

February - 28

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF), which owns the 'Amul' brand, celebrated its golden jubilee (50 year).
- ❖ A delegation from the World Bank has arrived in Goa for talks with state govt to set up what is going to be the first sub-national climate resilient green fund.
- ❖ The Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati (IIT-G) has launched India's largest Drone Pilot Training Organization.
- ❖ The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports revealed the logo for the upcoming 7th North East Youth Festival 2024.
 - Phayre's leaf monkey was declared the mascot for the festival.
- ❖ India has hosted the India-Nordic-Baltic meeting on the sidelines of the ongoing Raisina Dialogue 2024.
 - The Foreign Ministers of five countries, viz. Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Estonia, Latvia and representatives of Norway, Iceland and Lithuania took part in the meeting.
- ❖ Jacintha Kalyan has carved her name in the sports history as the country's first female pitch curator of cricket.

TAMIL NADU

Resignation of MLA - Vijayadharani



- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Assembly Speaker Appavu has announced that the resignation of Vilavancode MLA S. Vijayadharani has been accepted.

- ❖ According to rule 21 (F) of the Tamil Nadu assembly, an MLA while resigning should fill up a form and should answer all the questions along with the date of resignation.
- ❖ She was first elected from the Vilavancode assembly constituency in 2011 and romped home the winner in 2016 and 2021 elections.
- ❖ She changed the party from Congress to BJP recently.

VinFast's electric car unit

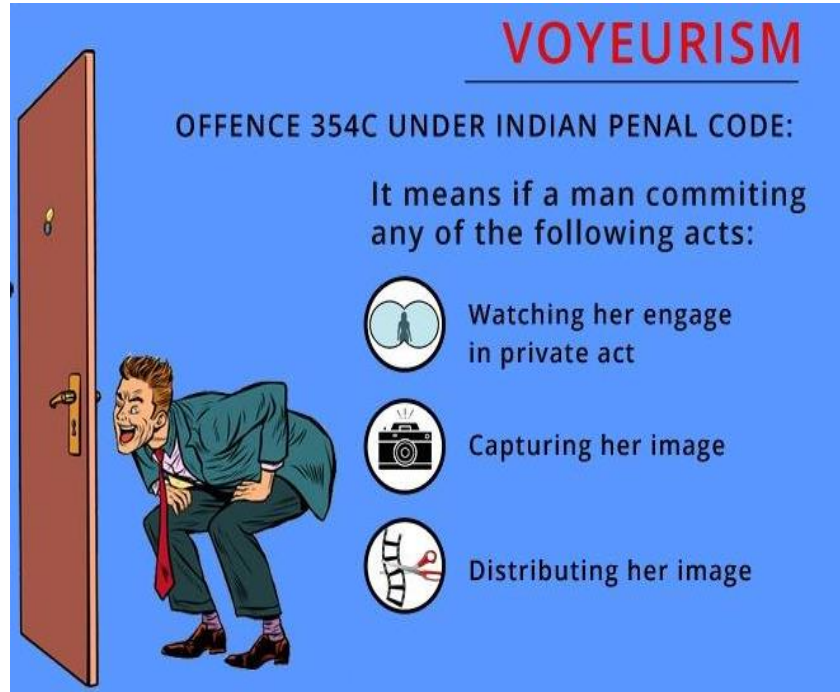
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for Vietnam-headquartered VinFast Auto Limited's electric car manufacturing in Thoothukudi.
- ❖ With this venture, Thoothukudi has become the third auto hub of Tamil Nadu after Chennai and Hosur.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu is the only State in India to have three auto hubs.



Power to transfer case

- ❖ The Director General of Police (DGP) is not empowered to transfer the investigation of a case from one agency to another after the first agency had completed the investigation and filed a final report before the court concerned.
- ❖ This was held by Madras High Court while dealing with a case booked under Section 354C (voyeurism) of the Indian Penal Code.
- ❖ The police had registered a First Information Report under Section 354C of IPC, Section 4 of the Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Harassment of Woman Act and Section 66E of the Information Technology Act in 2019.
- ❖ After completion of investigation, the police filed a charge sheet and it was taken cognisance by a judicial magistrate.

- ❖ But, the then DGP transferred the case from the city police to the Crime Branch-Criminal Investigation Department (CB-CID).
- ❖ The court also pointed out that the law does not permit either the Magistrate or the DGP to order a de novo investigation in any case.



INTERNATIONAL

5-Year Multiple Entry Visa

Opens Door Wider

Dubai welcomed **2.4 m** visitors from **India** between Jan-Dec 2023

Through this 'significant' initiative, tourists can now leverage multiple entries and exits: **Dubai Tourism Dept**

This offer will provide operational flexibility for business engagements & leisure travel

This initiative signifies a strategic step towards deepening our already existing ties with India: **DET exec**

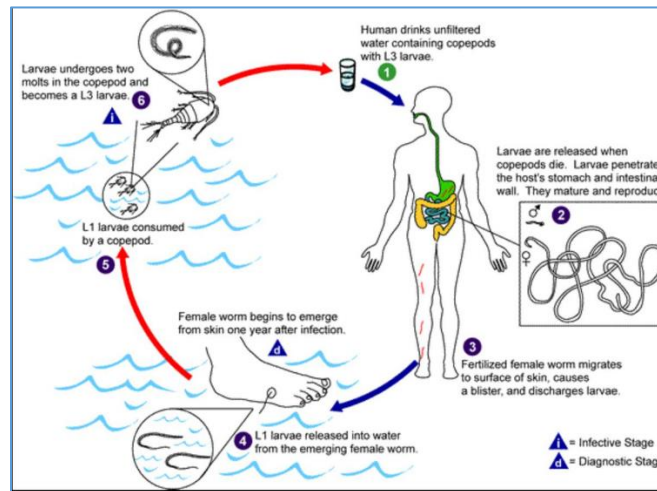


- ❖ Dubai introduces 5-year multiple-entry visa for Indians, to leverage multiple entries/exits, providing operational flexibility for business, leisure travel etc.

- ❖ In 2023, Dubai welcomed 2.46 million overnight visitors from India, which is a 25 per cent increase from the pre-pandemic era.
- ❖ In the year-ago period, the city hosted 1.84 million tourists from India, while in 2019, it welcomed 1.97 million visitors.

Guinea Worm Disease Eradication

- ❖ The world closes on eradicating Guinea worm disease.
- ❖ There were more than 3.5 million cases of this disease in the 1980s.
- ❖ According to the WHO's weekly epidemiological report, they dwindled to 14 cases in 2021, 13 in 2022, and just six in 2023.
- ❖ Guinea worm disease, also called dracunculiasis, is the work of the Guinea worm (*Dracunculus medinensis*).
- ❖ More than 90% of Guinea worm infections manifest in the legs and feet.
- ❖ India eliminated Guinea worm disease in the late 1990s and received Guinea worm disease-free certification status from the WHO in 2000.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Assert AI – Pratham

- ❖ Assert AI announces the launch of Pratham, a groundbreaking platform that is patented for its innovative approach to democratizing computer vision and artificial intelligence.
- ❖ Users can unlock the potential of Vision AI technology without the need for coding or AI expertise.

- ❖ Pratham translates to “first” in Hindi.
- ❖ It employs an innovative framework that places the power of computer vision directly into the hands of users, allowing them to analyze and utilize video data effortlessly.



STATES

Paruveta Festival



- ❖ This festival, also known as the 'mock hunting festival,' is celebrated at the Sri Narasimha Swamy temple in the town of Ahobilam, Andhra Pradesh.

- ❖ The unique aspect of this festival is that it is celebrated by all sections of people, irrespective of their caste.
- ❖ It is a festival of communal harmony, as devotees from other religious communities, including Muslims.
- ❖ The Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) is working to secure UNESCO certification for the festival.

SPORTS

Frozen Lake Marathon



- ❖ Pangong Frozen Lake Marathon 2024 was held in Leh-Ladakh.
- ❖ Bhagwan Singh and Mahesh Khurana from Bhopal have joined the select group of athletes after completing the Pangong Frozen Lake Marathon.
- ❖ The second edition of the Ladakh's Pangong frozen lake marathon is known as the 'World's Highest Frozen Lake Marathon'.
- ❖ The run was conducted amid heavy snowfall at an altitude of 18,680 feet, with temperatures dropping to -15°C.
- ❖ Bhagwan is also the first mountaineer from Madhya Pradesh to scale the world's highest peak, Mount Everest.

IMPORTANT DAYS

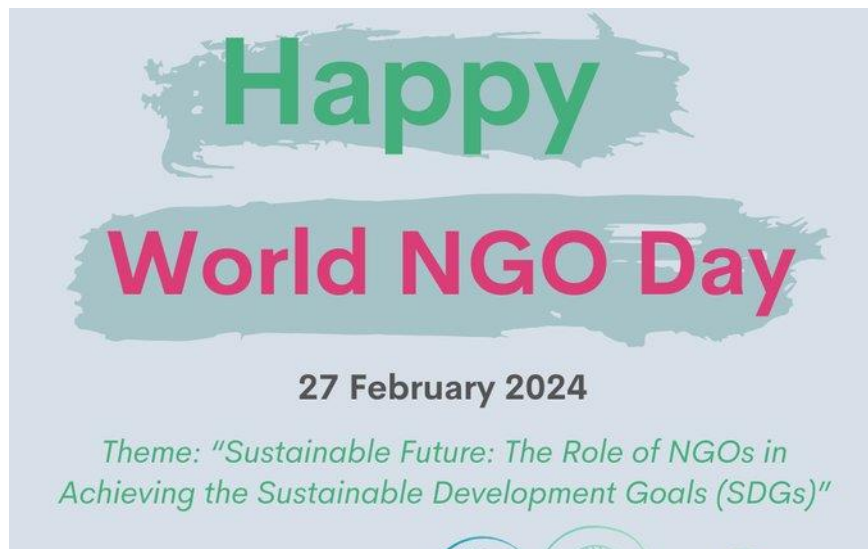
Central Excise Day 2024 - February 24

- ❖ The day commemorates the establishment of the Central Excise and Salt Act, which came into effect in 1944.

- ❖ This day, also honour the contributions of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) to the Indian economy.
- ❖ The Act was a combination of 11 Acts concerning excise duties and was passed to make changes in the law related to salt and central duties.
- ❖ Later, in 1966, the name of this Act was changed to The Central Excise Act, 1944.



World NGO Day 2024 - February 27



- ❖ This day was first proposed in 2010 by the Baltic Sea NGO Forum.
- ❖ The first World NGO Day was observed in 2014.
- ❖ It aims to recognize and celebrate the vital role that non-governmental organizations (NGOs) play in making a positive impact on society.

- ❖ NGOs are typically independent, non-profit organisations that operate at a local, national, or international level to address a range of social, environmental, and humanitarian issues.
- ❖ The theme for 2024 is “Building a Sustainable Future: The Role of NGOs in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”

