

January - 30

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Union Minister of Home Affairs Amit Shah launched the Ayushman Bharat Health Scheme for the Central Armed Police Force (CAPF).
- ❖ Shristi Goswami, a nineteen-year-old Haridwar-based student, become the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand for one day on National Girl Child Day.
- ❖ Himachal Pradesh celebrated its 50th Statehood day on January 25, 2021.
  - Himachal became the 18th state of India on 25 January 1971.
- ❖ The first BTR (Bodoland Territorial Region) Accord Day was celebrated on January 24, 2021 at Assam.
- ❖ Spain and France have recently signed an agreement to build 590 MW of solar power plant at Spain.
  - This will be the largest solar power plant in Europe.
- ❖ The United Arab Emirates cabinet has approved the setting up of an embassy in Tel Aviv, Israel.
  - Israel also officially opened its embassy in Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates.

## NATIONAL

### Vasuki Train

- ❖ The South-East Central Railways (SECR) zone in Chhattisgarh has successfully operated the longest ever freight train.
- ❖ It was done by amalgamating five rakes of goods trains as one unit of around 3.5 km.
- ❖ It is named as 'Vasuki'.
- ❖ It covered the distance of 224 km between the railway stations of Bhilai and Korba.
- ❖ The SECR has also operated two freight trains recently.
- ❖ These freight trains got attention due to their length.
- ❖ The two freight trains were 'Sesh Naag' and 'Super Anaconda'.

## INTERNATIONAL

### Resolution to promote a culture of peace and tolerance

- ❖ The United Nations recently adopted a resolution to promote a culture of peace and tolerance.
- ❖ The resolution aims to safeguard religious sites spread all over the world.
- ❖ The resolution was titled “Promoting a culture of peace and tolerance to safeguard religious sites”.
- ❖ The resolution condemns offences against religious sites and symbols.
- ❖ The resolution also condemns forcible conversions of religions.
- ❖ India supported this resolution.

**"Promoting a Culture of Peace and Tolerance to Safeguard Religious Sites"**  
UN General Assembly's Resolution

**Chief Objectives**

- Promoting culture of tolerance and peace
- Deploing acts of violence on the basis of religion or belief
- Condemning acts or threats of violence, destruction, damage or endangerment, directed against religious sites
- Calling on the UN to continue developing strategies, educational initiatives and global communications campaigns to strengthen the protection of religious sites and cultural heritage

**Proposed By**

- Saudi Arabia

**Co-Sponsored By**

● Egypt	● Oman	● Morocco
● Iraq	● United Arab Emirates	● Nigeria
● Jordan	● Palestine	● Pakistan
● Kuwait	● Bangladesh	● Philippines
● Yemen	● Central African Republic	● Venezuela
● Bahrain	● Equatorial Guinea	
● Sudan	● Mauritania	

**Supported By**

- United States
- European Union

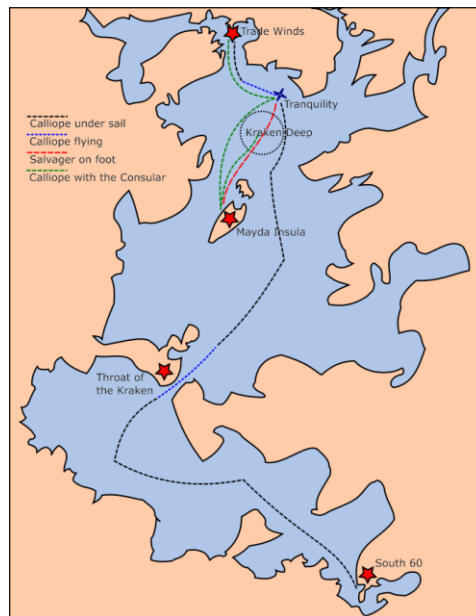
### New START Treaty

- ❖ The US President Joe Biden recently proposed to extend New START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty) Treaty by five years.
- ❖ The New START Treaty was signed between United States and Russia in 2010 in Prague (capital of Czech Republic).
- ❖ It entered into force in 2011.
- ❖ It was signed to reduce nuclear arms production and utilisation by US and Russia.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Kraken Mare in Titan

- ❖ The researchers have recently found that the largest sea in Titan (moon of Saturn) is thousand feet deep in its centre.
- ❖ Kraken Mare is huge liquid body located in the north pole of Titan.
- ❖ It is made of ethane and methane.
- ❖ It was discovered by the space probe Cassini.
- ❖ Cassini was developed under the collaboration of NASA, Italian Space Agency and European Space Agency.
- ❖ Cassini was the first space probe to orbit Titan.
- ❖ An island in Kraken Mare has been named “Mayda Insula”.
- ❖ It is the first island to be named on a planet or moon other than the earth.



### MeerKAT Radio Telescope

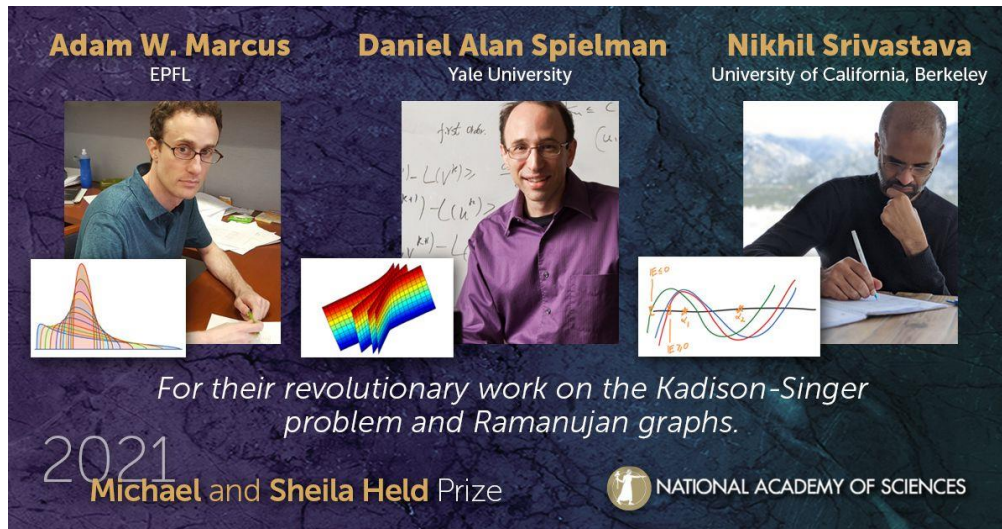
- ❖ The MeerKAT Radio Telescope is located in Northern Cape of South Africa.
- ❖ It recently discovered two giant radio galaxies.
- ❖ The galaxies were discovered under the MIGHTEE survey.
- ❖ The discovered galaxies are bigger than 93% of any other giants discovered before.
- ❖ MeerKAT is one of the four precursors to the final Square Kilometre Array (SKA).

- ❖ The SKA is an intergovernmental radio telescope project built in South Africa and Australia.
- ❖ The SKA is an international effort to build the world largest radio telescope.

## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### 2021 Michael and Sheila Held Prize

- ❖ Srivastava from the University of California, Berkeley, and Adam Marcus, the Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (EPFL) and Daniel Alan Spielman from Yale University will receive the 2021 Michael and Sheila Held Prize.
- ❖ Nikhil Srivastava is a young Indian mathematician.
- ❖ He was given this award for solving long-standing questions on the Kadison-Singer problem and on Ramanujan graphs.



### Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2021

- ❖ It has been conferred to 32 children, hailing from 32 districts of 21 States/UTs.
- ❖ It is given by the Government of India to the children with exceptional abilities and outstanding accomplishments, in the fields of innovation, scholastic, sports, arts & culture, social service and bravery.
- ❖ The award is formerly known as the National Child Award for Exceptional Achievement.
- ❖ This is Highest Civilian Honour in India that is given to the exceptional achievers under the age of 18.

- ❖ The Ministry of Women and Child Development has instituted this Puraskars in the 1996.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### 71st Uttar Pradesh Day – January 24

- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh Day celebrations held from 24 January to 26 January 2021.
- ❖ The theme of Uttar Pradesh Day 2021 is 'Respect for self-reliant Uttar Pradesh, women young farmers, development of all'.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, Yogi Adityanath has launched the 'Udyam Sarathi App' on this occasion.
- ❖ It has been launched under the One District One Product (ODOP) scheme.
- ❖ It was on this very same day in 1950, Uttar Pradesh had got itself renamed.
- ❖ Earlier the state was known as United Provinces.



### International Holocaust Remembrance Day – January 27

- ❖ It is an international Memorial Day on 27 January commemorating the tragedy of the Holocaust that occurred during the Second World War.
- ❖ It marks the anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau by Soviet troops on 27 January 1945.
- ❖ The theme for 2021 is to "be the light in the darkness".
- ❖ For the first time, this year the United Nations and UNESCO will jointly organize a series of events.

