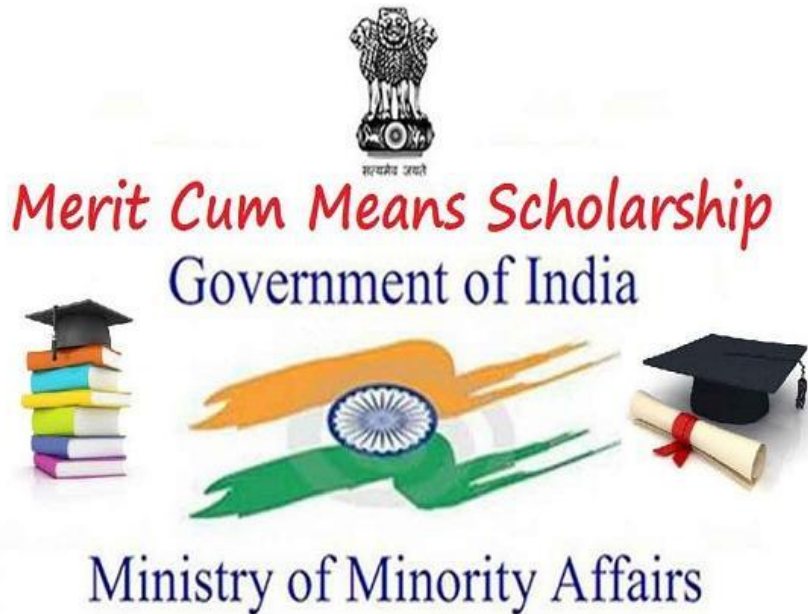


- ❖ The partnership will help to explore the potential for collaboration in marine science research for a better understanding of oceans and ensure that the ocean remains a global common, a space of freedom and trade.

### **Harvard study reports**

- ❖ Mansukh Mandviya released Harvard study reports on India's COVID-19 vaccination programme.
- ❖ These reports are COVID-19-India's Vaccine Development Story and India's COVID-19 Vaccination Administration Journey.
- ❖ These reports highlight the crucial aspects that have contributed to the success of the country's COVID-19 vaccines' development and administration efforts.
- ❖ The reports focus on manufacturing indigenous vaccines and timely procedures that ensured the safe administration of vaccination across the various age groups.

### **National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship**



- ❖ The continuation of the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS) has been approved by the Ministry of Education.
- ❖ It has approved it till 2025-26 with minimum changes in the eligibility criteria like increasing the income ceiling from the present Rs 1.5 lakh to Rs 3.5 lakh per annum.

- ❖ The scheme's objective is to provide scholarships to the meritorious students belonging from the economically weaker sections so that they do not drop out at class 8 and to encourage them to continue their education
- ❖ Under this scheme scholarships of Rs 12,000 per annum per student are awarded to all those selected students of class 9 every year.
- ❖ In the year 2008-09, this scheme was launched by the government.

### **Financial Stability and Development Council - 25th Meeting**

- ❖ It was held in Mumbai.
- ❖ This meeting was held under the chair of Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.
- ❖ The council discussed the different mandates of the FSDC as well as important macro-financial concerns that have arisen as a result of certain domestic and global developments.

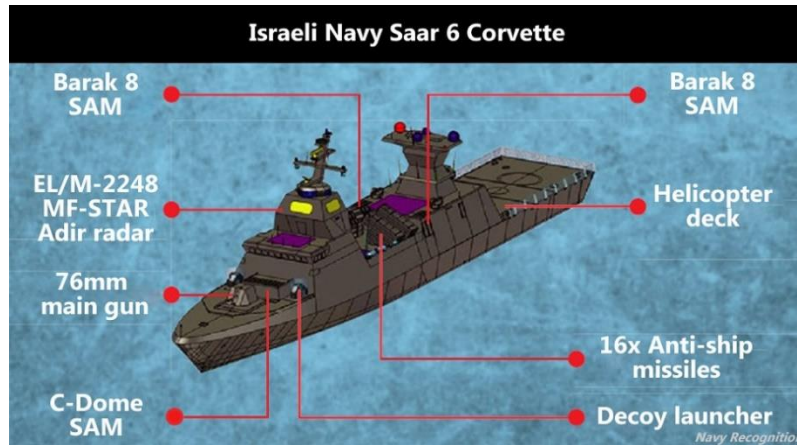


## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **C-Dome**

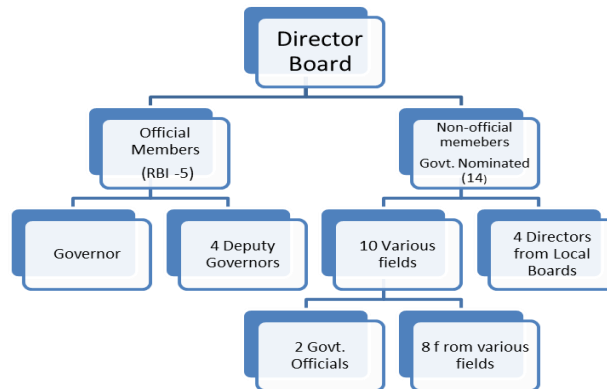
- ❖ Israel successfully tested a new naval air defense system "C-Dome".
- ❖ It is to be used on the Israeli Navy's Sa'ar 6-class corvettes.
- ❖ C-Dome is the naval version of the Iron Dome from the Gaza Strip.

- ❖ The successful test further strengthens the missile defense systems of the Israeli Navy to safeguard the maritime assets of the State of Israel.



## ECONOMY

### Director of Central Board of RBI



- ❖ The Centre government has nominated Sanjay Malhotra, Secretary, Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance, as a Director on the Central Board of Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- ❖ Prior to his appointment as DFS Secretary, Malhotra was the Chairman and Managing Director of REC Ltd.
- ❖ He succeeded Debashish Panda.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Evidence of First Ear Surgery

- ❖ A group of archaeologists has found the 5,300-year-old skull in a Spanish tomb,

- ❖ That shows possibly the oldest evidence of ear surgery.
- ❖ Researchers concluded in an article published in “Scientific Reports” that, this evidence point to a mastoidectomy.
- ❖ Mastoidectomy is a surgical procedure, that was performed to relieve the pain of the prehistoric individual, who may have suffered because of otitis media and mastoiditis.



## STATES

### India's First Night Navigation Mobile App

- ❖ Chief Minister of Assam, Himanta Biswa Sarma has launched India's first Night Navigation mobile application for ferry services on the Brahmaputra River in Guwahati, Assam.
- ❖ It was developed by the State Transport Department in association with K Raju, the principal scientist of IIT Madras.
- ❖ The first night journey of the IWT (Inland Water Transport) ferry between Guwahati and North Guwahati was started on 19 February 2022.

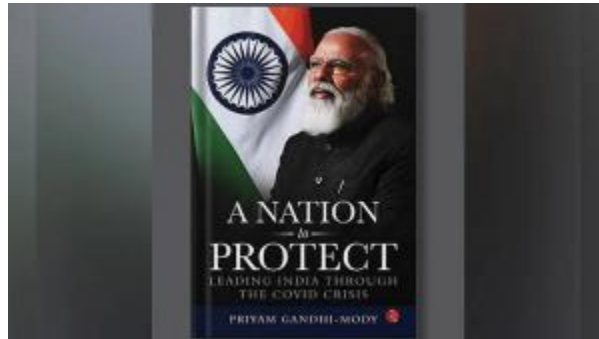
### Lavender and Doda district



- ❖ The Union Minister of Science & Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh, chaired the District Development Coordination & Monitoring Committee (DISHA) meetings of several districts in Jammu & Kashmir recently.
- ❖ A key decision taken during the meeting was to designate Lavender as a Doda brand product.
- ❖ This is to promote lavender under the ‘One District, One Product’ initiative.
- ❖ Doda district in J&K is the birthplace of India’s Purple Revolution or the cultivation of Lavender.
- ❖ Purple Revolution (Lavender cultivation) was launched under the Aroma Mission of the Union Ministry of Science & Technology.
- ❖ The AROMA mission is implemented by the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) through its Jammu-based laboratory, the Indian Institute of Integrative Medicines (IIIM).

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

### **Book by Priyam Gandhi Mody**



- ❖ The book titled “A Nation To Protect” authored by Priyam Gandhi Mody was launched by Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya.
- ❖ The book highlights the role of PM Narendra Modi during the Covid crisis in the past two years.
- ❖ The book documents the Centre’s leadership in this unprecedented time and how it tided the nation through the crisis.

## **SPORTS**

### **Youngest ATP 500 winner**

- ❖ The 18-year-old Spaniard Carlos Alcaraz has clinched the Rio Open tennis title after defeating Diego Schwartzman in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

- ❖ He became the youngest ATP 500 champion since the category was created in 2009.



### **Victory of Praggnanandhaa**



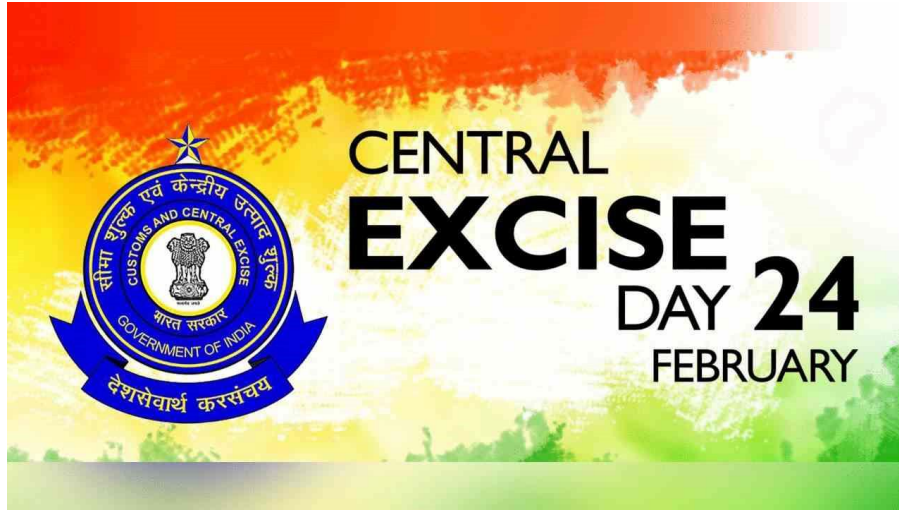
- ❖ India's Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa from Chennai has defeated the reigning world champion Norway's Magnus Carlsen.
- ❖ This win came in the eighth round of Airthings Masters chess tournament's preliminary stage being held online.
- ❖ The 16-year-old Praggnanandhaa is only the third Indian to have defeated Magnus Carlsen after Viswanathan Anand and Pentala Harikrishna.
- ❖ Magnus Carlsen is a five-time World Chess Champion and a Norwegian chess grandmaster.



- ❖ He has won the World Rapid Chess Championship three times and the World Blitz Chess Championship five times.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### Central Excise Day - February 24



- ❖ The day is being celebrated to honor the service of the Central Board of Excise and Custom (CBEC) to the country.
- ❖ The day is celebrated to commemorate the legislation of the Central Excise and Salt act on 24 February 1944.

