

January - 13

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has appointed Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas as the new Chief Economist.
 - He succeeds Gita Gopinath as its chief economist.
- ❖ The Indian government will own a 36 percent stake in Vodafone Idea.
 - Vodafone Group will own around 28.5 percent stake and Aditya Birla Group will own about 17.8 percent stake.
- ❖ The Supreme Court-appointed a four-member committee to probe Prime Minister Narendra Modi's security breach incident in Punjab.
 - The committee will be headed by a retired top court judge Indu Malhotra.

TAMIL NADU

Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme

- ❖ The Chief Minister MK Stalin launched the extension of the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme (CMCHIS) for another five years starting from January 11.
- ❖ Families with Rs 1.20 lakh annual income will be eligible for the scheme.
- ❖ Journalists who have accreditation cards and also press pass holders are eligible for the scheme irrespective of their annual income.
- ❖ The scheme will be implemented through United India Insurance Corporation.



Chief Minister's Comprehensive
Health Insurance Scheme (CMCHIS)

NATIONAL

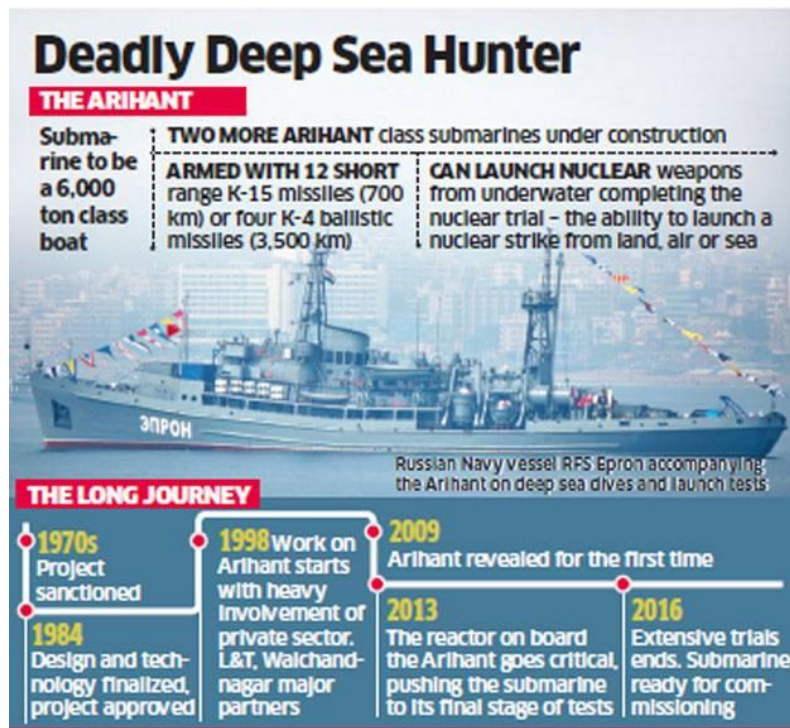
Red Sanders

- ❖ The International Union for Conservation of Nature's recently categorized the Red Sanders (or Red Sandalwood) again into the 'endangered' category in its Red List.

- ❖ The species, called Red Sanders, is scientifically called *Pterocarpus santalinus*.
- ❖ It is an Indian endemic tree species.
- ❖ Its geographical range is restricted to the Eastern Ghats.
- ❖ The species is endemic to a distinct tract of forests in Andhra Pradesh.



Third Arihant-class Nuclear-powered Submarine



Deadly Deep Sea Hunter

THE ARIHANT

Submarine to be a 6,000 ton class boat	TWO MORE ARIHANT class submarines under construction	ARMED WITH 12 SHORT range K-15 missiles (700 km) or four K-4 ballistic missiles (3,500 km)	CAN LAUNCH NUCLEAR weapons from underwater completing the nuclear trial - the ability to launch a nuclear strike from land, air or sea
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Russian Navy vessel RFS Epron accompanying the Arihant on deep sea dives and launch tests

THE LONG JOURNEY

- 1970s** Project sanctioned
- 1984** Design and technology finalized, project approved
- 1998** Work on Arihant starts with heavy involvement of private sector. L&T, Walchandnagar major partners
- 2009** Arihant revealed for the first time
- 2013** The reactor on board the Arihant goes critical, pushing the submarine to its final stage of tests
- 2016** Extensive trials ends. Submarine ready for commissioning

- ❖ India has launched its third Arihant-class a nuclear-powered Submarine in Visakhapatnam.
- ❖ It can carry at least 8 K-4 ballistic missiles.



- ❖ The low-key launch was reported by UK-based Janes Defence Weekly through satellite imagery from the Vishakhapatnam Ship Building Centre.
- ❖ The first SSBN INS Arihant was commissioned in 2016.
- ❖ The second, though initially launched in 2014, is awaiting commissioning into the Indian Navy.
- ❖ The Arihant class of Submarines is being built with help from Russia.

Ekta Nagar railway station



- ❖ The Ministry of Railways has approved the renaming of the Kevadiya railway station in the Narmada district of Gujarat.
- ❖ It is renamed Ekta Nagar railway station.
- ❖ The Statue of Unity's Kevadiya railway station falls under the Vadodara division.

Youth Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas Conference 2022



- ❖ The Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas is also called Non – Resident Indian Day.
- ❖ It is celebrated on January 9 every year.
- ❖ It is celebrated to encourage the overseas Indian community to reconnect with their roots.

- ❖ The conference is a platform for the NRIs to express their outlooks, feelings, and perceptions.
- ❖ It aids in creating a network of NRIs distributed all over the world.

India aids Sri Lanka - Inter-city Train Service

- ❖ Sri Lanka had created an inter-city railway service with the help of India.
- ❖ India provided diesel units to the project.
- ❖ Railway services were launched between Jaffna and Colombo.
- ❖ The service was launched between Mount Lavinia (Colombo) and Kankesanthurai (Jaffna).



BrahMos Missile



- ❖ BrahMos Supersonic Cruise Missile was successfully test-fired by DRDO from the Indian Navy destroyer INS Vishakhapatnam off the Western Coast.



- ❖ The sea to sea variant of BrahMos Supersonic Cruise Missile was test-fired at a maximum range.
- ❖ It had also hit the target with pinpoint accuracy.

North East Festival

- ❖ The 9th North East Festival (NEF) was held under strict COVID guidelines in Guwahati, Assam.
- ❖ It's a festival that celebrates the beautiful diversity and integrity of the northeast.
- ❖ The North East Festival's 9th edition aims to promote and highlight the region's enormous commercial and tourism potential.



INTERNATIONAL

Gateway to Hell



- ❖ Turkmenistan's President Gurbanguly Berdymukhamedov recently ordered the officials to find a method of finally extinguishing the 'Gateway to Hell' in the country.
- ❖ Turkmenistan's Gateway to Hell is the raging flames, burning for five decades in a large natural gas crater.
- ❖ It is also known as the 'Gateway to Hell' or the 'Door to Hell'.
- ❖ This crater is located in the Karakum desert, 260 km away from Ashgabat (Turkmenistan's capital).
- ❖ In 2018, the crater was officially renamed as the "Shining of Karakum".

ENVIRONMENT

Earth's fifth hottest year - 2021

- ❖ Recently a report was made public by Copernicus Climate Change Service, which is a European Union programme.
- ❖ The report found that 2021 was the fifth-hottest year on the Earth.
- ❖ As per the report, the last seven years have been the warmest on record.
- ❖ 2021 was ranked fifth among those 12-month spans because of the continued rise in greenhouse gas emissions.

STATES

Water Metro Project



- ❖ The Kochi Water Metro Project is a ferry transport project in Kerala.
- ❖ It provides feeder service to the suburbs.
- ❖ With this Kochi has become the first city in India to launch a water metro project.

- ❖ The project is operated by the Kochi Metro Rail Limited.
- ❖ The transport system is powered by LTO battery technology.
- ❖ This is the first time in the world, battery power centrally controlled water system is implemented.
- ❖ LTO is Linear Titanium Oxide is a rechargeable battery.

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Vision Board Day 2022 - January 08

- ❖ The day is celebrated annually on the second Saturday in January.
- ❖ This year, it was on January 8th.
- ❖ This day is observed to encourage us to set our goals visually.

National Human Trafficking Awareness Day - January 11



- ❖ The day aims at raising awareness of the plight of human trafficking victims, and promoting and protecting their rights.
- ❖ The entire month of January has already been recognized as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month.
- ❖ In 2007, the United States Senate ratified the resolution establishing January 11th as National Human Trafficking Awareness Day.
- ❖ In 2010, President Obama dedicated the entire month of January to awareness and prevention of human trafficking.

National Youth Day - January 12

- ❖ In India, the National Youth Day is celebrated annually to commemorate the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.

- ❖ The main aim behind this is to make sure that the students across the country can be encouraged to learn about the life, the ideas, and the philosophy of Swami Vivekananda and apply them in their lives.
- ❖ In 2022, we are observing the 159th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekanand (12 January 1863).
- ❖ The theme for National Youth Day 2022 is “It’s all in the mind.”
- ❖ The decision to celebrate Vivekananda’s birthday as National Youth Day was taken in 1984.
- ❖ It was first marked on January 12, 1985.

