

January - 18

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Major A. Ranjith Kumar, a native of Tirupur district, received his second Sena Medal (Gallantry) – referred to as “Bar to Sena Medal”.
 - He was awarded his first Sena Medal (Gallantry) in 2020 for his key role in an operation in the Kashmir Valley.
- ❖ The new generation Akash surface-to-air missile system, capable of intercepting hostile aircraft, helicopters, and drones at a range of 30 km was successfully tested by DRDO.
- ❖ Renowned author M.J. Akbar, along with co-author K. Natwar Singh, released a new book titled "Gandhi: A Life in Three Campaigns".
- ❖ Rohit Sharma made history by becoming the first male player to participate in 150 T20 Internationals.

NATIONAL

Mulya Pravah 2.0



- ❖ The University Grants Commission (UGC) has been issuing regulations Mulya Pravah 2.0, a modified version of Mulya Pravah, which was notified in 2019.

- ❖ It seeks to inculcate human values and professional ethics in higher education institutions.
- ❖ It aims to build value-based institutions by orienting individuals and institutions towards developing a deep respect for fundamental duties and constitutional values and bonding with the country.
- ❖ It addresses the pervasive unethical practices within higher education institutions, as revealed by a survey of human resource managers.
- ❖ The vices include favouritism, sexual harassment, gender discrimination, inconsistent discipline, lack of confidentiality, and arrangements with vendors for personal gain.

MULYA PRAVAH

Inculcating human values and professional ethics in HEIs

Students to develop

- » Respect towards Fundamental Duties & Constitutional Values
- » Bonding with one's country
- » Awareness of universal human values like
Satya (truth),
Dharma (righteous conduct)
Shanti (peace),
Prem (love),
Ahimsa (non-violence)
Scientific temper & more



Ganga Sagar Mela 2024



- ❖ Ganga sagar fair is celebrated every year on 14th or 15th January.

- ❖ This fair is celebrated at Sagardweep, located on the Bengal coast.
- ❖ Pilgrims immerse themselves in the holy waters of the Ganga River to cleanse their souls.
- ❖ Sagardweep is the place where the river Ganges meets the Bay of Bengal.
- ❖ Gangasagar Mela is the second largest Hindu fair after Kumbh Mela.

Food Corporation of India - 60th Anniversary

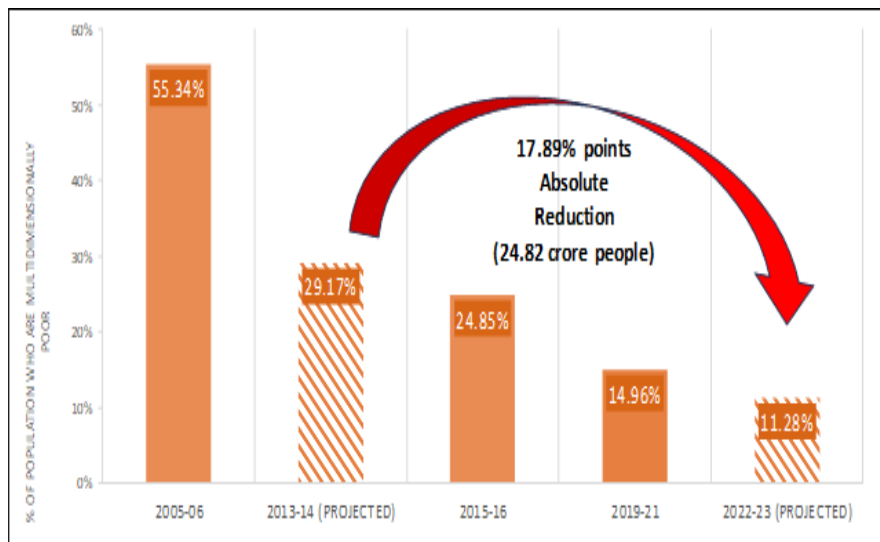
- ❖ Food Corporation of India is celebrating its 60th Foundation Day on January 14.
- ❖ The Food Corporation of India (FCI) is a statutory body created by the Food Corporation Act, 1964.
- ❖ The Food Corporation of India was set up on 14 January 1965, having its first district office at Thanjavur, and headquarters at Chennai.
- ❖ Now, it is one of the largest supply chain management companies in Asia.
- ❖ In 2022-23, the agency bought 76.56 million tonnes of paddy and 26.2 million tonnes of wheat.



NITI Aayog report on Multidimensional Poverty

- ❖ NITI Aayog released a Discussion Paper titled "Multidimensional Poverty in India since 2005-06".

- ❖ Multidimensional poverty in India declined from 29.17% in 2013-14 to 11.28% in 2022-23.
- ❖ A total of 24.82 crore individuals in India escaped multidimensional poverty over the last nine years.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh registered the largest decline in the number of poor people with 5.94 crore people escaping multidimensional poverty over the last nine years.
- ❖ It is followed by Bihar at 3.77 crore, Madhya Pradesh at 2.30 crore and Rajasthan at 1.87 crore.
- ❖ The pace of decline in poverty headcount ratio using the exponential method was much faster between 2015-16 to 2019-21 (10.66% annual rate of decline) compared to 2005-06 to 2015-16 (7.69%).
- ❖ Multidimensional poverty is measured by improvement in health, education and standard of living.



ENVIRONMENT

Saltwater crocodiles in Bhitarkanika

- ❖ The population of saltwater or estuarine crocodiles (*Crocodylus porosus*) in and around Odisha's Bhitarkanika National Park has marginally increased in 2024.
- ❖ There are 1,811 crocodiles in the park located in Kendrapara district.
- ❖ Last year, the crocodiles are numbered at 1,793.
- ❖ Bhitarkanika is the second-largest mangrove forest in India after the Sundarbans in West Bengal.

- ❖ Both areas are among the three strongholds of saltwater crocodiles — the largest reptiles in the world in India.
- ❖ The third is being the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.



REPORTS AND INDICES

Global Hydrogen Price Index



International
Financial
Services
Centre

- ❖ The International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) at GIFT City has entered into a strategic alliance with the Indian Gas Exchange (IGX) and Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation (GSPC).
- ❖ This collaboration aims to establish a pioneering Global Hydrogen Trading Mechanism.

- ❖ This initiative is the second of its kind globally.
- ❖ It will make GIFT City as a frontrunner in the global green hydrogen market.
- ❖ This alliance is set to introduce the Global Hydrogen Price Index.
- ❖ It is a benchmark designed for price discovery and market information in the rapidly growing green hydrogen sector in India.

Oxfam's Inequality Inc Report 2024



- ❖ As per this report, the Billionaire is now either running or is the main shareholder of seven out of the world's 10 biggest companies.
- ❖ Billionaires have become \$3.3 trillion richer since 2020.
- ❖ The fortunes of the five richest men have spiked by 114 per cent in real terms since 2020.
- ❖ It is estimated that 148 top corporations made \$1.8 trillion in profits, 52 per cent up on a three-year average.
- ❖ The world may witness its first trillionaire within a decade, but it would take 229 years to eradicate poverty altogether.
- ❖ Men globally possess \$105 trillion more in wealth than women.

- ❖ 791 million workers worldwide have seen their wages fail to keep pace with inflation.
- ❖ It was resulting in a collective loss of \$1.5 trillion over the past two years.
- ❖ Of the world's 1,600 largest corporations, just 0.4% of them have publicly committed to paying workers a living wage.

STATES

Startup Ranking 2022

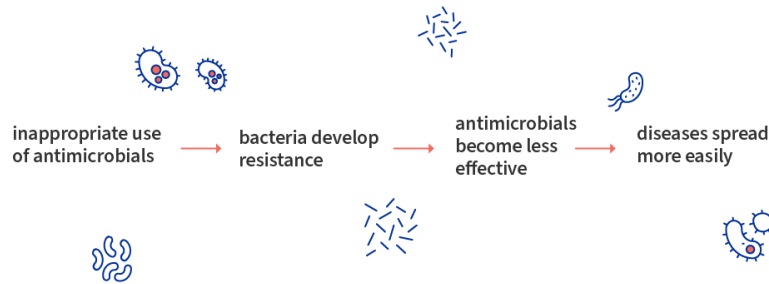
- ❖ Tamil Nadu was among the five States placed under the 'Best Performer' category in the States' Startup Ranking 2022.
- ❖ Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala and Himachal Pradesh are the other States recognised under this top category.
- ❖ In the first two editions, Tamil Nadu was placed in the bottom-most category of 'Emerging Ecosystem.'
- ❖ It was recognised as a 'Leader' in the 2021 ranking, which was during the third edition.
- ❖ The Greenviro Global have received the National Startup Awards 2023 under the 'Sustainability Champion' category at the same event.
- ❖ Atsuya Technologies Private Limited, another start-up from Tamil Nadu, won the Genesis Innovators of the Year award at the National Startups Awards 2023.



Operation AMRITH - Kerala

- ❖ The Kerala Drug Control Department launched tests in the first week of January 2024 called Operation Amrith.
- ❖ AMRITH stands for Antimicrobial Resistance Intervention for Total Health.

- ❖ It aims to prevent the overuse of antibiotics in the state.
- ❖ The Department takes regulatory action for optimising the use of antibiotics by preventing over-the-counter (OTC) sale of antibiotics.
- ❖ Operation Amrith is aimed at conducting surprise raids in retail medical shops for detecting OTC sale of antibiotics.
- ❖ Also, a Toll-Free Number is provided (Toll Free No 18004253182) for lodging complaints against medical shops.



SPORTS

Diu Beach Games 2024



- ❖ The inaugural Beach Games 2024, a multi-sports extravaganza, was held at the pristine Ghoghla Beach in Diu.
- ❖ Madhya Pradesh is emerging as a champion with 18 medals, including 7 golds.
- ❖ Maharashtra clinched 14 medals, including 3 golds, while Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, and hosts Dadra, Nagar Haveli, Diu & Daman secured 12 medals each.

❖ Notably, Assam secured 8 medals, with an impressive 5 golds.

