

January - 21

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ India's first voter Shyam Saran Negi (103) voted in the panchayat elections in Kinnaur district of Himachal Pradesh on January 17, 2021.
 - Believed to be the first voter in the 1952 General Election, Negi was born on July 1, 1917.
- ❖ The Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' was conferred with the "Sahitya Gaurav Samman" by the Hindi Writers Guild, Canada for his literary work.
- ❖ The 51st edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI), Goa has conferred Biswajit Chatterjee with the Indian Personality of the Year Award.
 - He is a veteran actor, producer, director and singer of Hindi and Bengali cinema.
- ❖ The Karnataka Prevention of Slaughter and Preservation of Cattle Ordinance, 2020 came into effect from January 18.
 - The Ordinance bans slaughter of cows, bulls, and bullocks of all ages, besides he or she buffaloes aged below 13.
- ❖ The UN Human Rights Council elected Fiji as its 2021 President.

TAMIL NADU

Doctor Shantha Passed away





- ❖ She recently passed away on 19th January.
- ❖ She was an Indian oncologist and the chairperson of Adyar Cancer Institute, Chennai.
- ❖ she had joined the Cancer Institute in 1955.
- ❖ In 2013, former Chief Minister Jayalalithaa had presented her with the 'Avvaiyar Award'.
- ❖ Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy set up the Cancer Institute in 1954 at Adayar, Chennai.

INTERNATIONAL

148th session of WHO Executive Board

- ❖ Dr. Harsh Vardhan of India chaired this session.
- ❖ He said that while 2020 is described as the year of science, the Year 2021 shall be the year of global solidarity and survival.



Global Britain, Global Broker

- ❖ The Chatham House recently published a report proposing a blueprint for foreign policy of UK after Brexit.
- ❖ The report classed India as one of the “difficult four” countries along with China, Saudi Arabia and Turkey.
- ❖ The report was titled “Global Britain, Global Broker”.
- ❖ The Chatham House is also called the Royal Institute of International Affairs.

Desert Knight - 21

- ❖ It is a bilateral Air exercise held between Indian Air Force and French Air and Space Force.

- ❖ This year, it will be held at Jodhpur in Rajasthan.
- ❖ the French Air and Space force and the Indian Air Force have so far held six editions of air exercise called “Garuda”.
- ❖ The Ex-Desert Knight 21 is being held in addition to the Garuda series exercise.

Voting rights in UNGA

- ❖ Iran and six other countries Libya, Niger, Central African Republic, Congo Brazzaville, Zimbabwe and South Sudan lost their voting rights in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).
- ❖ These nations failed to pay their dues.

Open Skies Treaty

- ❖ Russia has announced that it is leaving the Open Skies Treaty (OST).
- ❖ It is an accord between over 30 countries.
- ❖ It allows participants to fly unarmed reconnaissance flights over any part of their fellow member states.
- ❖ In 2020, the US announced that it is to leave the Open Skies Treaty.
- ❖ The Open Skies Treaty was signed in 1992 after the Disintegration of the Soviet Union.

OPEN SKIES TREATY AT A GLANCE

Signed
March 24, 1992

Location
Helsinki, Finland

Effective
January 1, 2002

Duration
Unlimited

Ratifications
34 (Kyrgyzstan has not yet ratified)

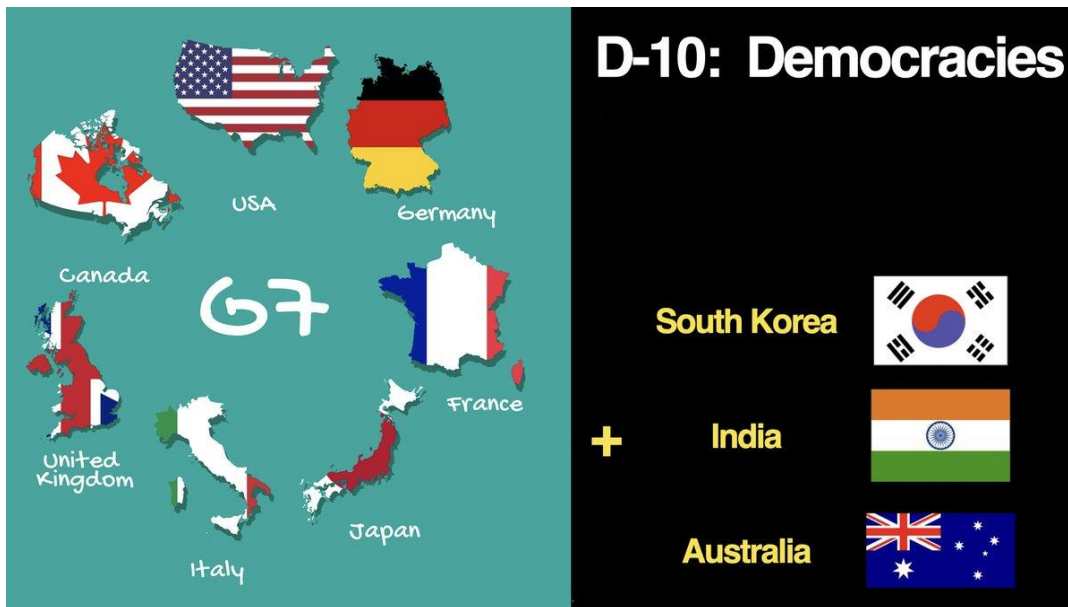
Primary value
Building transparency and confidence

Multilateral Treaty body
The Open Skies Consultative Commission (OSCC)

More than 1,500 observation flights have been conducted under the treaty since 2002.

D10 Countries

- ❖ The United Kingdom has invited India, Australia and South Korea to attend the G7 summit as “guest countries”.
- ❖ For a country to become the member of G7, it must hold high net national wealth and high Human Development Index.
- ❖ It is scheduled to be held in June at United Kingdom.
- ❖ The D10 group of countries was proposed by Britain.
- ❖ The D10 group will include all the G7 countries and additionally India, Australia and South Korea.
- ❖ D10 means Ten biggest democracies in the world.
- ❖ G7 was originally formed in 1975.
- ❖ The members are USA, Canada, Germany, France, Japan, Italy, UK. Russia was formally inducted as a member of the group in 1998.
- ❖ With this G7 became G8.
- ❖ However, when Russia moved its troops into eastern Ukraine and conquered Crimea in 2014, the other G8 countries criticized Russia heavily.
- ❖ With this, the G8 again became G7 in 2014.



Ndrangheta

- ❖ The Italian Government believes that the Ndrangheta Mafia is responsible for controlling the massive amount of cocaine entering Europe from South America.
- ❖ It is a prominent Italian Mafia based in the region of Calabria in Italy.

- ❖ According to EUROPOL (European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation), Ndrangheta is the most powerful organized crime groups in the world.

Tsari Chu river

- ❖ Satellite images show that China built new village in Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ The settlements are situated on the banks of Tsari Chu river in Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ The village lies south of the McMahon Line.



ECONOMY

Iron Ore Policy

- ❖ The Ministry of Railways recently approved a new Iron Ore Policy.
- ❖ The policy is to come into effect on February 10, 2021.
- ❖ The Iron Ore Policy governs the allocation of rakes and transportation of iron-ore.
- ❖ The policy will provide high priority to the movement of iron-ore for domestic manufacturing activity.
- ❖ Iron ore is the second most important stream of traffic of Indian Railways.
- ❖ Iron ore and steel together account for more than 17% of total freight loading of Indian Railways.

- ❖ The principal states producing iron ore in India are Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Goa, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1st National Road safety month 2021

- ❖ The National Road Safety Month will be observed to spread awareness regarding road safety and reduce road accidents in India.
- ❖ It will be observed from 18th January to 17th February.
- ❖ It is the inaugural edition of the National Road Safety Month.
- ❖ It is being held in place of National Road Safety Week.

