

January - 24

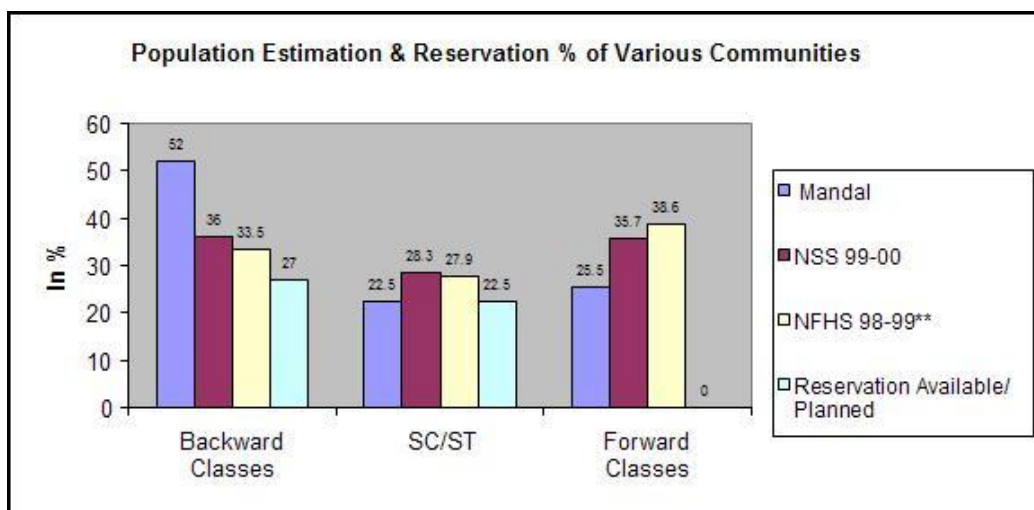
TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Khadi Village Industries Corporation is eyeing international trademark for 'khadi' under the Paris Convention for protection of industrial property.
 - Paris Convention is administered by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).
- ❖ Maharashtra government has made it compulsory to recite the Preamble to the Constitution in all schools starting January 26.
 - The objective is to instil values such as justice, freedom and equality enshrined in the Constitution.

NATIONAL

Extension of Rohini Commission

- ❖ The Commission of Sub-categorization of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) under the Retired Justice G. Rohini was constituted under article 340 of the Constitution with the approval of President on 2nd October, 2017.
- ❖ It was appointed to examine the issue of Sub-categorization within other Backward Classes in the Central List.
- ❖ It works under the Union of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- ❖ The Commission has sought extension of its term by six, that is upto 31st July 2020.





- ❖ The Commission is likely to make recommendations for benefit of marginalized communities in the Central List of OBCs.
- ❖ Sub categorization of the OBCs will ensure that the more backward among the OBC communities can also access the benefits of reservation for educational institutions and government jobs.
- ❖ So, the Union government is now seeking to ensure a more equitable distribution of reservation benefits by further differentiating caste groups coming under backward classes on the basis of their levels of social and economic backwardness.
- ❖ At present, there is no sub-categorisation and 27% reservation is a monolithic entity.

INTERNATIONAL

WEF Meeting

- ❖ The World Economic Forum (WEF) began its 50th annual meeting in Davos of Switzerland.
- ❖ The highlight of the forum this year is over its initiative to plant 1 trillion trees in the next decade and also to equip 1 billion people with fourth industrial revolution.
- ❖ The forum has released a report on the role of passwords in cybercrimes.
- ❖ The World Economic Forum has joined the “Tree Trillion Campaign” that was launched by UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme) in 2006 as “Billion Tree Campaign”.
- ❖ In 2011, the project was handed over to Plant for the Planet (a NGO).





Reskilling

- ❖ India joined the Reskilling Revolution Initiative launched at the World Economic Forum as founding member.
- ❖ It helps economies to adopt the changes being introduced by Fourth Industrial Revolution.
- ❖ The other founding members include US, UAE, Russia, Pakistan, France and Brazil.
- ❖ In order to achieve the reskilling, the World Economic Forum also released a report namely “Jobs of Tomorrow: Mapping Opportunity in the New Economy”.
- ❖ Fourth Industrial Revolution is the developing environment where robotics, Internet of Things and Artificial Intelligence are changing the lives of people globally.
- ❖ It has increased machine operated automation and changed the labour force involved.

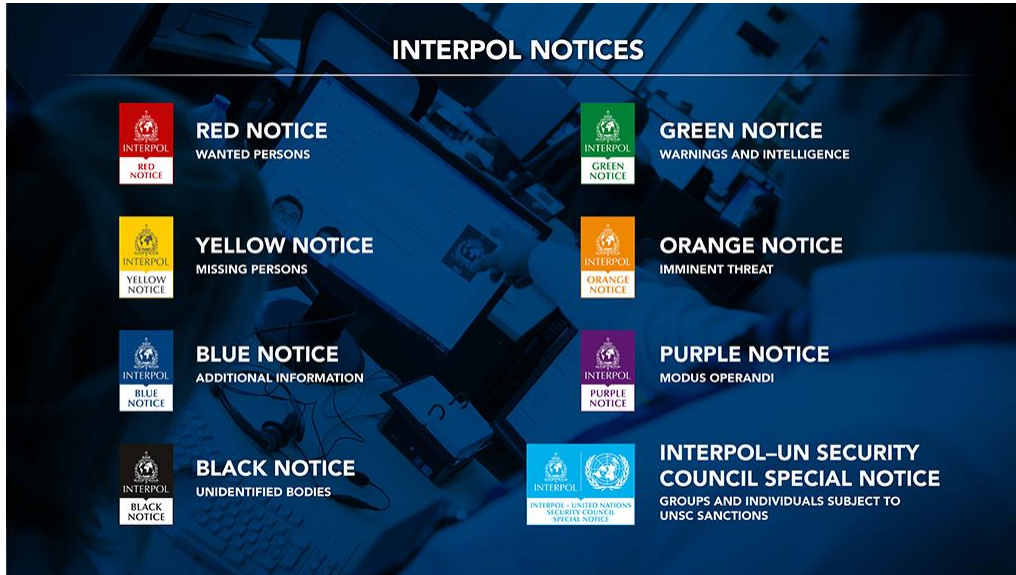
On Climate Science

- ❖ WEF also published its opinion poll on climate science.
- ❖ According to the survey, India and Bangladesh are the most trusting people in climate science.
- ❖ On the other hand, Ukraine and Russia lagged the most when it comes to updating themselves about climate science.
- ❖ The report says that the world has lost its trust in climate science.
- ❖ According the survey, the world believes that global warming is mainly due to human activities.
- ❖ The survey has been presented on the 2020 theme: Toward More Sustainable World and Toward a more Cohesive World.

Interpol notice

- ❖ Interpol has issued a Blue Corner notice to help locate fugitive self-styled godman Nithyananda.
- ❖ Notices are international requests for cooperation or alerts allowing police in member countries to share critical crime-related information.
- ❖ There are seven types of notices — Red Notice, Yellow Notice, Blue Notice, Black Notice, Green Notice, Orange Notice, and Purple Notice.
- ❖ Blue Colour Notice issued to “collect additional information about a person’s identity, location or activities in relation to a crime.”
- ❖ While a Red Corner, notice is issued to seek arrest of a wanted person.

- ❖ The International Criminal Police Organisation, or Interpol, is a 194-member intergovernmental organisation headquartered in Lyon, France.
- ❖ It was formed in 1923 as the International Criminal Police Commission, and started calling itself Interpol in 1956.



ECONOMY

SERVICE Scheme

- ❖ SERVICE is a scheme of Steel Authority of India (SAIL) to promote Voluntary Philanthropist Activities by its employees.
- ❖ The Ministry of Steel has launched it.
- ❖ The scheme called “SAIL Employee Rendering Voluntarism and Initiatives for Community Engagement (SERVICE)”.
- ❖ It will contribute towards improving the triple bottom line (TBL) of the company by contributing to social welfare.
- ❖ TBL is an accounting framework with three parts; social, environmental (ecological) and financial.

World Employment and Social Outlook Trends 2020 (WESO)

- ❖ UN International Labour Organization (ILO) releases WESO report annually.
- ❖ The report analyses key labour market issues including unemployment, labour underutilization, working poverty, income inequality, labour Income share and factors that exclude people from decent work.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

East Asian Core Observatories Consortium

- ❖ India is in preliminary discussions to be a part of the East Asian Core Observatories Consortium of eight countries committed to build large telescopes.
- ❖ Its first task is to assume the operation of the James Clerk Maxwell Submillimetre Telescope (JCMT) on the summit of Maunakea at Hawaii.
- ❖ It consists of China, Japan, Taiwan, Korea as full members and Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia and Indonesia as observers.
- ❖ Having India join the group could mean the establishment of new kinds of telescopes — one proposed being in Tibet — that could aid the observation of new black holes and throw light on cosmic phenomena.

Vyom Mitra

- ❖ ISRO is to send a half-humanoid robot called the “Vyom Mitra” as an experimental mission to Gaganyaan.
- ❖ Vyom Mitra means a friend in Sky.
- ❖ It will be used for an unmanned flight of ISRO’s GSLV III rocket in December 2020, which, along with a second unmanned flight in July 2021.
- ❖ The robot can speak two languages namely Hindi and English.



ENVIRONMENT

Hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC) -141 b

- ❖ India has successfully achieved the complete phase out of hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC) - 141 b.
- ❖ It is a chemical used by foam manufacturers.
- ❖ It is used mainly as a blowing agent in the production of rigid polyurethane (PU) foams.
- ❖ It is one of the most potent ozone depleting chemicals after Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs).
- ❖ The ministry of environment, forest and climate change (MoEFCC) also brought out a Gazette notification prohibiting the issuance of import license for HCFC-141b from 1 January 2020.
- ❖ It was issued under Ozone Depleting Substances (Regulation and Control) Amendment Rules, 2019 issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- ❖ Nearly, 50% of the consumption of ozone depleting chemicals in the country was attributable to HCFC-141 b in the foam sector.
- ❖ Polyurethane is used in applications such as water geysers, refrigerators, thermo wares, furniture appliance, commercial refrigeration.
- ❖ The complete phase out of HCFC 141 b from the country in foam sector is among the first at this scale in Article 5 parties (developing countries) under the Montreal Protocol.
- ❖ The phase out of HCFC-141b from the country has twin environmental benefits, viz, assisting the healing of the stratospheric ozone layer, and towards climate change mitigation.

