

February - 26

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Uttarakhand state government has brought an ordinance to give co-ownership rights to the women in the ancestral property of their husbands.
- ❖ Nicaragua has created a new National Ministry for Extra-terrestrial Space Affairs, The Moon and Other Celestial Bodies.

## NATIONAL

### Mission Indradhanush 3.0

- ❖ The Union Health and Family Welfare Minister, Dr Harsh Vardhan has launched the Intensified Mission Indradhanush 3.0.
- ❖ It aims to expand immunization coverage across the country.
- ❖ The focus of IMI 3.0 will be on children and pregnant women who missed their vaccine doses during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ❖ Mission Indradhanush scheme was launched in 2014 to provide affordable and accessible healthcare to all citizens of the country.

### Panels for autonomy

- ❖ IIT Council has set up four panels for autonomy.
- ❖ This Council is the apex decision-making body of IITs.
- ❖ The panel will look after several issues ranging from funding to graded autonomy in the Indian Institutes of Technology.

## INTERNATIONAL

### NAVDEX 21 and IDEX 21

- ❖ Indian Naval Ship Pralaya reached Abu Dhabi to participate in the Naval Defence Exhibition (NAVDEX 21) and International Defence Exhibition (IDEX 21).
- ❖ NAVDEX 21 and IDEX 21 is one of the leading international naval and defence exhibitions of the region.
- ❖ Pralaya is the second ship of the indigenously built Prabal Class Missile Vessels.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### First audio from Mars

- ❖ NASA, released the first audio from Mars.
- ❖ It was a faint crackling recording of the wind that was captured by Perseverance rover.
- ❖ NASA has also released the first video of landing of the rover.
- ❖ NASA had launched the Perseverance rover on July 30, 2020.
- ❖ The mission landed on MARS on February 18, 2021.



### Anti-tank Guided Missile

- ❖ India has successfully test-fired indigenously-developed anti-tank guided missile systems 'Helina' and 'Dhruvastra' in the Pokhran range.
- ❖ The Helina (Army version) and Dhruvastra (Airforce version) are helicopter-launched versions of third-generation anti-tank guided missiles.
- ❖ They are known as NAG Missile System.
- ❖ The missile systems have been designed and developed indigenously by the DRDO.
- ❖ Both the missiles can engage targets both in direct hit mode as well as top attack mode.
  - Top Attack Mode: The missile is required to climb sharply after launch and travel at a certain altitude, then plunge on top of the target.

- Direct Attack Mode: The missile travels at a lower altitude, directly striking the target.



## ENVIRONMENT

### US officially re-joins Paris Climate agreement

- ❖ The United States has officially rejoined the Paris Agreement, under the Presidency of US President Joe Biden.
- ❖ Earlier, in November 2020, the US had officially exited the agreement on the order of then-President Donald Trump.
- ❖ The landmark Paris climate agreement was signed in 2015.
- ❖ As per this agreement, the countries are expected to enhance their commitments to curb greenhouse gas emissions every five years.
- ❖ The goals of the global pact are to limit global warming to well below 2°C.
- ❖ It also aims to pursue the efforts to limit it to 1.5°C.

## STATES

### Renaming of Hoshangabad City

- ❖ The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Shivraj Singh Chouhan, has announced to rename the Hoshangabad city as Narmadapuram.
- ❖ Hoshangabad city was named after Hoshang Shah.
- ❖ He was the first ruler of Malwa.
- ❖ This district was the part of Nerbudda (Narmada) Division and Berar.
- ❖ Hoshangabad is famous for its beautiful ghats along the river Narmada river.

### **Kala Namak Rice' to Singapore**

- ❖ Uttar Pradesh is all set to export a consignment of 20 tonnes of Kala Namak rice to Singapore.
- ❖ The state government has also declared the rice as One District One Product of Siddharth Nagar.
- ❖ This rice is also called as Buddha Rice.
- ❖ Soon, the state will start observing the Kala Namak Rice festival.
- ❖ It also planned to set up a Kala Namak Rice Research Centre at Siddharth Nagar in association with the International Rice Research Centre, Varanasi.

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

### **World Leadership Congress**

- ❖ Sify Technologies's Kamal Nath has been named 'CEO of the Year' by the World Leadership Congress.
- ❖ This year, the Business Leader of the Year has celebrated its 19<sup>th</sup> Global edition of the award and the 4<sup>th</sup> India edition.
- ❖ PTC India Financial Services has bagged award in Financial Services category.

## **SPORTS**

### **Adriatic Pearl Boxing Tournament**



- ❖ Babyrojisana Chanu (51kg) and Arundhati Choudhary (69kg) fetched two gold medals in the 30<sup>th</sup> Adriatic Pearl Tournament in Budva, Montenegro.



- ❖ Alfiya Pathan (+81kg), Vinka (60kg) and T Sanamacha Chanu (75kg) are the other Indian women boxers who secured gold medals earlier in this tournament.
- ❖ Indian women emerged as the top team with 10 medals (5 gold, 3 silver and 2 bronze).

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### Central Excise Day - February 24

- ❖ The day is being celebrated to honour the service of Central Board of Excise and Custom (CBEC) to the country.
- ❖ The day is celebrated to commemorate the legislation of Central Excise and Salt act in 24 February, 1944.
- ❖ The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs is formerly known as the Central Board of Excise and Customs.
- ❖ Now the department is under the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.

### About Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs(CBIC)

- Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs(CBIC) is the nodal national agency responsible for administering Customs, GST, Central Excise, Service Tax & Narcotics in India
- A part of the **Department of Revenue** under the Ministry of Finance, Government of India
- With the enactment of the Finance Act, 2018, **Central Board of Excise & Customs(CBEC)** was renamed as **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs(CBIC)**
- The change was necessitated due to enactment of the **Goods and Services Tax (GST)** which has consolidated the multiple Indirect Taxes into one tax

## MISCELLANEOUS

### GI tag for Himalayan pink salt

- ❖ Pakistan has decided to register Himalayan pink salt as Geographical Indications.
- ❖ GI tag is a sign used on special products.
- ❖ That have a specific geographical origin and possess origin-based qualities and reputation in the region.
- ❖ The precious salt is extracted from the Salt Range in Punjab.

- ❖ It extends along the south of the Potohar Plateau and the north of the Jhelum River.
- ❖ Previously Pakistan is fighting a case in European Union against India's move to get Basmati rice registered as India's product.



**Table Salt vs Himalayan Pink Salt**

- Table Salt**
  - Heavily processed to eliminate minerals and usually contains an additive to prevent clumping
  - Too much salt may increase your blood pressure
  - High salt intake has been linked to osteoporosis
  - Excessive salt consumption has been linked to stomach cancer.
  - May contain additives (used to prevent clumping)
  - Iodine is artificially added
  - Rock salt is extracted through use of dynamite
- Himalayan Pink Salt**
  - Hand-mined in the Himalayan Mountains, dynamite use is forbidden.
  - Naturally Rich in Iodine and 80+ minerals and elements, which can:
    - Create an electrolyte balance
    - Regulate water content
    - Balance pH (alkaline/acidity) and help to reduce acid reflux
    - Prevent muscle cramping
    - Aid in proper metabolism functioning
    - Strengthen bones
    - Lower blood pressure
    - Help the intestines absorb nutrients
    - Prevent goiters
    - Improve circulation
    - Dissolve and eliminate sediment to remove toxins

