



July - 14

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The user trials of Extended Range Anti-Submarine Rocket (ERASR), a completely indigenous anti-submarine rocket, have been successfully carried out from INS Kavaratti.
- ❖ The Telangana Cabinet has approved a proposal to extend 42% reservation to the BCs in local body elections.
- ❖ Gujarat became the first Indian state to officially join the Cruise Bharat Mission to build a globally competitive cruise tourism ecosystem.
- ❖ The Government of Andhra Pradesh has started a new scheme called 'the Digi-Lakshmi' to help urban poor women become digital service providers.
- ❖ Government of Puducherry signs an MoU with BHASHINI to empower citizens through language technology and foster governance through all other regional languages.
- ❖ The Union Cooperative Minister laid the foundation stone of the country's first cooperative university, Tribhuvan Sahakari Vishwavidyalaya, at Anand, Gujarat.
- ❖ The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) has authorised Starlink to deploy and operate its low earth orbit (LEO) satellite constellation - Starlink Gen1 in India.
- ❖ The World Health Innovation Forum (WHIF), headquartered at the Andhra Pradesh, has been selected to join the prestigious BRICS+ Manufacturing Working Group.
- ❖ The Maharashtra government has officially declared 'Sarvajanik Ganeshotsav' as a state festival.
- ❖ Assam Cabinet, has approved the 'Gajah Mitra' scheme to combat the human-elephant conflict in the state.
- ❖ The World Rural Development Day, observed annually on July 6, to highlight the pivotal role of rural areas in achieving sustainable development.

## TAMIL NADU NEWS

### Kalaigarn Kanavu Illam status 2025

- ❖ The Kalaigarn Kanavu Illam (KKI) is likely to touch a key milestone - the completion of one lakh houses in a few weeks.
- ❖ Launched in 2024-25, the KKI envisages the construction of one lakh houses annually.

- ❖ A sum of over ₹3,039 crore has been spent for the previous year, 2024-25.



## NATIONAL NEWS

### PARAKH RS 2025

**The PARAKH Rashtriya Sarvekshan (RS) 2025 surveyed over 21 lakh students from Grades 3, 6, and 9 across 781 districts in India. Administered by PARAKH under NCERT, it evaluated core competencies in language, mathematics, science, and social science, highlighting learning gaps and state-wise performance variations.**

**Top performers included Punjab, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh (Grades 3 & 9), and Dadra Nagar Haveli & Daman and Diu (Grade 6).**

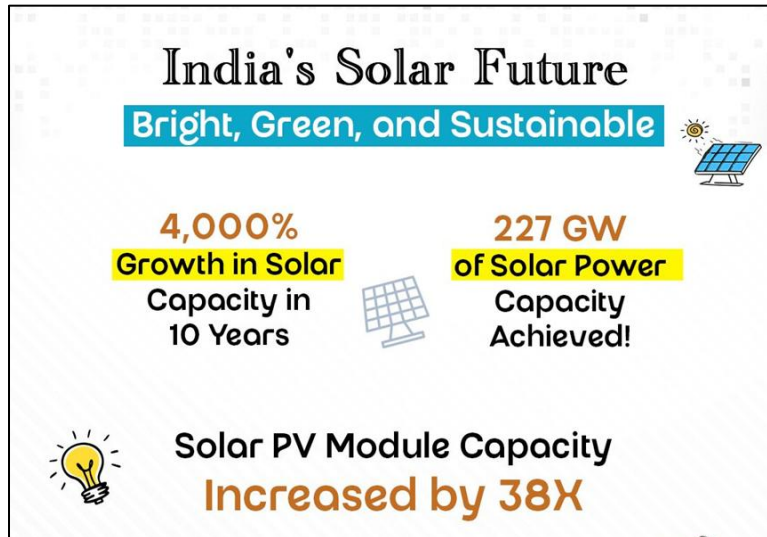
**Lower-performing regions included districts in Jharkhand, Jammu & Kashmir, and Meghalaya.**

**The data shows worsening learning gaps in higher grades, especially in maths and science.**

- ❖ The Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for the Holistic Development Rashtriya Sarvekshan (PARAKH RS), formerly known as the National Achievement Survey (NAS).
- ❖ PARAKH RS assessed the performance in the following subjects:
  - Language and mathematics (for Grades 3, 6, and 9),
  - The world around us (for Grades 3 and 6), and
  - Science and social science (for Grade 9).

- ❖ Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Kerala emerged as the top performing states in Grade 3.
- ❖ Sahebganj in Jharkhand and Reasi and Rajouri from Jammu and Kashmir were the low performing districts.
- ❖ Kerala, Punjab and Dadra Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu were the top performers for Grade 6.
- ❖ Punjab, Kerala and Chandigarh were the best performing States for Grade 9.
- ❖ The Kendriya Vidyalayas have recorded the lowest performance in mathematics in Grade 3.

### **227 GW of renewable energy – India**



- ❖ India has seen a 4,000 per cent increase in installed solar capacity over the past decade.
- ❖ India's total installed power capacity reached 476 GW as of June 2025.
- ❖ Of this, non-fossil fuel sources now contribute 235.7 GW (49 per cent).
- ❖ It was including 226.9 GW of renewable energy and 8.8 GW of nuclear energy.
- ❖ India has set a target to achieve 500 GW of installed non-fossil energy capacity by 2030.

### **Panch Sanklapa of NEP 2020**

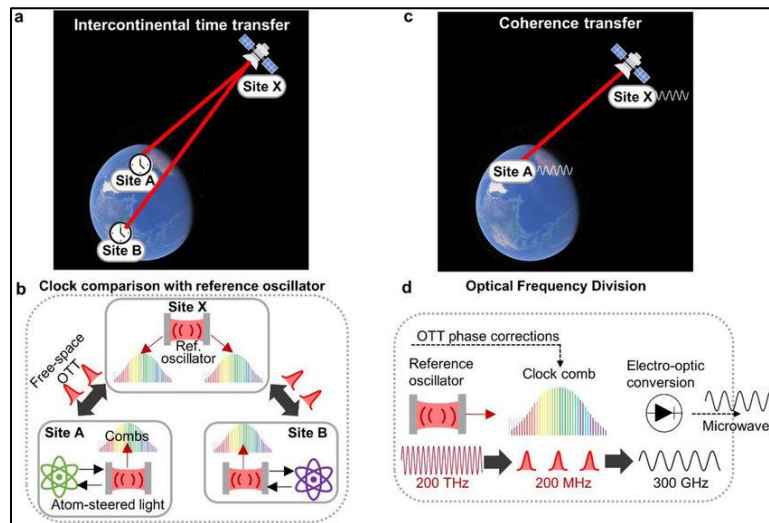
- ❖ The two-day central universities Vice Chancellors' Conference was held in Kevadia, Gujarat.

- ❖ During the event union education Minister laid out the Panch Sankalp/five guiding principles of NEP 2020, as the roadmap for university leadership:
  - Next-gen emerging education,
  - Multidisciplinary education,
  - Innovative education,
  - Holistic learning, and
  - Bharatiya Knowledge Systems.



## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Intercontinental optical clock comparison



- ❖ Researchers from around the world have completed the world's largest, head-to-head comparison of clocks in history.





- ❖ It involved 10 optical clocks based on five atoms: strontium-87 (Sr), ytterbium-171 (Yb), charged ytterbium-171 ions in two states ( $\text{Yb}^+ \text{E2}$  and  $\text{Yb}^+ \text{E3}$ ), charged strontium-88 ( $\text{Sr}^+$ ), and indium-115 ions ( $\text{In}^+$ ).
- ❖ The clocks were located at six national metrology institutes in Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the U.K., and Japan.
- ❖ The duration of a single second is currently defined by the caesium (Cs) atomic clocks.
- ❖ Lasers 'count' the radiation emitted by Cs atoms in these devices to measure one second, give or take a few billionths.
- ❖ Scientists expect optical clocks will replace Cs atomic clocks as the world's new time standard around 2030.
- ❖ In the early 20th century, the definition of a second was one-86,400th of a mean solar day.
- ❖ In 1956, one second became equal to one-31,556,925.9747th of the time the earth took to go once around the sun from January 0, 1900.
- ❖ The Cs atomic clock loses only one second every 300 million years.

### **GBU-57 bunker busters**

- ❖ The U.S. military has carried out precision strikes on three key Iranian nuclear facilities, mainly Fordow, Natanz and Isfahan.
- ❖ The key part of these strikes was conducted by the B-2 Spirit stealth bombers which dropped GBU-57 bunker busters.
- ❖ The strikes carried out under 'Operation Midnight Hammer'.
- ❖ The B-2 Spirit stealth bombers dropped 30,000 lb GBU-57 Massive Ordnance Penetrator (MOP) 'bunker buster' bombs at the Fordow site.
- ❖ This was the first operational use of the GBU-57 MOP.
- ❖ The U.S. submarine launched more than two dozen Tomahawk land attack cruise missiles.
- ❖ B-2 is a dual-capable multi-role heavy bomber, powered by four engines.
- ❖ The B-2's low observability is derived from a combination of reduced infrared, acoustic, electromagnetic, visual and radar signatures.
- ❖ It is more powerful than its predecessor, the BLU-109 and the GBU-28.
- ❖ The B-2 Spirit is the only aircraft in the USAF capable of employing the 20.5 ft, 30,000 lb MOP.
- ❖ The GBU-57 has a penetration capability of up to 200 feet underground before exploding.

- ❖ A next generation bomber, the B-21 Raider, a dual-capable penetrating-strike stealth bomber, is currently under development.
- ❖ The B-21 is similar to the B-2, but slightly smaller, with a distinctive beak domed centre.



## World Heritage "In Danger" List 2025



- ❖ The World Heritage Committee has removed three African heritage sites - in Madagascar, Egypt and Libya from UNESCO's list of endangered sites.
- ❖ The sites are - the Rainforests of the Atsina nana in Madagascar, Abu Mena in Egypt, and the Old Town of Ghadames in Libya.

- ❖ The purpose of the danger list is to provide information on the threats to the very values that led to the inclusion of a property on the World Heritage List, and to mobilise the international community to preserve the site.
- ❖ It also enables the site to benefit from the right to the increased technical and financial support from UNESCO.

## ECONOMY NEWS

### India's fisheries sector in 2025



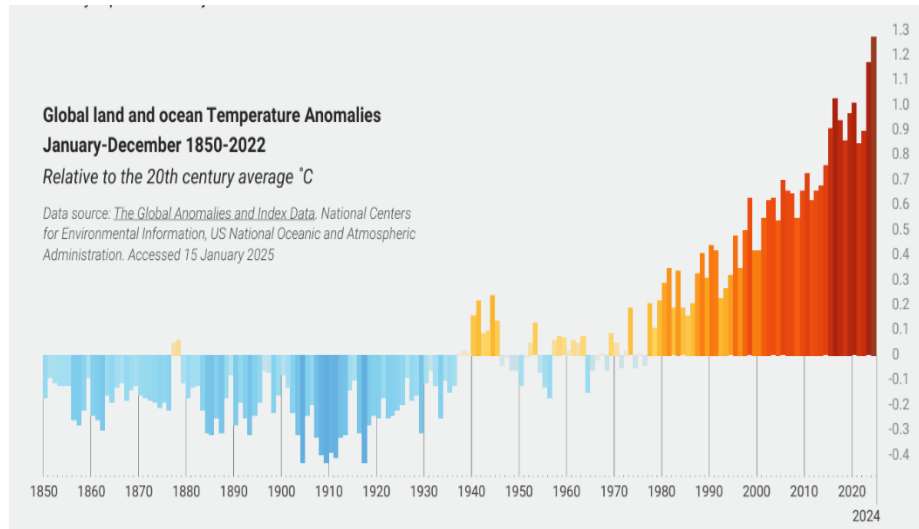
- ❖ India is the second-largest fish producer in the world.
- ❖ Inland fisheries contributing nearly 75% of the total production.
- ❖ National fish production has witnessed an impressive 104% increase.
- ❖ It is rising from 95.79 lakh tonnes in FY 2013-14 to 195 lakh tonnes in FY 2024-25.
- ❖ India's fish production has more than doubled in 11 years - from the 95.79 lakh tonnes to 195 lakh tonnes.

## REPORTS AND INDICES

### 7th Frontiers Report – UNEP

- ❖ The UN Environment Programme's (UNEP) Frontier report, titled The Weight of Time, was released recently.
- ❖ It had highlighted the mounting vulnerability of older adults to extreme weather events.
- ❖ Heat-related deaths among people aged 65 and above have surged by 85% since the 1990s.
- ❖ If global temperatures rise by 2°C, deaths could increase by 370% by 2050.

- ❖ The report talked about the '15-minute city approach' strategy as a solution to focus on local neighbourhoods and accessibility.



## STATES' NEWS

### Special Public Security Law 2024

<p>➤ Maharashtra Special Public Safety Bill 2024 is tweaked based on 1,200+ suggestions &amp; objections received by a 26-member joint select committee, comprising legislators from across political parties</p>	
<p>➤ Panel amends objective of the Bill to ensure that political parties or individual cannot be prosecuted under the proposed act, only organisations linked to left-wing extremism or naxalism can be booked</p>	<p>advisory board, which will approve action and investigation against entities. The original bill had provided for a senior law officer to head the board, while the revised one provides for a retired high court judge to head the board, which will also comprise a district judge and a govt pleader</p>
<p>➤ Oppn demands that instead of 'left-wing extremism', only 'extremist or hardline activities' must be used in the Bill</p>	<p>➤ Panel changes the rank of the officer who will investigate cases under the proposed law – an</p>
<p>➤ Panel makes changes in the</p>	
<p><b>Committee to meet on June 25 to finalise the revisions</b></p>	

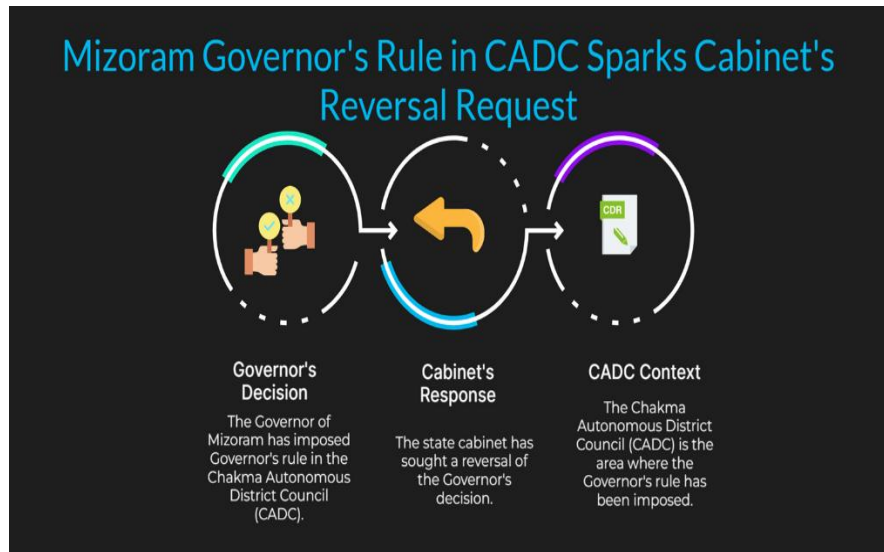
- ❖ The Maharashtra Assembly passed the Maharashtra Special Public Security Bill, 2024.
- ❖ It aimed at preventing “unlawful activities of Left-Wing Extremist organisations or similar groups”.
- ❖ It will impose the punishments ranging from 2-7 years in prison for members of unlawful organisations.



- ❖ With the passage of the Bill in both the Houses Maharashtra will become the fifth State after Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Odisha to enact a public security law.

### **Governor's rule in Chakma**

- ❖ Mizoram Governor imposed Governor's rule in the Chakma Autonomous District Council (CADC) in view of its "constant political instability".
- ❖ Since 2023, the CADC has seen the two mass defections and two no-confidence motions.
- ❖ The CADC, set up in 1972, is an autonomous body under the provisions of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.
- ❖ The Chakma tribe is an ethnic minority group, which is the second largest ethnic community in Mizoram.



## **SPORTS NEWS**

### **FIFA Rankings 2025**

- ❖ The world champions Argentina team is leading at No1.
- ❖ It is followed by Spain, France, England, Brazil, Portugal, the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany and Croatia.
- ❖ India football team slip to 133<sup>rd</sup> place.
- ❖ The last time the Indian team had a lower ranking was in December 2016 when it was placed at 135.



- ❖ India's best ever ranking was 94 in February 1996.
- ❖ It occupies the 24th place among 46 Asian countries led by Japan (17th rank).

