

February - 01

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The 48-day annual rejuvenation camp for elephants from various temples and mutts was all set to conclude at Thekkampatti in Mettupalayam.
  - The annual camp, organised by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department since 2003, was introduced by former chief minister Jayalalithaa.

## NATIONAL

### War memorial in Nagaland

- ❖ The Assam Rifles has constructed a combined war memorial in Nagaland.
- ❖ The memorial has been built for the 357 Army and Assam Rifles personnel killed while fighting insurgency in the northeastern state.
- ❖ It has been constructed at Mokokchung in Assam.
- ❖ This memorial is the first of its kind in Nagaland, which also has the famous Second World War Cemetery – “Veer Samriti” at Kohima.

### Assam Rifles

- ❖ Assam Rifles operate under Home Ministry.
- ❖ It is the oldest paramilitary force in India.
- ❖ Since 2000, they are guarding the Indo-Myanmar Barrier under “one border one force” policy of Government of India.





## **Anthropological Survey of India**

- ❖ As part of the commemoration of Gandhi's 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary, the Anthropological Survey of India (AnSI) has dedicated an entire issue of its journal on what it calls "Gandhian insights into applied anthropology".
- ❖ AnSI is the apex Indian government organisation involved in anthropological studies and field data research for human and cultural aspects.
- ❖ It was formed in 1945 in Kolkata.
- ❖ It comes under the Ministry of Culture.

## **NCRB launches two Police related Citizen centric services**

- ❖ National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) has launched two Police related Citizen centric services on Crime and Criminal Tracking Network System (CCTNS) platform. They are
  - Missing Person Search and
  - Generate Vehicle NOC

### **Missing Person Search:**

- ❖ It allows Citizens to search for their missing kin against the national database of recovered unidentified found person/unidentified dead bodies from their homes.

### **Generate Vehicle NOC:**

- ❖ It allows citizens to ascertain the status of a vehicle before its second hand purchase, as to whether it is suspicious or clean from Police records.

### **About CCTNS**

- ❖ Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems (CCTNS) is a project initiated in June 2009.
- ❖ It comes under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

## **Automatic Identification and Data Collection - Indian Railways**

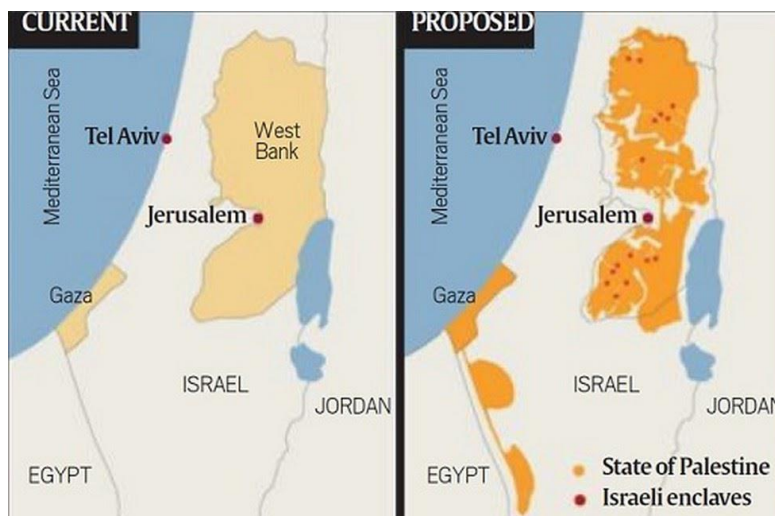
- ❖ Indian Railways (IR) undertook the Radio-frequency identification (RFID) project which focus on improving the safety and reliability.
- ❖ It aims to automatic identification & data collection of rolling stock.
- ❖ For implementing this project over Indian Railways,
  - Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS, the IT arm of the Indian Railways),
  - GS1 India and

- the Indian Industry have come together in alignment with the 'Make in India' initiative.
- ❖ The complete solution also includes the integration of RFID readers with various equipment such as Train Presence Detectors (TPDs), trackside condition monitoring equipment, etc.

## INTERNATIONAL

### West Asia Peace Plan

- ❖ The West Asia peace plan was recently unveiled by U.S. President Trump.
- ❖ It plans to revive the stalled two-state talks between the Israelis and the Palestinians.
- ❖ As per the plan,
  - Jerusalem to stay united and remain the capital of Israel.
  - Israel does not have to dismantle any of its illegal settlements in the West Bank.
  - The status quo to be preserved at Jerusalem's Temple Mount/al-Haram al-Sharif complex which lies in the eastern part of the city captured by Israel in the 1967 war.
  - Transportation links to be established between the unconnected Palestinian territories in the West Bank and Gaza.
  - A \$50 billion investment fund to boost the Palestinian and neighbouring Arab state economies.



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Accretion Burst Event

- ❖ Astronomers have recently found that accretion burst happens at different rates over time in our galaxy.
- ❖ Accretion is the formation of planets and other bodies by the collection of material through gravity.
- ❖ Sometimes the forming star swallows up a huge amount of matter, resulting in a burst of activities in the massive star. This is called an accretion burst event.
- ❖ The first observation of accretion burst event was in 2016.
- ❖ Maser Monitoring Organisation, established in 2017, observes this event using radio telescopes.

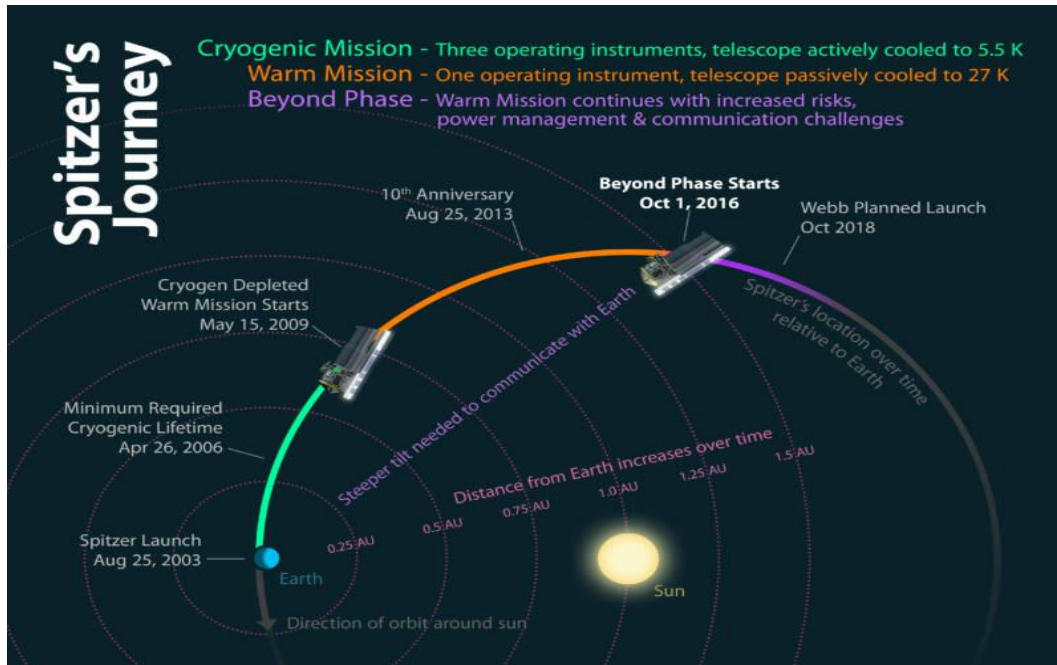


### Spitzer Telescope

- ❖ Spitzer space telescope of NASA retired on January 30, 2020.
- ❖ NASA's Spitzer Mission studied the universe in infrared light for more than 16 years.
- ❖ Spitzer Space Telescope was launched in 2003.
- ❖ It is the last mission of the NASA Great Observatories program, which saw four specialized telescopes (including the Hubble Space Telescope) launched between 1990 and 2003.
- ❖ Using different infrared wavelengths, Spitzer was able to see and reveal features of the universe.
- ❖ Spitzer focuses on the infrared band, which normally represents heat radiation from objects.



- ❖ NASA's James Webb Space Telescope, set to launch in 2021, will study the universe in many of the same wave-lengths observed by the Spitzer.



## STATES

### **Karnataka anti-superstition law**

- ❖ Karnataka Government has formally notified the Karnataka Prevention and Eradication of Inhuman Evil Practices and Black Magic Act, 2017.
- ❖ This bill is popularly known as the anti-superstition Bill.
- ❖ Made Snana, the practise of having Dalits roll over left over food, has now been modified to be voluntary and not involving leftover food.
- ❖ The Bill has been drafted on the lines of the Maharashtra Prevention and Eradication of Human Sacrifices and Black Magic Act, 2013.

## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### **Surajkund International Crafts Fair 2020**

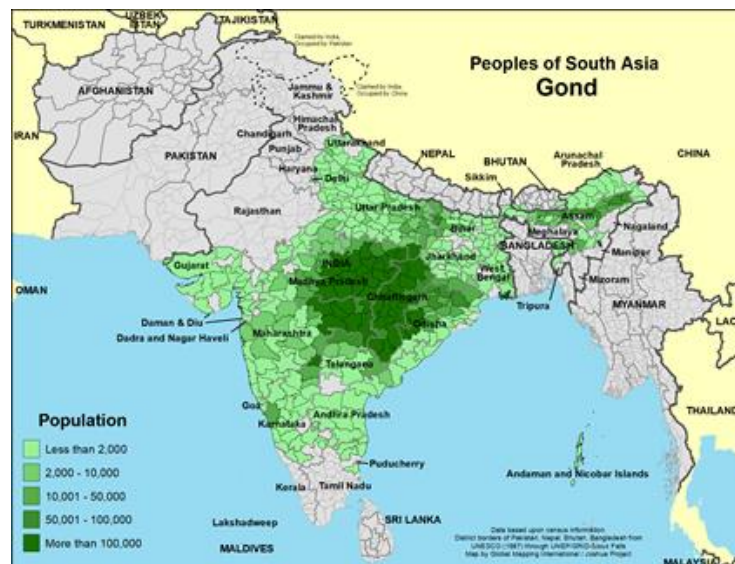
- ❖ President Ram Nath Kovind will inaugurate the 34th Surajkund International Crafts Fair on February 1, 2020, in Faridabad, Haryana.
- ❖ The Mela is organized by the Surajkund Mela Authority & Haryana Tourism in collaboration with Union Ministries of Tourism, Textiles, Culture and External Affairs.

- ❖ The fair will help to promote tourism.
- ❖ Surajkund is an ancient reservoir of the 10th century located on Southern Delhi Ridge of Aravalli range in Faridabad city of Haryana.
- ❖ For the 34<sup>th</sup> Surajkund International Crafts Mela-2020, the partner country of the fair is Uzbekistan.
- ❖ The state of Himachal Pradesh has been chosen to be the Theme State.



### **Nagoba Jatara Festival**

- ❖ Nagoba Jatara festival was celebrated by the Mesram Raj Gonds and Pardhans in Telangana State.
- ❖ Nagoba Jatara is a tribal festival held in Adilabad district, Telangana, India.
- ❖ It is the second biggest tribal carnival.



### Gonds

- ❖ Gonds are one of the largest tribal groups in the world.
- ❖ Gonds are subdivided into four tribes:
  - Raj Gonds
  - Madia Gonds
  - Dhurve Gonds
  - Khatulwar Gonds
- ❖ It has been notified as a Scheduled Tribe.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Traffic Index 2019

- ❖ TomTom, the Netherlands-based global provider of navigation, traffic and map products has released the Traffic Index 2019.
- ❖ The index uses location technology to collect traffic information and has been publishing city rankings for nine years.
- ❖ Bengaluru was ranked as the world's most traffic congested city with drivers.
- ❖ Mumbai (4), Pune (5) and New Delhi (8) were the other Indian cities that featured in top 10 places.
- ❖ The other global cities featured amongst the top 10 include Manila from the Philippines, Bogota from Colombia, Moscow from Russia; Lima from Peru, Istanbul from Turkey and Jakarta from Indonesia.

### 4 INDIAN CITIES IN TOP 10

Congestion, 2019 (%)

1	<b>Bengaluru</b>	<b>71</b>
2	Manila	71
3	Bogota	68
4	<b>Mumbai</b>	<b>65</b>
5	<b>Pune</b>	<b>59</b>
6	Moscow	59
7	Lima, Peru	57
8	<b>Delhi</b>	<b>56</b>
9	Istanbul	55
10	Jakarta	53

➤ In **Bengaluru**, commuters waste 10 days and 3 hrs on road every year. In **Mumbai**, it is 8 days & 17 hrs and in **Delhi**, it's 7 days & 22 hrs

➤ During morning peak hours in **Delhi**, a trip that should normally take 30 mins takes 52 mins. In the evening peak hours, a 30-min trip becomes 58 mins long

➤ In **Mumbai**, half-hour commute takes 24 mins more in morning peak hours and 31 mins extra in evening

