

February - 27

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Union Minister for Finance chaired the 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) in New Delhi.
- ❖ Coast guard personnel from India, the Maldives and Sri Lanka have participated on a four-day trilateral exercise 'DOSTI-16' at Maldives.

## TAMIL NADU

### Nemmeli Desalination Plant

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister inaugurated the Nemmeli desalination plant.
- ❖ It has a capacity of 150 million litres per day (mld), to supply drinking water to 9 lakh residents in various parts of Chennai.
- ❖ This is the third desalination plant in the city after the 100 MLD plant in Minjur and 110 MLD plant in Nemmeli.
- ❖ In India, Chennai will be the first city to produce 750MLD water from desalination plants.
- ❖ These include 100 MLD desalination plants in Nemmeli and Minjur each, 150 MLD plant in Nemmeli, ongoing 400 MLD plant in Perur, near Nemmeli.

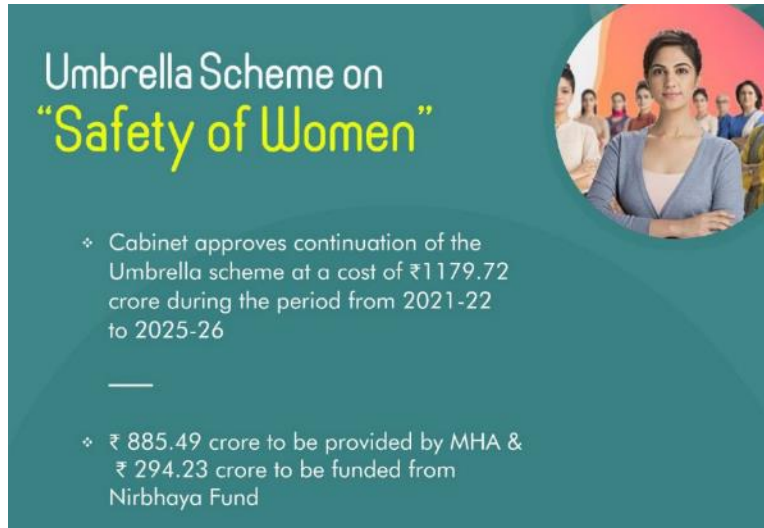


## NATIONAL

### 'Safety of Women' 2025-26

- ❖ The Centre has decided to continue its flagship scheme for women safety till 2025-26.

- ❖ According to the latest record of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), a total of 4,45,256 cases of crime against women were registered across India in 2022 -- almost 51 FIRs every hour on an average.
- ❖ The figure was 4,28,278 in 2021 and 3,71,503 in 2020.
- ❖ More than 13.13 lakh young girls and women went missing in the country in three years from 2019 to 2021.
- ❖ The highest number of such incidents was reported from Madhya Pradesh, followed by West Bengal.



**Umbrella Scheme on  
"Safety of Women"**

- ❖ Cabinet approves continuation of the Umbrella scheme at a cost of ₹1179.72 crore during the period from 2021-22 to 2025-26

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- ❖ ₹ 885.49 crore to be provided by MHA & ₹ 294.23 crore to be funded from Nirbhaya Fund

### **Flood Management and Border Areas Programme (FMBAP) 2025-26**



**CABINET APPROVES  
FLOOD MANAGEMENT &  
BORDER AREAS PROGRAMME**

Outlay of Rs. 4,100 crore  
for 5 years (2021-22 to 2025-26)

**COMPONENTS**

- 1. Flood Management Programme:**  
Outlay of **Rs. 2,940 crore** as Central assistance to states
- 2. River Management and Border Areas:**  
Outlay of **Rs. 1,160 crore** for flood control & anti-erosion works on rivers bordering with neighbouring countries

- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved the proposal continuation of the "Flood Management and Border Areas Programme (FMBAP)".

- ❖ It aims to address critical aspects of flood control and anti-erosion measures, for the period spanning 2021-2026.
- ❖ The FMBAP comprises two key components of Flood Management Programme (FMP) and River Management and Border Areas (RMBA).

### **Raisina Dialogue Conference 2024**

- ❖ The ninth edition of the Raisina Dialogue was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ Greece's Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis joined the inauguration session as the chief guest.
- ❖ The Raisina Dialogue is an annual conference on geopolitics and geoeconomics.
- ❖ It aims to address the most challenging issues faced by the world.
- ❖ The theme of the 2024 edition is "Chaturanga: Conflict, Contest, Cooperate, Create."

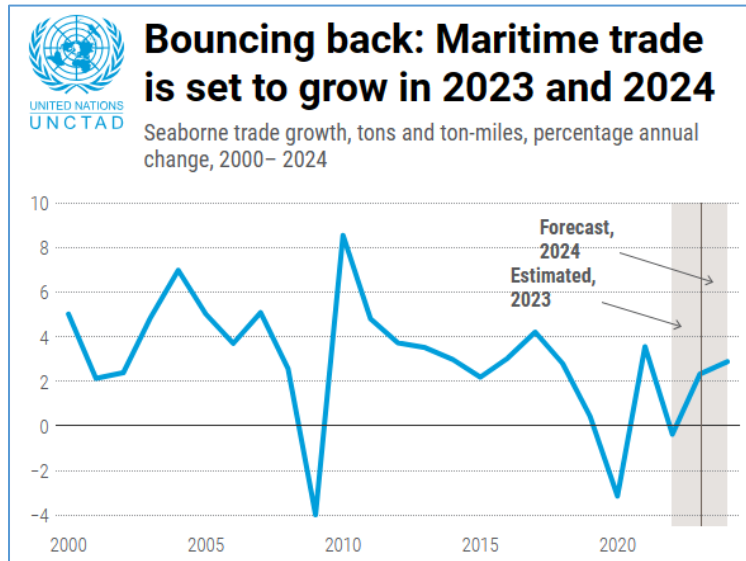


## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **Maritime Transport 2023**

- ❖ The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has released the Review of Maritime Transport 2023.
- ❖ Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions from international shipping were 20% higher in 2023 compared to a decade ago.
- ❖ The shipping industry contributes to over 80% of the world's trade volume and nearly 3% of global GHG emissions.
- ❖ 8% of the global fleet uses conventional fuels like heavy fuel oil, light fuel oil, and diesel/gas oil.
- ❖ Only 1.2% are using alternative fuels, mainly LNG, LPG, methanol, and to a lesser extent, battery/hybrid.

- ❖ Containerized trade is expected to grow by 1.2% in 2023 and further by 3% between 2024-2028.
- ❖ Oil and gas trade volumes showed vigorous growth in 2022.
- ❖ Early in January 2023, commercial ships were on average 22.2 years old and more than half of the world's fleet was over 15 years old.



### 37<sup>th</sup> African Union Summit, 2024



- ❖ The 37th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union (AU) concluded recently in Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa.
- ❖ It was held under the AU's theme of the year for 2024, "Educate an African fit for the 21st Century: Building resilient education systems for increased access to inclusive, lifelong, quality and relevant learning in Africa."

- ❖ It adopted the second 10-year (2024-2033) implementation plan of Agenda 2063, also known as the decade of acceleration.
- ❖ The African Union (AU) is a continental body consisting of the 55 member states.
- ❖ In 1963, the Organization of African Unity was founded by the independent states of Africa.
- ❖ In 2002, the Organization of African Unity was succeeded by the African Union.

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **Indigenous Laser Weapon DURGA-2**

- ❖ DRDO is preparing to test a real prototype of its indigenous laser weapon system, DURGA-2.
- ❖ DURGA stands for Directionally Unrestricted Ray Gun Array.
- ❖ The present generation of anti-aircraft or anti-missile systems are not considered fool-proof.
- ❖ But the laser weapon promises to have 100 percent kill probability.

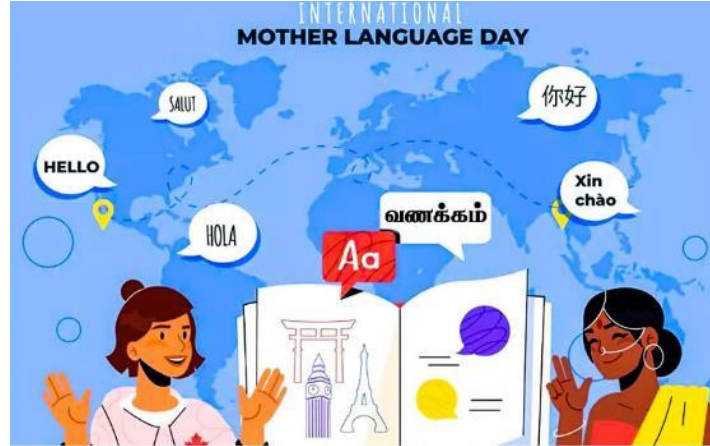


## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **International Mother Language Day 2024 - February 21**

- ❖ This day aims to recognise and promote linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism.

- ❖ The idea to celebrate this day was the initiative of Bangladesh and was approved in 1999 at UNESCO General Conference.
- ❖ The theme for 2024 is "Multilingual education is a pillar of intergenerational learning".



### **World Thinking Day 2024 - February 22**

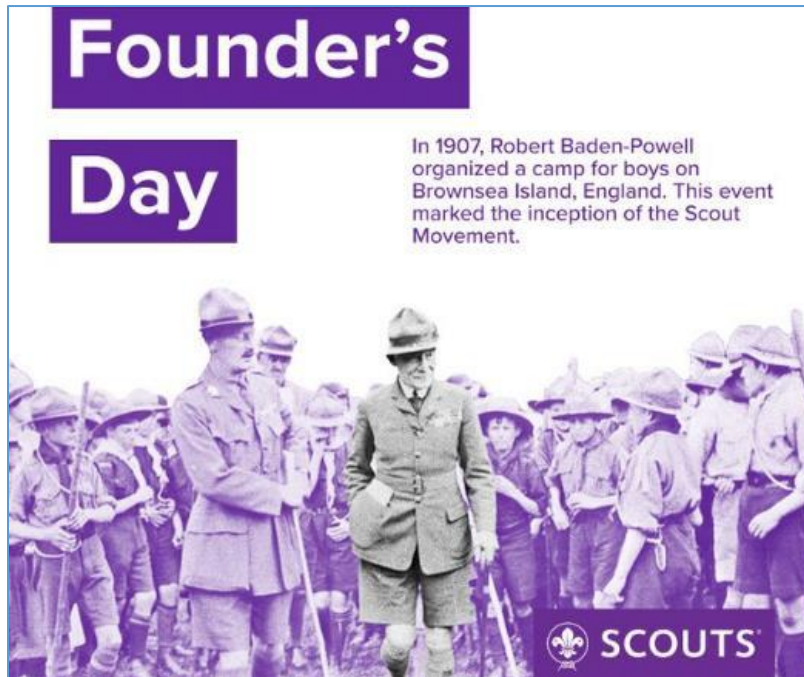


- ❖ The day celebrates the friendship, sisterhood, and empowerment of girls and young women all over the world.
- ❖ It aims to strengthen the bond shared by young women and explore ways to empower them.
- ❖ The theme of 2024 is 'Our World, Our Thriving Future.'

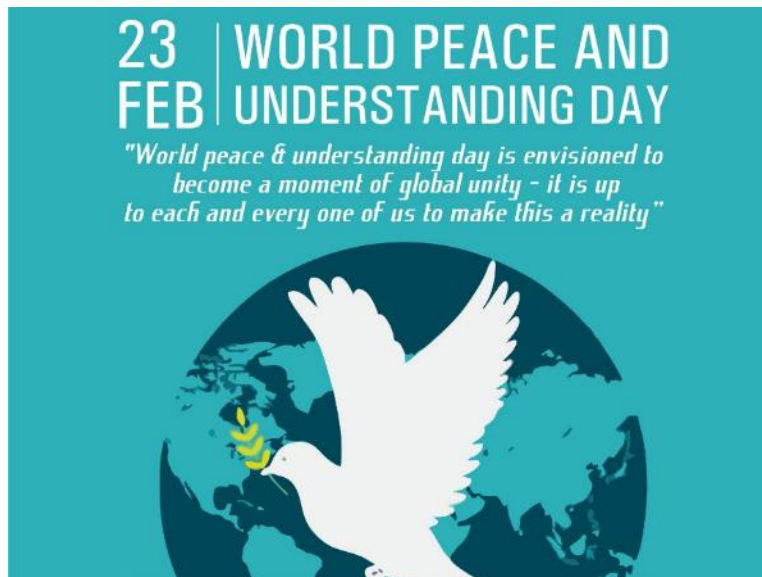
### **World Scout Day 2024 - February 22**

- ❖ This day commemorates the birth anniversary of Lord Robert Baden-Powell, the founder of the Boy Scouts movement.
- ❖ The day is also popularly known as the Founder's Day.

- ❖ The Scout Movement is now spread across 172 National Scout Organisations with 57 million members.
- ❖ The theme of 2024 is 'Scouts for a Better World'.



### **World peace and understanding day 2024 - February 23**



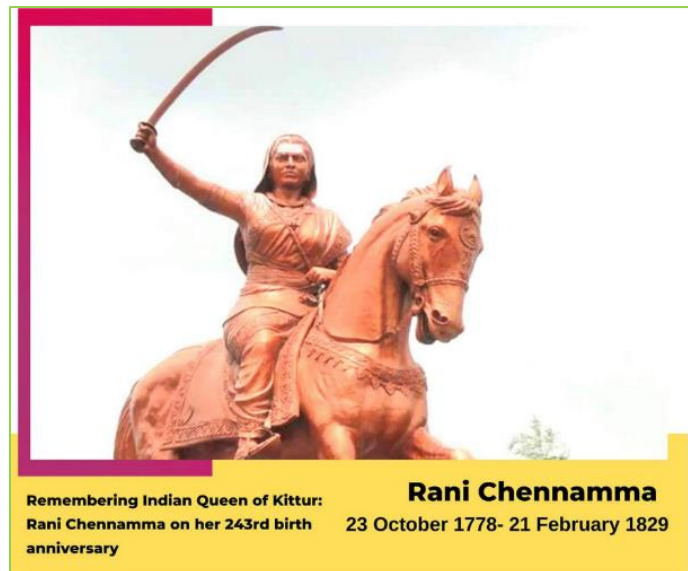
- ❖ The day commemorates the first meeting of Rotary International that took place in Chicago, USA in 1905.

- ❖ It is an NGO dedicated to humanitarian service, peace, and goodwill across the world.
- ❖ In 1910, the first Rotary Clubs in America were formed, mainly in San Francisco, Seattle, Oakland, and in Los Angeles.
- ❖ Rotary International's goal is global peacebuilding and positive resolution.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Rani Chennamma's rebellion

- ❖ A fleet of 20,000 British soldiers was positioned on the foothills of the Kittur fort as they attempted to invade the former princely state of Karnataka.
- ❖ But the Queen of Kittur, Rani Chennamma, retaliated and killed a British official to protect and safeguard her homeland.
- ❖ This came to be known as the Kittur revolt of 1824.
- ❖ Kittur ruler before his death in 1824, adopted a child, Shivalingappa, as the successor.
- ❖ However, the British East India Company refused to recognise Shivalingappa as the successor of the kingdom under the 'doctrine of lapse'.



### Badami Chalukyas inscriptions

- ❖ Two Badami Chalukya temples at least 1,300-1,500 years old and a 1,200-year-old label inscription were recently discovered in Mudimanikyam village, Nalgonda District, Telangana.



- ❖ The two temples date back to between 543 AD and 750 AD.
- ❖ The inscription dates to 8th or 9th century AD, corresponding to the rule of the Badami Chalukyas.
- ❖ These temples are exceptional as they are in Kadamba Nagara style in the Rekha Nagara format.
- ❖ This is the only example of such architecture evident today in Telangana.
- ❖ The label inscription reads as 'Gandaloranru' and is inscribed on a pillar of a group of five temples in the village.



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