

February - 10

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Commonwealth Legal Education Association (CLEA) - Commonwealth Attorneys and Solicitors General Conference (CASGC) 2024 was held in New Delhi.
  - The theme of the event is “Cross-Border Challenges in Justice Delivery”.
- ❖ India’s first Olympic gold medallist Abhinav Bindra has been selected as a torchbearer for the upcoming 2024 Paris Olympic.
- ❖ The Eiffel Tower now stands as the first site in Europe to accept UPI payments, making France the first-ever country on the continent to embrace this digital payment mechanism.
- ❖ The government will soon launch retail sales of Bharat Rice at ₹29 per kg from to provide relief to consumers.

## NATIONAL

### Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund



- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of the Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) for another three years till FY2025-26.
- ❖ AHIDF will be implemented under the Infrastructure Development Fund (IDF) with an outlay of ₹29,610.25 crores.
- ❖ The scheme aims to incentivise investments in dairy processing, meat processing, product diversification, animal feed plants, breed multiplication farms, animal

waste to wealth management (agri-waste management), veterinary vaccines and drug production facilities.

- ❖ The government will provide a 3% interest subvention for eight years, including two years of moratorium for a loan up to 90% from the scheduled bank and NCDC, NABARD and NDDB.

## **GHAR Portal**



- ❖ The Ministry of Women and Child Development has developed the “Track Child Portal”.
- ❖ It enables tracking of the missing and found children in all States/UTs including Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, North Eastern States and Jharkhand.
- ❖ Further, a portal namely GHAR - GO Home and Re-Unite (Portal for Restoration and Repatriation of Child) has been developed and launched by NCPDR.
- ❖ Digital tracking and monitoring of children is used for who are in the Juvenile Justice system and have to be repatriated to another Country/State/District.

## **Employee Rating Survey**

- ❖ The Employee's Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has begun sending a survey on mobile devices in India.
- ❖ The survey is being sent via SMS, WhatsApp and even e-mails.
- ❖ The survey includes a questionnaire which has questions about the recipients' workplaces and support they provide to female workers.
- ❖ The survey also asks the recipients to rate their workplaces and asks about facilities such as late-night transportation, internal committee for handling sexual harassment complaints, childcare centres and more.

- ❖ “The employers’ rating survey aims to help us gauge the progress and efforts of employers based on specific facilities.



### **Law Commission Report on Public Property Damage**



- ❖ The law panel, headed by retired Justice Rituraj Awasthi, proposed stringent bail provisions for those involved in damaging public property.
- ❖ It recommended that people involved in damaging public property should get bail only after depositing money equivalent to the loss caused by them.



- ❖ The Commission recommended amendments to the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act, 1984.
- ❖ It also recommended a separate law to tackle the issue of prolonged wilful obstruction of public property.

## INTERNATIONAL

### UN Regular Budget

- ❖ India has paid USD 32.89 million to the United Nations Regular Budget for 2024.
- ❖ It is joining the "honour roll" of 36 Member States who have paid their regular budget dues in full to the UN on time.
- ❖ India has consistently been among the countries to pay its contributions to the UN budget on time and in full.

Monthly statistical information concerning the number of Member States which paid in full:																								
As at month end	Number of Member States																							
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
January	36	25	41	25	35	34	35	25	25	25	20	23	26	25	26	21	36	31	41	34	32	40	42	39
February		59	65	63	62	69	62	49	42	50	45	42	48	47	53	44	61	50	59	51	46	56	50	54
March		86	81	83	77	79	73	73	62	67	61	56	69	67	66	55	77	65	72	62	59	69	63	64
April		97	96	98	87	89	88	92	79	84	79	76	89	83	73	76	81	75	83	71	75	76	70	69
May		114	104	103	92	102	102	102	85	94	93	90	96	97	86	81	90	79	87	76	82	86	79	85
June		121	109	113	101	105	107	110	93	102	102	103	108	108	93	94	98	85	94	88	89	91	82	92
July		126	113	117	107	109	114	116	98	108	109	113	111	111	101	100	105	90	101	97	92	97	88	101
August		133	120	124	112	116	125	124	105	115	114	122	114	118	107	106	116	97	104	110	99	101	95	112
September		137	131	130	124	127	141	134	126	128	124	134	128	131	119	115	124	112	113	125	106	109	104	122
October		137	135	135	131	134	146	137	134	138	131	137	134	137	125	126	129	123	117	130	111	120	112	126
November		139	137	138	135	138	149	143	138	139	135	140	135	137	130	128	132	130	122	130	118	123	115	130
December		142	146	153	144	146	152	145	145	142	144	146	143	143	138	136	146	140	139	140	121	127	117	135

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

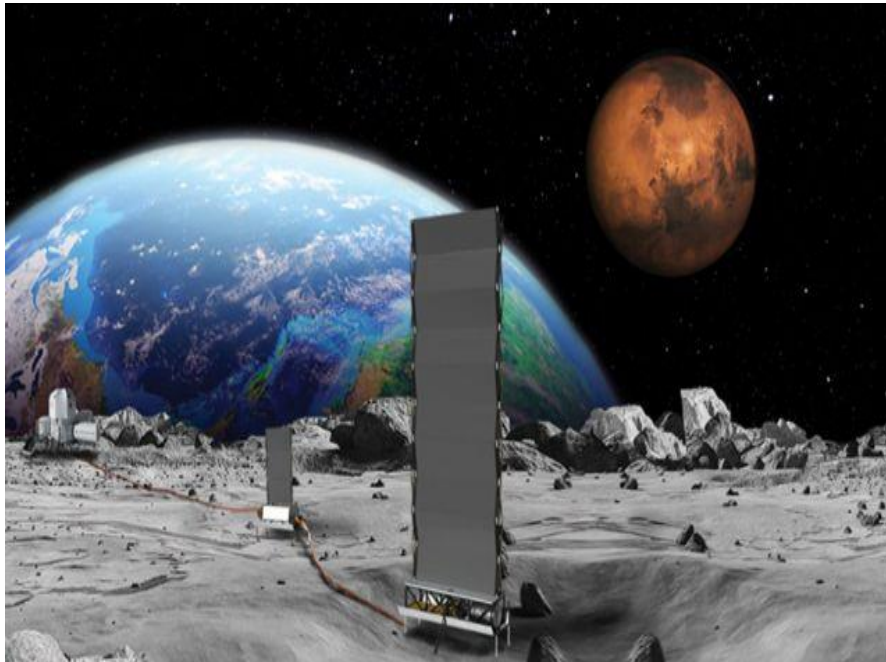
### Magnetic Anomaly under Lake Rotorua

- ❖ Scientists have unveiled a hidden hydrothermal system beneath the waters of Lake Rotorua.
- ❖ This site steeped in Maori legend and situated atop a dormant volcanic crater on New Zealand's North Island.
- ❖ Lake Rotorua was formed around 200,000 years ago by a volcanic eruption, and it is still home to hydrothermal activity today.
- ❖ The lake itself is shallow, with an average depth of about 10 meters, and is part of the Taupo Volcanic Zone.
- ❖ Volcanic rocks exhibit strong positive magnetic responses due to the presence of magnetite.

- ❖ However, the anomaly detected suggests that hydrothermal fluids have altered the magnetite into pyrite.
- ❖ It is resulting in a significantly reduced magnetic signal.



### **Lunar Nuclear Fission Reactor**



- ❖ NASA is wrapping up the initial phase of its ambitious plan to build a small electricity-generating nuclear reactor on the Moon.
- ❖ The Fission Surface Power Project aims to develop safe, clean and reliable energy sources on the moon.
- ❖ Solar power has its limitations on the Moon because night on Earth's lone satellite lasts for the equivalent of 14 Earth days.

- ❖ If one nuclear reactor, even placed in permanently shadowed areas, it could generate power continuously without any dependence on weather and other conditions.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Underwater Canyon Near Cyprus

- ❖ Israeli scientists uncovered a never before known about underwater canyon near Cyprus.
- ❖ The canyon is known as Eratosthenes for the underwater mountain it is near.
- ❖ It dates back to the Messinian Event that transpired about 5.5 million years ago.
- ❖ The canyon is about 10 km wide and 500 m deep and was buried at the beginning of the Messinian period before the deposition of the salt layer.
- ❖ The Eratosthenes canyon was created when the Mediterranean Sea level decreased during the Messinian period, causing a rise in the salinity of the water.



## STATES

### Subika Painting crisis - Manipur

- ❖ The Subika painting style is intricately linked to the Meitei community's cultural history through its six surviving manuscripts.
- ❖ They are Subika, Subika Achouba, Subika Laishaba, Subika Choudit, Subika Cheithil and Thengrakhel Subika.

- ❖ Unfortunately, the awareness about this unique art form has dwindled over the years, leading to its near extinction.
- ❖ Subika Laishaba represents a direct and authentic continuation of the Meitei cultural tradition depicted through visual images.
- ❖ They have visual language from the elements such as lines, shapes, forms, colours, and patterns.
- ❖ The visual images found in this manuscript are painted on handmade paper.
- ❖ It is also found that the materials of manuscripts are prepared indigenously either handmade paper or barks of trees.



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

### **Quaide Milleth Award for Probity in Political/Public Life**

- ❖ Senior journalist N. Ram and renowned economist Abusaleh Shariff have been declared the winners of the Quaide Milleth Award for Probity in Political/Public Life for the year 2023.
- ❖ Shariff has been awarded for his role in the preparation of the Sachar Committee report.
- ❖ Earlier, The Wire and K. Veeramani were awarded the same for the year 2022.
- ❖ The award was instituted in 2015 after Quaide Milleth Mohamed Ismail Saheb, a popular South Indian leader.
- ❖ He exercised tremendous influence in the formative years of Independent India, as the opposition leader in Madras Presidency.

- ❖ He is also a Member of the Constituent Assembly, Member of Rajya Sabha (1952-58), and was elected to Lok Sabha thrice.

