

January - 24

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ REC Ltd wins ICAI Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting for FY 2022-23.
- ❖ The world's largest lock, weighing 400 kg, was offered to Ayodhya Ram temple.
- ❖ REC Limited has successfully issued green bonds worth 61.1 billion Japanese Yen.
 - It is the largest ever Yen-denominated issue from India.
- ❖ India successfully established a "Global Alliance for Global Good - Gender Equity and Equality" to promote women's empowerment and gender equality.
 - It aims to bring together global best practices, knowledge sharing and investments in the identified areas of women's health, education, and enterprise.

NATIONAL

New Guidelines for Coaching Centers

WHAT THE NEW RULES SAY

Guidelines issued by the education ministry on Jan 18	Coaching centres can enrol only students who have completed 16 years or passed Class X Board exams	They are barred from making any misleading promises regarding rank or marks in competitive exams
Makes prior registration mandatory for new coaching centres while those already running need to register afresh within three months from the date of implementation	Each branch of a coaching institute is to be treated as a separate entity	
Centres can't hire tutors who have been convicted of any offence involving moral turpitude		
Centres be penalised up to ₹1 lakh or their registration cancelled for charging exorbitant fees that cause undue stress to students		

- ❖ Through the guidelines, the Education ministry aims to regulate the coaching centers by way of an appropriate legal framework.

- ❖ The rules laid down propose to act heavily on the coaching institutes if found in violation.
- ❖ All coaching centers will now have to register the center as per the guidelines.
- ❖ For coaching centers having multiple branches, each of the branches would be considered as a separate coaching center.
- ❖ The centres are also prohibited from making false claims about ranks or marks in competitive exams.
- ❖ Students below 16 years of age are now not allowed to enroll in the coaching institutes.
- ❖ Need to ensure the centers have counselling system as per the requirement of the guidelines.
- ❖ If a student withdraws from a course before its completion, they will be refunded a portion of the fees on a pro rata basis within 10 days.

Distress Alert Transmitter



- ❖ ISRO has developed an improvised Distress Alert Transmitter (DAT).
- ❖ It has advanced capabilities and features for the fishermen at sea to send emergency messages from fishing boats.
- ❖ The first version of DAT has been operational since 2010.
- ❖ By using this message were sent through a communication satellite and received at a central control station (INMCC: Indian Mission Control Centre).
- ❖ Here the alert signals are decoded for the identity and location of the fishing boat.

- ❖ Using this information, the MRCC coordinates to undertake search and rescue operations to save the fishermen in distress.
- ❖ Till now, more than 20,000 DATs are being used.

India International Science Festival 2023

- ❖ The 4 Day 9th India International Science Festival (IISF) 2023 was held in Haryana.
- ❖ The aim of this science festival is to celebrate the achievements of India in the frontier areas of science and technology.
- ❖ The festival also aims to acknowledge the achievements of science enthusiasts and inculcate scientific temper among young students and spread the same among the Indian citizens.
- ❖ The central theme of IISF 2023 is “Science and Technology Public Outreach in Amrit Kaal”.



Status Of Adivasi Livelihoods (SAL) Report, 2022

- ❖ The report titled Status of Adivasi Livelihoods Report 2022 was released by the non-profit PRADAN.
- ❖ The aim of the SAL reports is to understand the status of livelihoods of Scheduled Tribes from India’s central belt.
- ❖ In Madhya Pradesh, 51 per cent of Adivasi, 63 per cent non-Adivasi, and 50 per cent of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) villages have PDS outlets.
- ❖ In Chhattisgarh, the figures are 63 per cent, 88 per cent, and 36 per cent.
- ❖ In terms of road connectivity, 78 per cent Adivasi, 79 per cent non-Adivasi, and 80 per cent PVTG villages are linked to block headquarters by all-weather roads in Madhya Pradesh.

- ❖ In Chhattisgarh, the corresponding figures are 80 per cent, 100 per cent, and 82 per cent.
- ❖ About 42 per cent of Adivasi, 63 per cent non-Adivasi, and 80 per cent of PVTG villages in Madhya Pradesh are linked to block headquarters by public transport.
- ❖ For Chhattisgarh, the figures are 30 per cent, 40 per cent, and 9 per cent respectively.
- ❖ In Madhya Pradesh, 32 per cent of Adivasi households, 27 per cent of non-Adivasi households, and 61 per cent of PVTG households reported being severely food insecure.
- ❖ In Chhattisgarh, 27 per cent of Adivasi households, 42 per cent of non-Adivasi households, and 29 per cent of PVTG households reported being severely food insecure.



INTERNATIONAL

New King of Denmark

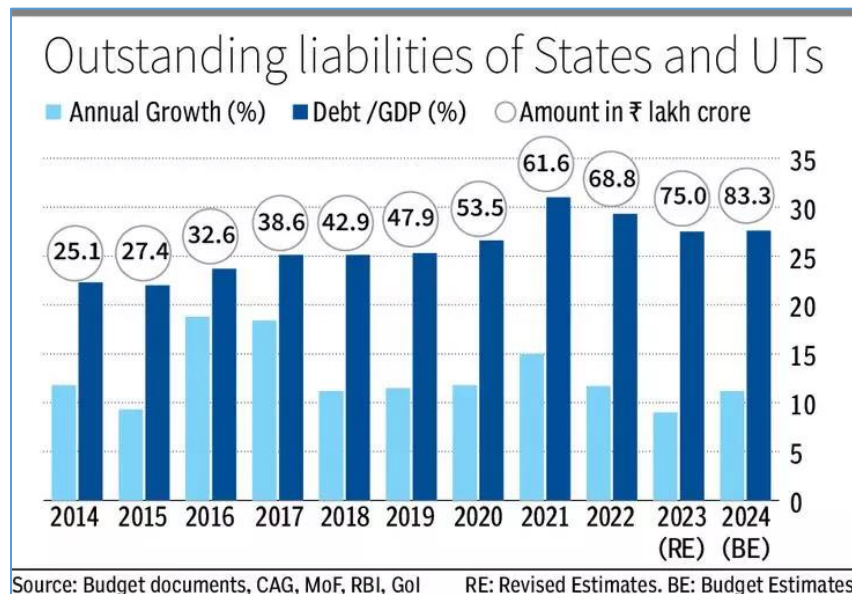
- ❖ Denmark's King Frederik X has ascended the throne by succeeding his mother, Queen Margrethe II.
- ❖ He will reign as king over Denmark, Greenland and the Faroe Islands.

- ❖ However, the formal power will remain with the elected parliament and Denmark's government.
- ❖ Margrethe announced she planned to become the first Danish monarch in nearly 900 years to voluntarily relinquish the throne.
- ❖ Denmark, one of the oldest monarchies in the world, does not have a coronation.



ECONOMY

RBI's State of the Economy Report

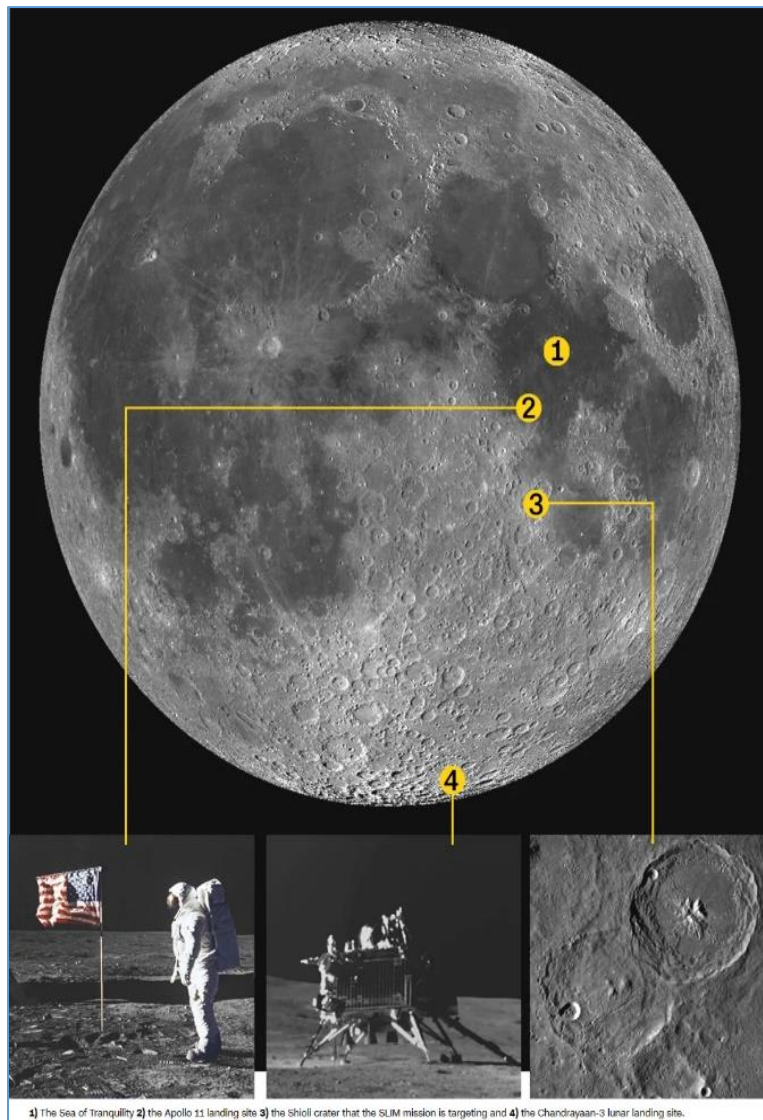


- ❖ The Indian economy is expected to retain its growth momentum in 2024.
- ❖ Inflation must align with the 4% target by Q2 2024 to enable sustained 7%+ GDP growth in 2024-25.

- ❖ The report forecasts emerging economies like India to outperform the world, with Asia leading overall 2024 growth.
- ❖ Urban consumption has recovered amid a strong uptick in discretionary spending, but rural spending growth remains muted.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

SLIM Mission



- ❖ Japanese space agency, Jaxa, confirmed that its ambitious Smart Lander for Investigating Moon (SLIM) landed on the Moon.
- ❖ The spacecraft is yet to receive solar power as the solar cells on the mission are not working.

- ❖ The landing makes Japan the fifth country to touch the lunar surface after India, which landed Chandrayaan-3 on the Moon in 2023.
- ❖ The others were Soviet Union, USA, China and India.
- ❖ Currently, the lander is operating on limited battery power, only expected to last several hours.

STATES

Puri Jagannath Temple's Heritage Corridor

- ❖ Odisha inaugurated the ₹ 800-crore heritage corridor project.
- ❖ It aims at providing improved amenities for pilgrims around the historic Jagannath Temple in Puri.
- ❖ The 75-metre-wide space encircling the temple, known as the heritage corridor.
- ❖ It has now been named the Shree Mandir Parikrama Prakalpa (SMPP), and divided into nine different zones.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Wings India 2024

- ❖ Bengaluru and Delhi Airports were jointly adjudged as the best airports at Wings India 2024.
- ❖ Skyways Air Services has secured the prestigious “Best Cargo Services Award”.

- ❖ Vistara-Tata SIA Airlines Ltd bagged the best airline of the year award.
- ❖ Wings India Awards are the benchmark for excellence for those demonstrating the best practices and innovation in the aviation sector.



PM Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2024



- ❖ Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar (PMRBP) is given to children with exceptional abilities and outstanding achievements.

- ❖ The awards are given to children in the age group 5 – 18 years for their excellence in seven categories.
- ❖ They are Bravery, Art & Culture, Environment, Innovation, Science & Technology, Social Service and Sports that deserve national recognition.

MISCELLANEOUS

Strongest brand for 2024

- ❖ Jio, the telecom and digital arm of Reliance, continues to be the strongest Indian brand.
- ❖ In the 2024 ranking, Jio is placed at the 17th position among the world's strongest brands.
- ❖ LIC is placed at the 23rd place on the list, followed by SBI at 24th rank.

