

February - 08

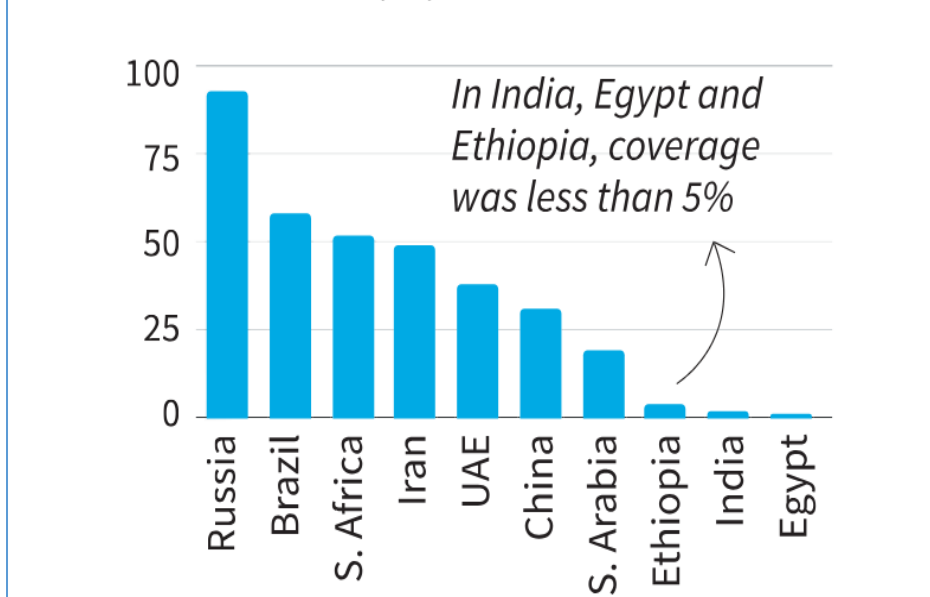
## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ S Rukmini Palanivel Rajan was appointed the new chairperson of the board of trustees of Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar temple of Madurai.
- ❖ The Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH) convened its 7th session at Kochi, Kerala.
- ❖ The 63rd Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB) meeting was held in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ A Russian cosmonaut, Oleg Kononenko, has set a world record for the most time spent in space, after logging more than 878 days or nearly two-and-a-half years.
- ❖ The EU launched a “European Ports Alliance” to harmonise methods in the fight against drug smuggling and to combat the hubs’ infiltration by criminal groups.
- ❖ Former Indian wicket-keeper Farokh Engineer and all-rounder Mr Ravi Shastri were bestowed with the Col. C.K. Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Awards.

## NATIONAL

### Cervical Cancer Among Indian Women

Chart 2 | The chart shows the share of women aged 30-49 who were screened for cervical cancer as of 2019 in BRICS nations (in %).



- ❖ Breast, oral and cervical cancer accounted for 32 per cent of the new cases in India.



- ❖ India reported over 14.13 lakh new cancer cases and 9.16 lakh deaths in 2022.
- ❖ Cancer cases in women marginally outnumbered those in men with 7,22,138, of them affected compared to 6,91,178 men.
- ❖ The top five cancers among Indian women were found to be those of breast, cervix, ovary, mouth and colorectum.
- ❖ The top five cancers among men were those of the oral cavity, lung, oesophagus, colorectum and stomach.
- ❖ Only 1% of women are being screened for cervical cancer in India.
- ❖ Many southern States and select States in the Northeast have shown initiative in testing more women.
- ❖ In Tamil Nadu, for instance, 7% of women said that they were screened for cervical cancer and 3.8% for breast cancer.
- ❖ This was the highest among the two types across States.
- ❖ Kerala, Mizoram, Manipur and Maharashtra also crossed the 1% mark under these two types.
- ❖ In Andhra Pradesh, 5% of women said that they were screened for oral cancer, the highest for this type of cancer across States.
- ❖ On the other hand, only 0.1% of women were screened for any type of cancer in West Bengal, the lowest in India.
- ❖ Gujarat too performed poorly with 0.2%.
- ❖ Altogether in India, the share of women screened for cervical, breast, and oral cancer stood at 1.2%, 0.6% and 0.7%, respectively, as of 2019-21.
- ❖ In contrast, the share of women screened for cervical cancer in advanced economies such as Sweden, Ireland, the U.S. and the U.K. was more than 70%.
- ❖ Russia led the list with 93%, followed by 58% in Brazil, and 52% in South Africa.
- ❖ In India, Egypt and Ethiopia, coverage was less than 5%.

### **RoSCTL Scheme extension**

- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved the continuation of Scheme for Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) for export of Apparel/Garments and Made ups up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026.
- ❖ It will make the textile sector competitive by rebating all taxes/levies which are currently not being rebated under any other mechanism.
- ❖ RoSCTL was offered for embedded state and central duties and taxes that are not refunded through Goods and Services Tax (GST).
- ❖ It was available only for garments and made ups.

- ❖ It was introduced by the Ministry of Textiles.

List of state taxes and levies that will be refunded	List of Central taxes and levies that will be refunded
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VAT on transportation fuel.</li> <li>• Captive Power.</li> <li>• Mandi Tax.</li> <li>• Electricity Duty.</li> <li>• Stamp Duty on all the Export Documents.</li> <li>• SGST levied on inputs of production of cotton (raw) like fertilizers, pesticides.</li> <li>• Any other kind of product purchases made from unregistered dealers.</li> <li>• The material used for the transport sector.</li> <li>• The Coal used for production.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central excise duty on fuel used in transportation</li> <li>• Embedded CGST paid on inputs like pesticides, fertilizers.</li> <li>• Any other material purchases from unregistered dealers.</li> <li>• Inputs for the transport sector and</li> <li>• CGST and compensation Cess on Coal used in the production of electricity</li> </ul>

### Hamara Samvidhan Hamara Samman

- ❖ Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar will inaugurate a yearlong pan India campaign 'Hamara Samvidhan, Hamara Samman'.
- ❖ The campaign aims to reaffirm India's collective commitment to the principles enshrined in the Constitution and celebrate the shared values that bind the nation.
- ❖ This nationwide initiative envisages to instil a sense of pride and responsibility to uphold the ideals outlined in the constitutional framework.



### 1<sup>st</sup> Survey Vessel - INS Sandhayak

- ❖ The Indian Navy commissioned its latest survey vessel, Sandhayak.

- ❖ It is the first in a series of four Survey Vessel (Large) ships.
- ❖ The primary purpose of the ship is to conduct comprehensive coastal and deep-water Hydrographic Surveys for Port and Harbour approaches, as well as determining navigational channels and routes.
- ❖ The vessel is also equipped to gather oceanographic and geophysical data, serving both defence and civil applications.
- ❖ This ship is re-incarnated in its present avatar from erstwhile Sandhayak, which was decommissioned in 2021.



## INTERNATIONAL

### West African bloc ECOWAS



- ❖ The military regimes in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger announced their immediate withdrawal from the West African bloc ECOWAS.

- ❖ ECOWAS stands for Economic Community of West African States.
- ❖ All three were suspended from ECOWAS with Niger and Mali facing heavy sanctions.
- ❖ A French military withdrawal from the Sahel has heightened concerns over the conflicts spreading southward to Gulf of Guinea states Ghana, Togo, Benin and Ivory Coast.
- ❖ The military leaders of Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger recently united under the banner of the Alliance of Sahel States.

### **'Widow Year' in China**



- ❖ In Chinese culture, the upcoming Year is known as the year of the Dragon, also known as a "Widow Year".
- ❖ A Widow Year in China is a lunar year that does not contain the traditional start of spring, known as Lichun.
- ❖ Lichun is one of the 24 solar terms that divide up the lunar year, marking the coming of the spring season.
- ❖ According Chinese superstitions, Lichun is a time of yang (masculine) energy, and a year without Lichun is a year without yang energy.

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **INSAT-3DS Satellite**


- ❖ India is set to enhance its meteorological monitoring capabilities with the launch of INSAT-3DS by using GSLV-F14 rocket.

- ❖ The satellite is designed for enhanced meteorological observations and monitoring of land and ocean surfaces for weather forecasting and disaster warning.
- ❖ It will provide continuity of services to the existing in-orbit INSAT-3D and 3DR satellites.
- ❖ It aiming to provide uninterrupted services and significantly improve the overall capabilities of the INSAT system.



## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### SC Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar



**SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE AAPDA  
PRABANDHAN PURASKAR-2024**

**60 PARACHUTE FIELD HOSPITAL, UTTAR PRADESH  
SELECTED FOR THE YEAR 2024.**

**ABOUT 60 PARACHUTE FIELD HOSPITAL :**

- Established in 1942.
- Sole airborne medical establishment of the Indian Armed Forces, recognized for its exceptional service in various global crisis.
- The primary mission includes Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations during natural calamities, nationally and internationally, both in time of peace and war.
- Provided medical assistance during the Uttarakhand floods (2013), Nepal Earthquake under the operation name 'Maitri' (2015) and Indonesian Tsunami as part of operation Samudra Maitri (2018).
- In response to the 7.8 magnitude earthquake in Turkey and Syria in February 2023, the unit rapidly assembled a 99-member team and established India's pioneering level-2 medical facility in Turkey overcoming resource constraints and language barrier to set up a 30 bed hospital in Hatay province's school building.
- The unit provided a wide range of medical services, including rescue, triage, surgery, dental treatment, X Ray and lab facilities and offered care to 3600 patients during a 12 day period as a part of 'Operation Dost'.

- ❖ 60 Parachute Field Hospital of Uttar Pradesh has been selected for the Subhash Chandra Bose Disaster Management Award-2024.

- ❖ This award is given by the Central Government for outstanding work in disaster management.
- ❖ The 60 Parachute Field Hospital was established in 1942.
- ❖ It is the only air-medical establishment of the Indian Armed Forces.
- ❖ It is recognized for its exceptional service in global crises.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### **Serum – CEPI partnership**

- ❖ The Serum Institute of India (SII) will join a growing CEPI network of vaccine producers in the Global South.
- ❖ It aims to support more rapid, agile, and equitable responses to future disease outbreaks.
- ❖ Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) is an innovative global partnership working to accelerate the development of vaccines and other biologic countermeasures against epidemic and pandemic threats.
- ❖ CEPI has articulated an aspirational goal: vaccines should be ready for initial authorisation and manufacturing at scale within 100 days of recognition of a pandemic pathogen, when appropriate.
- ❖ This alliance will be a significant boost to vaccine production efforts in Global South regions, and take it a step closer to achieving the 100 Days Mission.

