

July - 11

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Recently India has joined the Champions Group of the Global Crisis Response Group (GCRG).
 - It was established in March 2022 to address urgent global issues in food security, energy, and finance.
- ❖ World famous Shravani Mela was inaugurated in Baba Baidyanath Dham temple in Deoghar, Jharkhand.
- ❖ Piramal Finance company has opened its first all-women branch “Maitreyi” in the country at Tripunithura, Kochi.
- ❖ The city of Ahmedabad hosted the Urban20 (U20) Mayoral Summit.
- ❖ The National Cyber Coordination Centre (NCCC) has appointed Lt Gen MU Nair as the new National Cyber Security Coordinator (NCSC) by replacing Lt Gen (retd.) Dr Rajesh Pant.
- ❖ The head of the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization, Qu Dongyu of China, was re-elected for a second term as head of the UN agency.
- ❖ The Board of Control of Cricket (BCCI) has appointed Ajit Agarkar as the chairman of the Senior Men's Cricket Selection Committee.
- ❖ Spin bowler Shreyanka Patil has become the first Indian cricketer to be signed for the Women's Caribbean Premier League (WCPL).
 - Patil is also the first Indian player to be offered a contract in an overseas league before making her international debut.
- ❖ The Indian men's football team won the SAFF Championship 2023 title, held at Bengaluru after beating Kuwait.
- ❖ Netherlands become the first team in the men's competition to win a second FIH Hockey Pro League title consecutively.

TAMIL NADU

Tamil Nadu iron age period

- ❖ As per new evidences, an iron age civilisation existed in Tamil Nadu parallel to the Indus Valley civilization.
- ❖ Recent dating has established that objects excavated from Sivakalai in Tuticorin district are from 2,500 BCE to 3,000 BCE.
- ❖ Indus Valley civilisation lasted from 3,300 BCE to 1,300 BCE.

- ❖ A previous dating of samples from Mayiladumparai in Krishnagiri district showed them to be from 2,172 BCE.



Sangam-age stud and bead

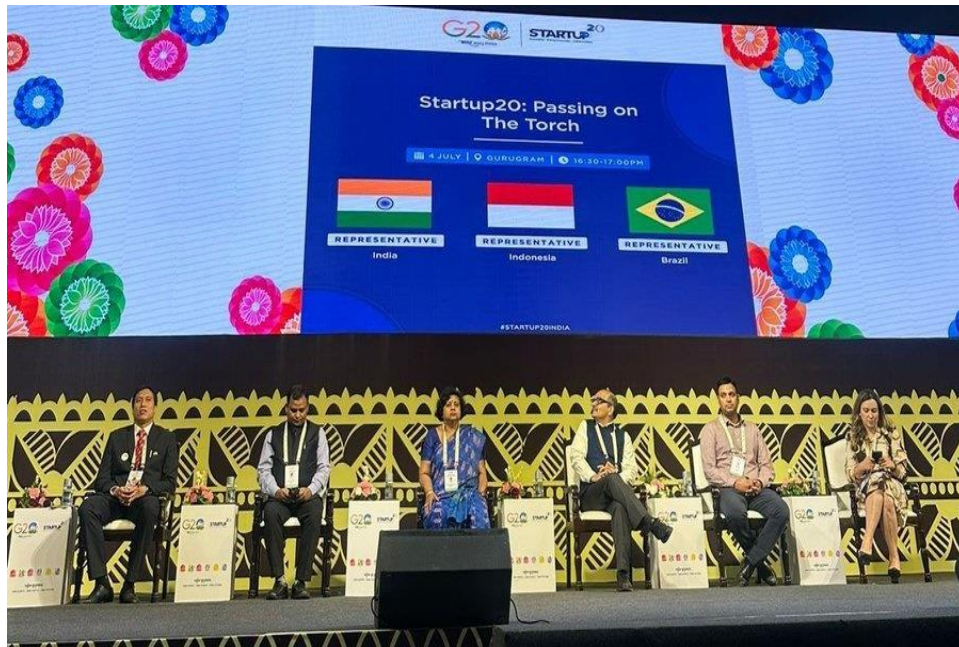


- ❖ A gold stud, a bone point and a carnelian bead have been unearthed by at Porpanaikottai in Pudukkottai.
- ❖ It was probably used as a nose stud and is an indication of the culture of the Sangam Age

- ❖ The bone point and the broken piece of carnelian bead were found in another trench.
- ❖ The discovery of the red round-shaped carnelian bead is a pointer to domestic trade.
- ❖ Carnelian beads have been found at Kodumanal and a few other places in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The stones were usually sourced from Gujarat.

NATIONAL

Startup20 Shikhar summit



- ❖ The Startup20 Shikhar summit under India's G20 presidency held in Gurugram.
- ❖ The Startup20 Engagement Group is hosting the two day Startup20 Shikhar summit.
- ❖ During the closing ceremony of Startup20 Summit, India officially handed over the torch to Brazil, as the country has G20 presidency for the next year.

JIMEX 23

- ❖ The seventh edition of the bilateral Japan-India Maritime Exercise-2023 (JIMEX-23) hosted by the Indian Navy off the Visakhapatnam.
- ❖ This edition marked the 11th anniversary of JIMEX, since its inception in 2012.

- ❖ JIMEX-23 will witness the participation of INS Delhi, INS Kamorta, fleet tanker INS Shakti and others.



INTERNATIONAL

Sagar Nidhi' expedition



- ❖ The Scientists from Bangladesh and Mauritius participating in a joint ocean expedition spanning nearly 35 days on India's ocean research vessel 'Sagar Nidhi'.
- ❖ The scientists will collaboratively undertake research on the ocean data to predict and manage changes in the marine environment and variation in ocean parameters.

- ❖ Sagar Nidhi is an ice-strengthened multidisciplinary vessel operated by the National Institute of Ocean Technology.

Shangri-La Dialogue

- ❖ The 20th Shangri-La Dialogue (SLD), organized by the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), was held in Singapore.
- ❖ It is one of Asia's premier Defense summits since it was founded in 2002.
- ❖ The forum serves as a platform to discuss and debate regional security issues in the Indo-Pacific.



New Zealand ban plastic produce bags



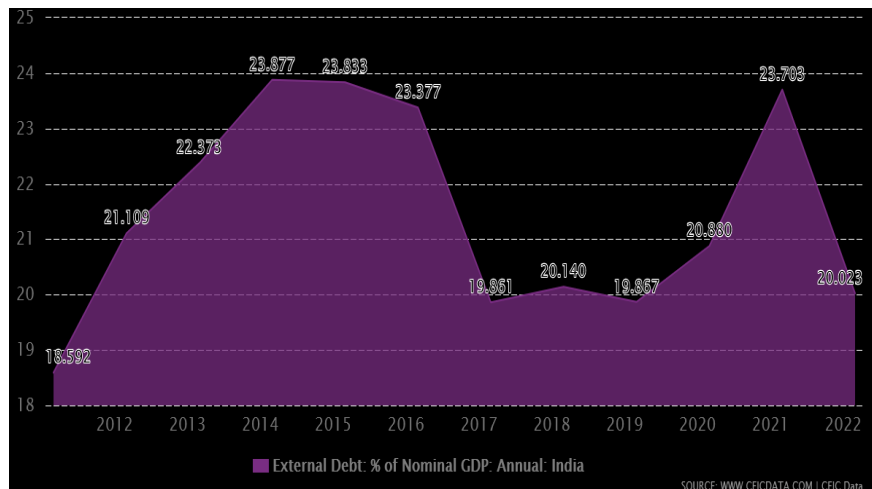
- ❖ New Zealand has become the first country in the world to banned single-use produce bags at grocery stores.



- ❖ Effective July 1, they also are being asked to carry their own reusable bags for fruits and vegetables.
- ❖ The latest move is part of a wider government campaign against single-use plastics.
- ❖ In July 2019, New Zealand no longer allowed stores to provide single-use shopping bags with handles that are made of plastic up to 70 microns in thickness.
- ❖ The new ban will eliminate 150 million plastic produce bags from circulation each year or 17,000 plastic bags every hour.
- ❖ In October, it proposed taxing the greenhouse gases produced by farm animals like sheep and cattle.
- ❖ The world's first scheme will see farmers paying for agricultural emissions in some form by 2025.
- ❖ The country's farming industry accounts for about half of its emissions.

ECONOMY

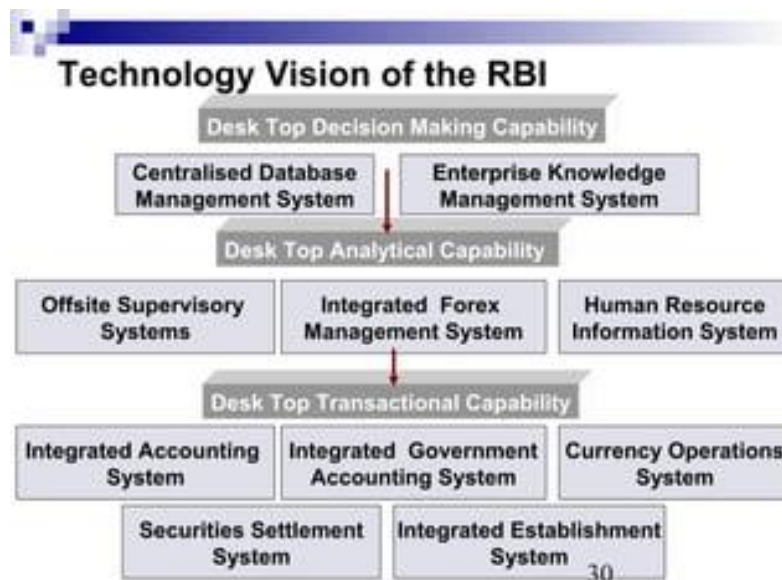
India's External Debt



- ❖ India's external debt, at end-March 2023, was increased by \$5.6 billion to \$624.7 billion.
- ❖ The external debt to GDP ratio declined to 18.9% at end-March from 20% a year earlier.
- ❖ Excluding the valuation effect, external debt would have increased by \$26.2 billion instead of \$5.6 billion at end-March 2023 over end-March 2022.
- ❖ The share of short-term debt (up to one year) in total external debt increased to 20.6 percent at end-March 2023 from 19.7 percent at end-March 2022.

- ❖ US dollar-denominated debt remained the largest component of India's external debt, with a share of 54.6 percent at end-March 2023.
- ❖ It is followed by debt denominated in the Indian rupee (29.8 percent), SDR (6.1 percent), yen (5.7 percent), and the euro (3.2 percent).
- ❖ The Loans remained the largest component of external debt, with a share of 32.5 percent.
- ❖ It followed by currency and deposits (22.6 percent), trade credit and advances (19.9 percent) and debt securities.

Centralized Information Management System



- ❖ RBI has upgraded its information management framework with the introduction of the Centralised Information Management System (CIMS).
- ❖ It will handle the massive data flow, aggregation, analysis, public dissemination and data governance.
- ❖ This system uses state-of-the-art technology to manage big data and will serve as a platform.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Points of Light Award

- ❖ British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has honoured Rajindar Singh Dhatt (101) with a Points of Light honour.

- ❖ Dhatt is a one of the last surviving Sikh soldiers who fought in the Second World War.
- ❖ This award acknowledges Dhatt's exceptional service and his relentless efforts to bring together these veterans.
- ❖ It acknowledges their positive impact and aims to inspire others to find innovative solutions to societal challenges.



SPORTS

AIFF Men's Footballer of the Year award for 2022-23



- ❖ Lallianzuala Chhangte, the talented footballer from Mizoram, has been crowned the All-India Football Federation (AIFF) Men's Footballer of the Year for the 2022-23.

- ❖ He was becoming only the second player from Mizoram to claim the AIFF Men's Footballer of the Year award.
- ❖ Manisha Kalyan was named the AIFF Women's Footballer of the Year.
- ❖ Akash Mishra and Shilji Shaji were honoured as the AIFF Men's and Women's Emerging Footballers of the Year.
- ❖ The Men's Coach of the Year award went to former India player Clifford Miranda.
- ❖ Priya Parathi Valappil was named Women Coach of the Year.

