

February - 18

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Neal Mohan, an Indian American has been appointed as the new chief executive officer of YouTube.
- ❖ India's aviation safety oversight ranking has jumped to the 55th position from 112th place.
 - According to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), it is a ranking by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).
- ❖ Prime Minister inaugurated the new campus of Aljamea-tus-Saifiyah Arabic Academy at Marol, Mumbai.
 - It is the principal educational institute of the Dawoodi Bohra Community.

TAMIL NADU

New e-vehicles policy



- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Electric Vehicles Policy, 2023, was released by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin.
- ❖ It provides a capital subsidy for public and private charging stations and battery swapping stations.
- ❖ It lists special demand-side incentives for retrofitting and re-manufacture.
- ❖ Government shall develop a road map to electrify public and institutional fleets operating in the State in phases.
- ❖ The State shall endeavour to increase the share of electric buses to 30% of the fleet [operated by State Transport Undertakings] by 2030.”

- ❖ The 2019 policy provided for waiver of road tax, registration charges and permit fees till December 31, 2022.
- ❖ But the latest policy extends them by three years and further provides for special demand- side incentives till March 31, 2026.
- ❖ However, these incentives would be applicable to vehicles manufactured, sold and registered in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ As on April 30, 2022, over 1.15 lakh EVs have been registered in Tamil Nadu, of which 93% were non-commercial vehicles.

Hero stones in Thenpennai banks

- ❖ Researchers from the Tiruvannamalai district Historical Research Centre (TDHRC) dug out two hero stones from the banks of Thenpennai near Alambadi.
- ❖ They found the two stones from the Vediappan temple near Alambadi.
- ❖ The stones were rare 'Aanirai' stones of a tribal leader who died in the war.
- ❖ The inscriptions indicate that it was erected during the rule of Pallava king Singa Vishnu during his 11th year of rule.
- ❖ They could belong to 6th century AD.
- ❖ The inscriptions show that the warriors died during a war attempting to rescue cows which were robbed by enemies of the tribe.

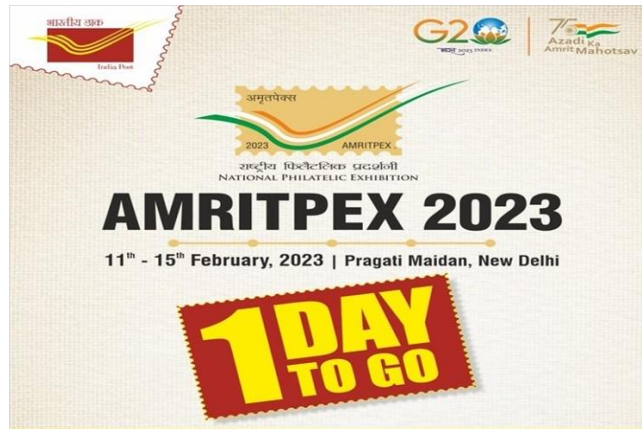


NATIONAL

AMRITPEX 2023

- ❖ The India Post organized the National Philatelic Exhibition, titled 'Amritpex 2023' in New Delhi.
- ❖ It includes 1,400 frames, showcasing over one lakh stamps collected by 300 participants.

- ❖ The exhibits use stamps and photographic collections to highlight India's history, culture, art, and heritage through the years.



Jal Jan Abhiyan



- ❖ The Ministry of Jal Shakti and the Brahma Kumari's organization will implement the Jal Jan Abhiyan.
- ❖ The main objective of the campaign is water conservation.
- ❖ During the eight-month campaign, the volunteers from the organization will conduct public awareness campaign on preserving water.



- ❖ They will focus on building new water bodies and also on preserving more than 5,000 water bodies.
- ❖ The target of the campaign is to reach at least ten crore people and organize 10,000 programs.

INTERNATIONAL

Saudi Arabia's First woman to space



- ❖ Saudi Arabia will send its first ever woman astronaut on a space mission later this year.
- ❖ Rayyana Barnawi will join fellow Saudi male astronaut Ali Al-Qarni on a mission to the International Space Station.
- ❖ The astronauts "will join the crew of the AX-2 space mission" and the space flight will "launch from the USA.
- ❖ In 2019, United Arab Emirates became the first Arab country to send one of its citizens into space.

ECONOMY

Hello Ujjivan app

**99+ TRANSACTIONS.
9 LANGUAGES.
ONE APP.**

MOBILE BANKING APP

Download now on



- ❖ Ujjivan Small Finance Bank launched Hello Ujjivan, India’s first mobile banking application with 3 V’s – voice, visual, vernacular-enabled features.
- ❖ It aims to provide banking access to individuals who have limited reading and writing skills.
- ❖ The app is designed to instil banking habits in Micro Banking and Rural customers who are digitally challenged.
- ❖ Hello Ujjivan, co-created with Navana AI, is accessible by voice in eight regional languages.

India’s mega Airbus deal

- ❖ Tata Group-owned Air India (AI) placed two mega orders which adding up to a staggering 470 aircraft.
- ❖ These orders finalized for 250 planes with Europe’s Airbus consortium, and 220 with Boeing of the United States.
- ❖ This is the largest order placed by an airline in one go anywhere in the world.
- ❖ It is beating the 2011 order by American Airlines for a combined 460 aircraft.
- ❖ The biggest order by an Indian carrier before this was IndiGo’s 300-aircraft order in 2019.

WHICH PLANES, HOW MANY			
Model	Order Size (nos)	Avg List Price (\$mn)	Total List Price (\$mn)
737 Max*	190	128.25	24,367.5
787-9	20	292.5	5,850
777-9	10	442.2	4,422
TOTAL (BOEING)*	220		34,639.5
A320neo	140	110.6	15,484
A321neo	70	129.5	9,065
A350-1000	34	366.5	12,461
A350-900	6	317.4	1,904.4
TOTAL (AIRBUS)**	250		38,914.4
GRAND TOTAL	470		\$73.55 billion**

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

First waste-to-hydrogen plant

- ❖ The country's first solid waste-to-hydrogen plant will be set up in Pune.
- ❖ The plant will be built by a private company Green Billion Limited.
- ❖ It will produce 10 tons of hydrogen daily from 350 tons of solid waste.

- ❖ The fuel from waste will be used to generate hydrogen using plasma gasification technology.



ENVIRONMENT

IqAir Air Quality Index

Top 10 most-polluted cities worldwide:

1	Lahore (Pakistan)
2	Mumbai (India)
3	Kabul (Afghanistan)
4	Kaohsiung (Taiwan)
5	Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan)
6	Accra (Ghana)
7	Krakow (Poland)
8	Doha (Qatar)
9	Astana (Kazakhstan)
10	Santiago (Chile)

- ❖ Mumbai has overtaken Delhi to become the world's second-most polluted city in terms of the global Air Quality Index (AQI).
- ❖ This is According to Switzerland-based air quality monitoring tech company IqAir data.
- ❖ Sarajevo in Bosnia has been ranked as the world's most polluted city for the period between January 29 and February 8.
- ❖ Lahore from Pakistan is in the third position.
- ❖ Delhi is in the sixth spot and Kolkata is in the 17th position.

- ❖ IQAir has joined hands with United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Greenpeace to measure the air quality in India.
- ❖ Its studies are based on data from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

STATES

Portal for 'One Family, One ID'

- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh government has launched the portal for creation of 'Family ID - One Family One Identity'.
- ❖ It aims to identify families as a unit for implementing the 'one job per family' proposal.
- ❖ Those families are not eligible for the National Food Security Scheme will be able to avail the ID.
- ❖ While the ration card ID of the families having it will be considered as their family ID.

MISCELLANEOUS

Highest loss-making airports

- ❖ Chennai airport suffered a loss of ₹189.85 crore during the year 2021-22.
- ❖ This has the highest lose among airports operated by Airports Authority of India (AAI).
- ❖ Dehradun airport came second with a loss of ₹98.02 crore.

- ❖ It was followed by Agartala airport that faced a loss of ₹80.67 crore during the same period.

