

February - 28

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Indian Navy carried out a biennial tri-services amphibious exercise AMPHEX 2023 near Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ The 'Ops Alert' exercise was conducted by the Border Security Force (BSF) along the Indo-Pak Border from Sir Creek to Rann of Kutch in Gujarat and Barmer district of Rajasthan.

## TAMIL NADU

### Best police station in Tamil Nadu

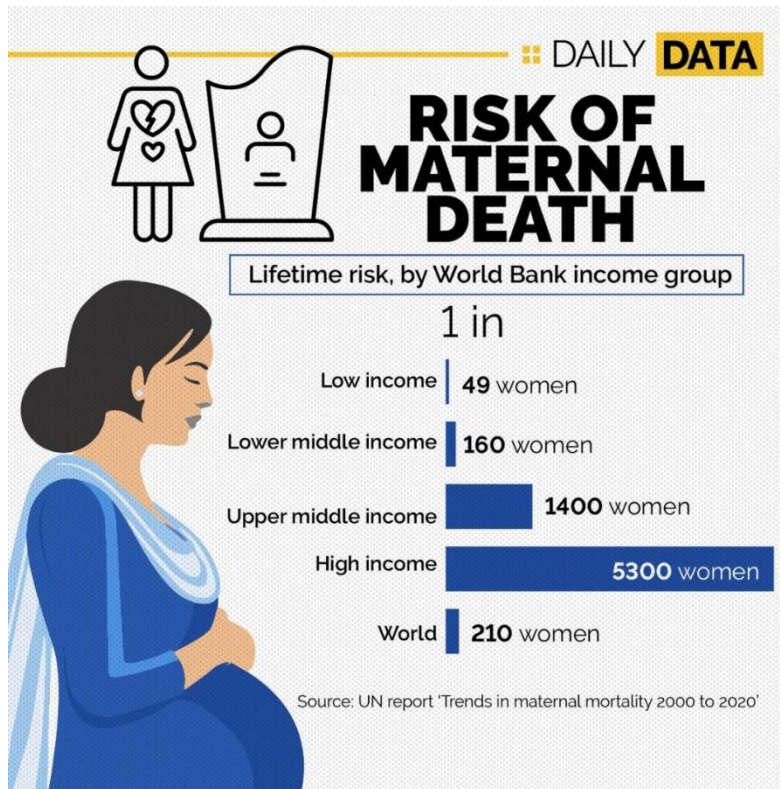


- ❖ The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has declared the Musiri Police Station in Tiruchi district as the best police station in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The Home Ministry visited many police stations across the country in August-September last year to assess their performance.

- ❖ Based on the assessment, the Aska police station in the Ganjam district of Odisha bagged the first position in the country.

## NATIONAL

### Maternal mortality Rate - 2000 to 2020



- ❖ India recorded the second highest number of maternal deaths in 2020.
- ❖ It was coming second at 24,000 to only Nigeria which saw 82,000 maternal deaths in the pandemic year.
- ❖ However, there has been an overall reduction of 73.5 per cent in maternal mortality ratio (MMR) in India.
- ❖ In 2020, India's MMR stood at 103, a vast improvement from 384 at the turn of the century.
- ❖ Other developing countries like Argentina (45 MMR in 2020), Bhutan (60), Brazil (72), Kyrgyzstan (50) and Philippines (78) have performed better than India.
- ❖ Globally, there were an estimated 287,000 maternal deaths in 2020.
- ❖ Maternal deaths remained concentrated in poor countries and conflict zones, with sub-Saharan Africa accounting for 70 per cent of all maternal deaths in 2020.



- ❖ Moreover, countries rife with conflict recorded a MMR of 551, compared to the world average of 223.

### **FSSAI Millet Standard**

- ❖ The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has specified a comprehensive group standard for millets vide Food Safety and Standards, Second Amendment Regulations, 2023.
- ❖ This will be enforced from September 1 onwards.
- ❖ Currently, individual standards for only a few are prescribed in the Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011.
- ❖ The FSSAI has now framed a comprehensive group standard for 15 types of millets.
- ❖ They specifying 8 quality parameters like maximum limits for moisture content, uric acid content, extraneous matter, other edible grains, defects, weevilled grains, and immature and shrivelled grains.

#### **FSSAI FRAMES COMPREHENSIVE GROUP STANDARDS FOR 15 TYPES OF MILLETS SPECIFYING 8 QUALITY PARAMETERS**

- **Quality Parameters Include Max Limits For Moisture Content, Uric Acid Content, & Other Edible Grains**
- **FSSAI Says Standards Prescribed To Ensure Good Quality Millets In Domestic And Global Markets**
- **Standards To Be Enforced From September 1, 2023**

## **ECONOMY**

### **Great Backyard Bird Count 2023**

- ❖ West Bengal reported the highest number of species followed by Uttarakhand and Arunachal Pradesh during the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) 2023 across 35 States and Union Territories.
- ❖ Kerala, on the other hand, recorded the highest number of checklists of birds.
- ❖ BCI (Bird Count India) is an informal partnership of organisations and groups working together to increase collective knowledge about bird distributions and populations.
- ❖ India was among 190 countries that participated in GBBC 2023.



- ❖ West Bengal reported 489 species, the most among the 35 participating States and Union Territories.
- ❖ Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Karnataka followed with 426, 407, 397 and 371 species respectively.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu and Kerala took the eighth and ninth spots with 349 and 325 species.
- ❖ Kerala, however, took the top spot in the checklist category by uploading 9,768 lists of birds.
- ❖ Maharashtra with 7,414 lists and Tamil Nadu with 6,098 were placed second and third.
- ❖ The GBBC was launched in 1998.
- ❖ Bird Count India organises the GBBC in the country.



## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **LLaMA model**

- ❖ After OpenAI's ChatGPT brought about a revolution, Google unveiled its BARD, and several others followed suit.
- ❖ Now, the Meta has publicly released its Large Language Model Meta AI (LLaMA).

- ❖ LLaMA is a state-of-the-art foundational language model developed to assist researchers in their work in the subfield of AI.
- ❖ This would be Meta's third LLM after Glactica and Blender Bot 3 that were shut down immediately following incorrect results.
- ❖ According to Meta, LLaMA is not essentially a chatbot; it is a research tool that will likely solve issues concerning AI language models.



## REPORTS AND INDICES

### Countries ready for crypto adoption

Rank	Country	Crypto adoption rate (%)	Crypto ATMs	Increase in google searches since 2020 (%)	Crypto ready score
1	Australia	18	240	196	7.37
2	USA	16	33,639	166	7.07
3	Brazil	24	25	355	6.81
4	United Arab Emirates	34	6	261	6.41
5	Hong Kong	16	146	209	6.4
6	Taiwan	14	40	278	6.2
7	India	25	2	316	6.12
8	Canada	14	2,640	185	6.1
9	Turkey	40	14	123	6.07
10	Singapore	25	0	234	6.02

- ❖ Australia is the biggest country when it comes to the adoption of cryptocurrency in 2023.

- ❖ The sale of cryptocurrency and other digital assets is legal and regulated in Australia.
- ❖ Following this, USA ranks as the second biggest country in crypto adoption.
- ❖ Ranking wise, Brazil comes third place.
- ❖ India emerged as 7th biggest nation ready to adopt crypto in 2023.

## STATES

### Robotic Manhole cleaners



**bandicoot**<sup>TM</sup>  
Worlds 1st Robotic Scavenger designed to eradicate manual scavenging

**PORTABLE**  
Easy to mobilise into any street and city

**EFFICIENCY**  
10x efficient than manual scavenging

**SIMPLE USER-INTERFACE**  
Easy to operate by specifically trained sanitation workers

**MULTIFUNCTIONAL ROBOTIC ARM**  
Able to shovel - grab or pick

**SENSOR BASED VISUALIZATION**  
Vision 3rd eye for better understanding about the environment

**COMPATIBILITY**  
Allows working at constrained spaces

**POISONOUS GAS SENSORS**  
Alert about gas toxicity levels.

**RESPECT AND DIGNITY**  
Transforming lives - Bringing smiles

WIDELY RECOGNIZED AND PROMOTED BY

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs  
Government of India

स्वच्छ भारत मिशन  
एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

Smart City  
INDIA

MADE IN INDIA

**“Lets Change Manholes to Roboholes”**

- ❖ The Kerala government launched robotic scavenger, Bandicoot to clean sewages in this temple town.
- ❖ Thus, it was becoming the first state in the country to use robotic technology to clean all its commissioned manholes.
- ❖ Bandicoot is the world's first robotic scavenger.

- ❖ Bandicoot, developed by Kerala-based Genrobotics, had recently bagged 'Kerala Pride' award at the Huddle Global 2022.
- ❖ Bandicoot robots are currently deployed in few towns across 17 states in India and three Union Territories.

## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### External Auditor of ILO

- ❖ Indian Comptroller and Auditor General, Girish Chandra Murmu has been selected as External Auditor of the International Labour Organization in Geneva.
- ❖ He will serve for a four-year term from 2024 to 2027.
- ❖ It is a recognition of its standing among the international community as well as its professionalism, high standards, global audit experience and strong national credentials.
- ❖ CAG will take over from the incumbent External Auditor of ILO, Supreme Audit Institution of Philippines.



### EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2022





- ❖ Chairman and managing director of JSW Group Sajjan Jindal won the EY (Ernst & Young) Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2022.
- ❖ This is awarded his exceptional entrepreneurial journey in scaling the global conglomerate with presence in steel, cement, infrastructure, energy, and paints.
- ❖ Earning the sobriquet of 'Man of Steel', Sajjan Jindal was the first representative from India to serve as the chairman of the World Steel Association.
- ❖ Awards were also announced for nine other categories with the winners representing both mature industries and young entrepreneurs from startups.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### Central Excise Day - February 24



- ❖ This day commemorates the establishment of the Central Excise and Salt Act in 1944.
- ❖ The act was enacted to regulate the manufacture and production of salt and excise duty on various goods produced or manufactured in India.
- ❖ The Central Board of Excise and Customs, which is responsible for administering indirect taxes in India.

### World NGO Day - February 27

- ❖ This day is observed across the globe to make the celebrations for the work and contribution done by various NGOs.
- ❖ This day celebrates and honours every non-governmental organization that comes forward and makes efforts to curb societal problems.





- ❖ World NGO Day was first proposed in 2010 by the Baltic Sea NGO Forum.
- ❖ In 2014 only it started being observed across all countries.



### **Marathi Language Day - February 27**




- ❖ This day honours the birth anniversary of renowned Marathi poet Vishnu Vaman Shirwadkar.
- ❖ Shirwadkar was popularly known as 'Kusumagraj'.
- ❖ He was an eminent Marathi poet, playwright, novelist, short story writer, and humanist.

- ❖ He was the recipient of several state awards and national awards including the 1974 Sahitya Akademi Award in Marathi for Natsamrat, Padma Bhushan in 1991 and the Jnanpith Award in 1987.

### **National Science Day - February 28**

- ❖ This day commemorates the discovery of the 'Raman Effect' by the scientist Sir C.V. Raman in 1928.
- ❖ He was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930 for the discovery.
- ❖ The Government of India designated this National Science Day in 1986.
- ❖ The theme for this year is 'Global Science for Global Wellbeing'.

	Indian physicist born in the former Madras Province in India.
	<b>C. V. Raman</b>
	In 1922 he published his work on the <b>Molecular Diffraction of Light</b> , part of a series, which ultimately led to the discovery of Raman Effect which won him the <b>1930 Nobel Prize in Physics</b> .
	India celebrates National Science Day on 28 February of every year to commemorate the discovery of the Raman effect in 1928.
	Honoured with India's highest civilian award, the <b>Bharat Ratna</b> in 1954.
<small>( 7 November 1888 - 21 November 1970 )</small>	

