



January - 23

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ India and Denmark recently agreed to initiate joint research and development on green fuels, including green hydrogen.
  - The agreement was signed as a part of the already adopted “Green Strategic Partnership - Action Plan 2020-2025”.

## TAMIL NADU

### Global Community Oscar Award 2021

- ❖ Suriya, Jyotika, and Udhayanidhi are on the list for Global Community Oscars.
- ❖ The mentioned awards recognize celebrities who have made a significant contribution to the strengthening of human communities and have made a significant impact internationally.
- ❖ Actor and politician Udhayanidhi is also on the list of nominees for the Global Community Oscar Award 2021.
- ❖ He has been nominated as he has been involved in several social activities and encouraging young people to enter into politics.
- ❖ The Global Community Oscar Award will be presented at the International Emerging Star Award ceremony that is scheduled to happen on February 19 in the USA.

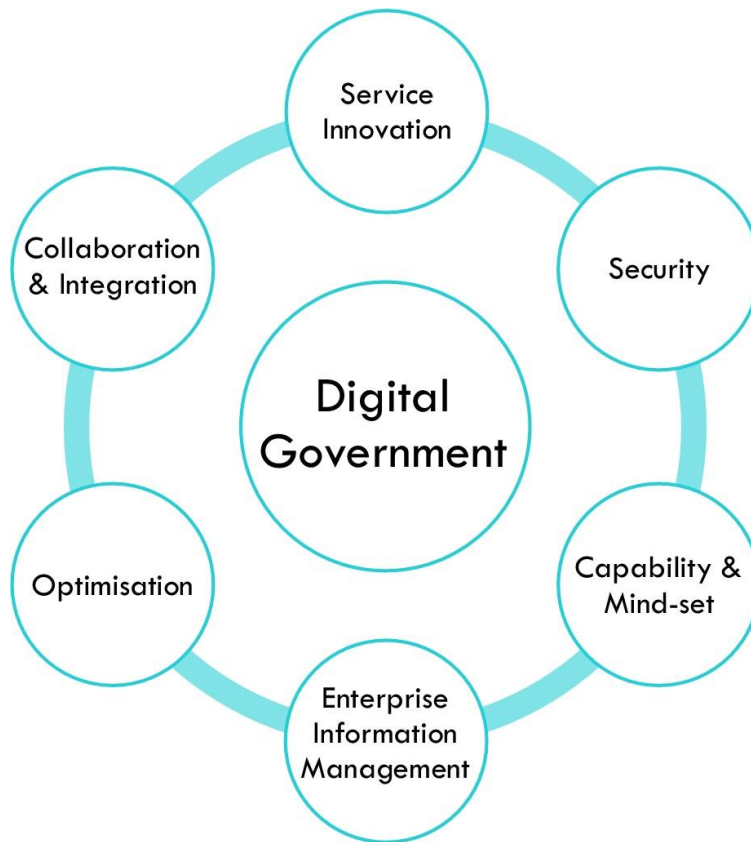


## NATIONAL

### Digital Government Mission

- ❖ The Digital Government Mission was launched by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

- ❖ The mission will deliver government services to the citizens.
- ❖ It will use machine learning and artificial intelligence to deliver the services.
- ❖ The mission aims to reach benefits to the citizens before even they start enquiring about a scheme or subsidiary.



### **India-Israel Industrial R&D & Technological Innovation Fund**

- ❖ India and Israel recently widened the I4F (India-Israel Industrial R&D & Technological Innovation Fund) during their eighth governing body meet.
- ❖ I4F is India - Israel Industrial research and development technological Innovation fund.
- ❖ The fund has now been widened to 5.5 million USD.
- ❖ The fund has been widened to implement three research and development projects.
- ❖ They are as follows:
  - Centrally monitored Internet of Things Nano sensors for Molecular diagnostic in health care,

- Internet of Things enabled satellite communication for real-time agriculture and environmental data collection and
- NoMoreMos: It is a mosquito control biological solution.



**India-Israel**  
Powering Collaborative Innovations

Launch of  
1<sup>st</sup> Call For Proposal (CFP)

**India-Israel Industrial R&D and Technological Innovation Fund (I'F)**

Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India and Israel Innovative Authority, State of Israel have created a joint 40 Million USD I'F fund with equal contribution from both sides over a period of five (05) years. I'F is aimed to promote, facilitate and support joint Industrial R&D between India & Israel which would lead to co-development and commercialization of innovative technologies benefiting both the countries.

CFP Launch Date: **15 Jan 2018** | CFP Closing Date: **16 Apr 2018**  
Joint Applications are invited from Indian and Israeli Companies

**Focus Sectors**

- HEALTHCARE
- WATER
- ENERGY
- INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)
- AGRICULTURE

**Eligibility for Indian Industry**

- The Indian Project Lead company applying for the project must be incorporated in India under the Companies Act 1956/2013.
- The company must be at least 51% owned by Indian citizens over the total duration of the project.
- The company should have the required expertise and team capacity to manage the proposed project.

**Grant Funding Available to Industry**

DST-GITA will support a Minimum of 0.25 Million USD to Maximum of 1.25 Million USD (equivalent to INR) per project or 50% of the Indian Project Cost whichever is lower

**India Implementing Partner**

GLOBAL INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE  
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## INTERNATIONAL

### First BRICS Sherpas meeting – 2022



- ❖ The first BRICS Sherpas meeting of 2022 was held virtually on January 18-19 2022, with the members thanking India for its BRICS Chairship in 2021.
- ❖ China has taken on the rotating chairmanship of BRICS in 2022.
- ❖ BRICS is a grouping of five major emerging economies.

- ❖ They are Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.

### **Children's Word of the Year 2021**

- ❖ The Oxford University Press (OUP) has picked up 'Anxiety' as the Children's Word of the Year 2021, based on their recent research.
- ❖ Apart from "anxiety" (21%), "Challenging" (19%), "isolate" (14%), "Well-being" (13%), and "resilience" (12%) were the children's top five words.
- ❖ In 2020, Coronavirus was the Children's Word of the Year by OUP.



## **ECONOMY**

### **Investment Trends Monitor**

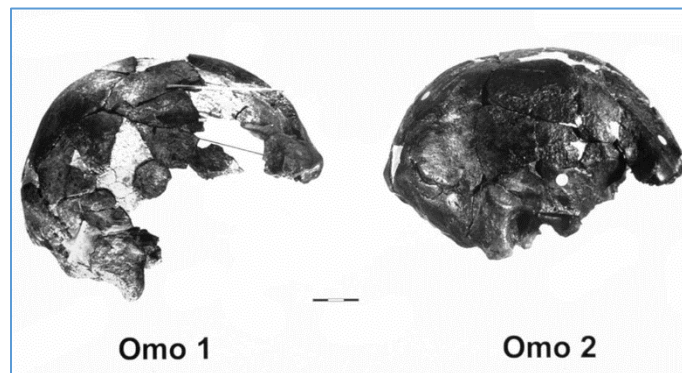


- ❖ The UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) Investment Trends Monitor was published recently.
- ❖ Global FDI flows showed a strong rebound in 2021.
- ❖ It grew to 77 percent to an estimated USD 1.65 trillion.
- ❖ In 2020, the FDI flow was USD 929 billion.

- ❖ As per the report, developed economies witnessed the biggest rise by far.
- ❖ FDI reached an estimated USD 777 billion in 2021, which is three times that in 2020.
- ❖ As per the report, in 2021 the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) flows to India were 26 percent lower as compared to 2020.
- ❖ This is because large M&A deals (Mergers and acquisitions deals) recorded in 2020 were not repeated.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Omo I – Oldest Human Fossils



- ❖ As per a recent study, one of the oldest known Homo sapiens fossils, Omo Kibish I, maybe around 35,000 years older than it was previously thought.
- ❖ Omo Kibish I was first unearthed in Ethiopia in 1967.
- ❖ Omo I is the only fossil, with all the morphological characteristics of modern man.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Environment Ministry Star Rating System

- ❖ The Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change recently launched the “Star Rating System”.
- ❖ The ministry will find out states that provide environmental clearances efficiently in a short duration of time.
- ❖ It will then incentivize such states.
- ❖ For this, the star rating system provides marks to the states on a scale of seven.
- ❖ The states receive two marks for clearing a project in less than 80 days.
- ❖ One mark for clearing in 105 days.



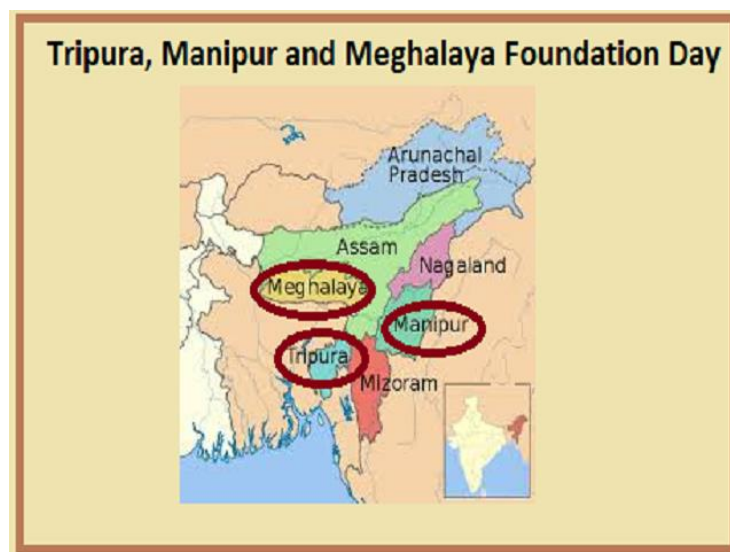
- ❖ Zero for clearing more than this duration.
- ❖ If the state has less than 10% of projects for scrutiny, then one mark is provided, and so on.

### **‘Climate of India during 2021’ report**

- ❖ Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) published its “Climate of India during 2021” recently.
- ❖ As per the report, the year 2021 was the fifth warmest year in India since country-wide records started in India in 1901.
- ❖ India reported a loss of 1,750 lives because of extreme weather events in 2021.
- ❖ Maharashtra was the most adversely affected state, with 350 deaths.
- ❖ Among extreme weather events, lightning & thunderstorms were responsible for the highest lives followed.
- ❖ It is followed by floods, heavy rains, and landslides.
- ❖ The annual mean temperature in India during 1901-2021 witnessed an increasing trend of 0.63 degrees C per 100 years
- ❖ 2021 annual rainfall over India as a whole was 105% of its Long Period Average, based on the 1961-2010 period.

## **STATES**

### **Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura – 50<sup>th</sup> Statehood Day**





- ❖ Every year, the states of Manipur, Meghalaya, and Tripura celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> statehood day on January 21.
- ❖ These states were formed under the North Eastern Region (Reorganization) Act, 1971.
- ❖ The princely states of Manipur and Tripura were joined with India in 1949.
- ❖ They were then granted the union territory status.
- ❖ In 1972, Meghalaya and Tripura were granted complete statehood.

## **PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS**

### **Youth Climate Champion**

- ❖ The content creator and actress Prajakta Koli become India's first UN Development Programme (UNDP) Youth Climate Champion.
- ❖ She won the title under her partnership with the UNDP.
- ❖ The title has been conferred to her because of her contribution towards mental health, girl child education, and women's rights through various global social campaigns.
- ❖ Prajakta Koli is an Indian YouTuber and actress, known by her YouTube Channel "Mostlysane".



### **World's oldest living man**

- ❖ Guinness World Records holder for the oldest person living (male), Saturnino de la Fuente García (Spain) has passed away at the age of 112 years and 341 days.
- ❖ Saturnino claimed the record as the oldest person living (male) in September 2021 when he was exactly 112 years and 211 days.



- ❖ He was born on February 11, 1909, in the Puente Castro neighbourhood of León in Spain.

