

January - 15

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Indian Institute of Technology- Madras (IIT Madras) is all set to open a new campus at Kandy, Sri Lanka.
- ❖ Two scientists from Mauritius and one from Bangladesh have joined the 43rd Antarctic expedition of India, led by the National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research in Goa.
- ❖ The navies of India, Japan, South Korea, Australia, and the US are participating in the multinational maritime exercise Sea Dragon-24.
- ❖ The National Human Trafficking Awareness Day is observed on January 11 in the United States.
- ❖ Lily Gladstone, an Indigenous woman of Blackfoot and Nez Perce background, becomes the first Indigenous person to win a Golden Globe for best actress for Killers of the Flower Moon film.

TAMIL NADU

TEALS program

How can **TEALS** help your school build and grow its **computer science (CS)** program?

- Professional Development** from trained technology professionals on a volunteer basis who are partnered with teachers to provide instruction and support.
- Curricula and Resources** developed by experienced educators and computer science professionals, designed specifically for high school teachers and students.
- A Clear Pathway for Students** to learn computational thinking, problem solving, programming, and computer science concepts that are applicable in whatever field they enter.
- A Community for Teachers** to build their CS teaching capacity through ongoing training, instructional resources, and a network of support.

- ❖ The School Education Department of Tamilnadu has partnered with Microsoft to expand the Technology Education and Learning Support (TEALS) program to more schools.

- ❖ The project was started on a pilot-basis in 14 schools of three districts -- 10 government schools, two government-aided schools and two private schools.
- ❖ Now, the project is in the process of being expanded to 100 schools.
- ❖ The teachers have been trained to teach the students HTML, C++, Python, game development and AI.
- ❖ The programme now aims to empower the teachers to train the students.
- ❖ The curriculum is designed by Microsoft and they hold online classes for the teachers.

Rescue, treatment and rehabilitation centre for Elephants in Tamilnadu



- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government sanctioned ₹19.5 crore for the establishment of a rescue, treatment and rehabilitation centre (RTRC) for wildlife at Pethikuttai near Sirumugai in Coimbatore district.
- ❖ This will be the state-of-the-art centre would come up on 53 hectares.
- ❖ It would be equipped with modern operation theatres and diagnostic tools with trained professionals.
- ❖ The rehabilitation zone is the largest of the four zones where all the temporarily disadvantaged animals meant for release will be held and rehabilitated.
- ❖ It will have five enclosures that will cater to the needs of all the key species likely to be admitted.

NATIONAL

New Republic Day Pact on Tableau

- ❖ The Defence Ministry has proposed a rollover plan for the States and Union Territories (UT) to showcase their tableaux.

- ❖ Approximately 15 tableaux from the States and Union Territories are selected for the Republic Day parade every year.
- ❖ So, everyone cannot be accommodated each year.
- ❖ Under the agreement, every State and UT will get an opportunity within three years.
- ❖ So far 28 States, including Karnataka, are a signatory to the MoU.
- ❖ Karnataka has displayed its tableau in the Republic Day parade every year from 2015 to 2023.



Report Fish Disease App



- ❖ The National Surveillance Programme for Aquatic Animal Diseases (NSPAAD) project has introduced a mobile app 'Report Fish Disease.'
- ❖ It assists to track and monitor fish diseases across the country.

- ❖ It intends to empower fish farmers with a convenient and efficient platform to report diseases on their farms.

India Innovation Week 2024



- ❖ The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) is organizing the Startup India Innovation Week from January 10 - 18.
- ❖ It aims to bring together startups, entrepreneurs, investors, policymakers, and other stakeholders.
- ❖ The week includes the Startup Seminar: 'Startups Unlocking Infinite Potential' at the Tenth Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit.
- ❖ It also features the result declaration and felicitation ceremony for the National Startup Awards 2023 and the 4th edition of the States' Startup Ranking Framework.
- ❖ Virtual 'Ask Me Anything (AMA)' live sessions and dedicated mentorship sessions are focused on 'How to Start Up' will be conducted.

Wings India 2024

- ❖ Hyderabad's Begumpet Airport is set to host the aviation extravaganza, Wings India 2024.
- ❖ It is Jointly organized by the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MOCA) and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Indian Industry (FICCI).
- ❖ This four-day biennial spectacle promises to be a showcase of cutting-edge aviation technology and machinery.
- ❖ Boeing's new widebody 777-9 jet will touch down in India for the first time for this event.

- ❖ Air India will receive ten 777-9s, as part of the carrier's "substantial order" placed in 2023.



INTERNATIONAL

Alvaro cyclone



- ❖ Alvaro, the first cyclone of 2024, made landfall near Morombe in Madagascar.
- ❖ It is the first cyclone to hit Madagascar during the 2023-2024 season.

- ❖ The existing early warning systems in the Southern Africa region, including Madagascar, are inadequate to prevent loss of life and economic hardship.

ENVIRONMENT

Natural pathogenic fungi

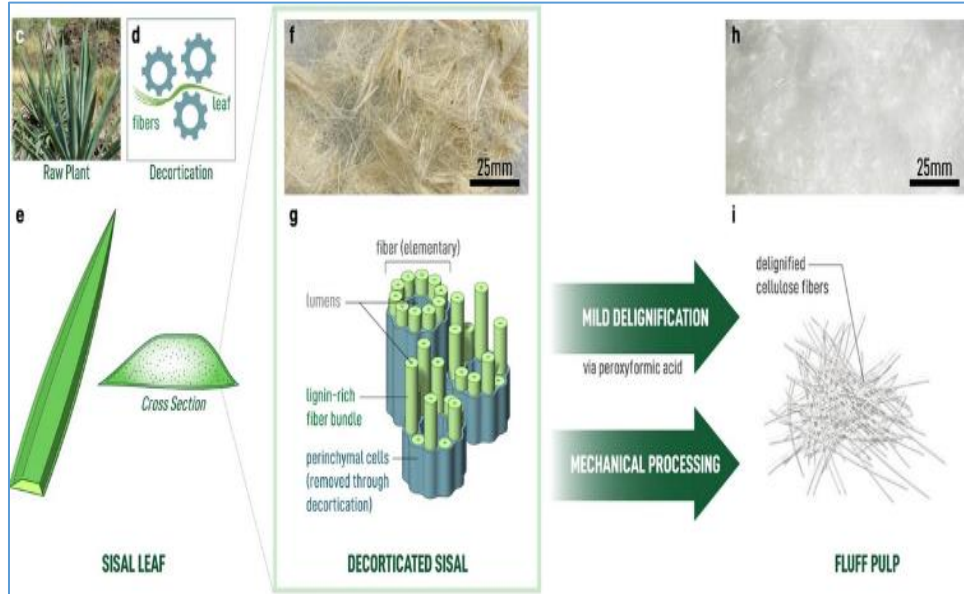
- ❖ Scientists have found a natural remedy to protect eucalyptus forest plantations from a pest, eucalyptus snout beetle.
- ❖ Eucalyptus snout beetle (*Gonipterus platensis*) is a leaf-feeding beetle that is a major defoliator of eucalypts.
- ❖ The pest is indigenous to Australia but occurs in many countries throughout the world where eucalypts are grown.
- ❖ The pest is mainly controlled with the help of microwasps *Anaphes* spp — an expensive solution.
- ❖ *Beauveria bassiana* was highly effective both by contact and ingestion, with a mortality rate of 100 per cent.
- ❖ While *Metarhizium anisopliae* and the *Bacillus* mixture caused low mortalities, ranging from 2.5 to 5 per cent.
- ❖ Eucalyptus wood is a crucial material for paper pulp production.



Sisal leaves

- ❖ Scientists have reported a method to produce from sisal leaves a “highly absorbent and retentive material”.
- ❖ The material can potentially replace cotton, wood pulp, and chemical absorbents in sanitary napkins.

- ❖ The absorption capacity of the material is higher than those found in commercial menstrual pads.
- ❖ The ancient Aztec and Mayan civilisations were perhaps the first to begin making paper out of sisal leaves.



STATES

Atpadi Conservation Reserve



- ❖ The Government of Maharashtra has declared a new Conservation Reserve in the forest land of Sangli district namely Atpadi Conservation Reserve.

- ❖ 36 tree species, 116 herb species, 15 shrub species, 14 vine species and 1 parasitic plant are found in this area.
- ❖ The Atpadi Conservation Reserve will help preserve the habitat of wolves, jackal, deer, foxes, civets, rabbits and other mammals in the area.

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Road Safety Week 2024 - January 11 to 17



- ❖ It aims to educate the public about the perils of reckless or irresponsible driving.
- ❖ The National Road Safety Week was first observed in 1989.
- ❖ Theme of 2024 is “Be a road safety hero.”
- ❖ In India, a traffic accident claims the life of one person approximately every three and a half minutes.
- ❖ According to India's most recent Road Accidents data, there are 1,264 road accidents and 462 fatalities on average every day.

National Youth Day 2024 - January 12

- ❖ India marks National Youth Day to commemorating the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.
- ❖ It was established in 1984.
- ❖ This day honors Vivekananda's teachings and emphasizes the importance of youth in nation-building.



- ❖ Swami Vivekananda was born on January 12, 1863.
- ❖ This year's theme: 'MYBharat-ViksitBharat@2047- By the Youth, For the Youth'.

