

July - 28

## **TAMIL NADU**

### **Perforated terracotta pipes in Korkai**

- ❖ Nine perforated terracotta pipes, stacked one above the other, have been found during the archaeological excavation at Korkai.
- ❖ Korkai is an ancient site in Thoothukudi district.
- ❖ The diameter and the height of the pipes were both 27 cms.



### **Private Member Bill moved in RS to get TN exempted from NEET**

- ❖ To get Tamil Nadu exempted from the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET), DMK's Rajya Sabha MP P Wilson has moved the Medical Education Laws (Amendment) Bill 2021.
- ❖ The Bill aims at amending certain enactments pertaining to medical education in India.

### **2,500-year-old sword and a clay pot**

- ❖ An excavation at Mayilaadumpaaraai next to Bargur in Krishnagiri district has uncovered 2,500-year-old sword and a clay pot.
- ❖ The iron sword was 70 cm long.
- ❖ The clay was about 50 cm in size.



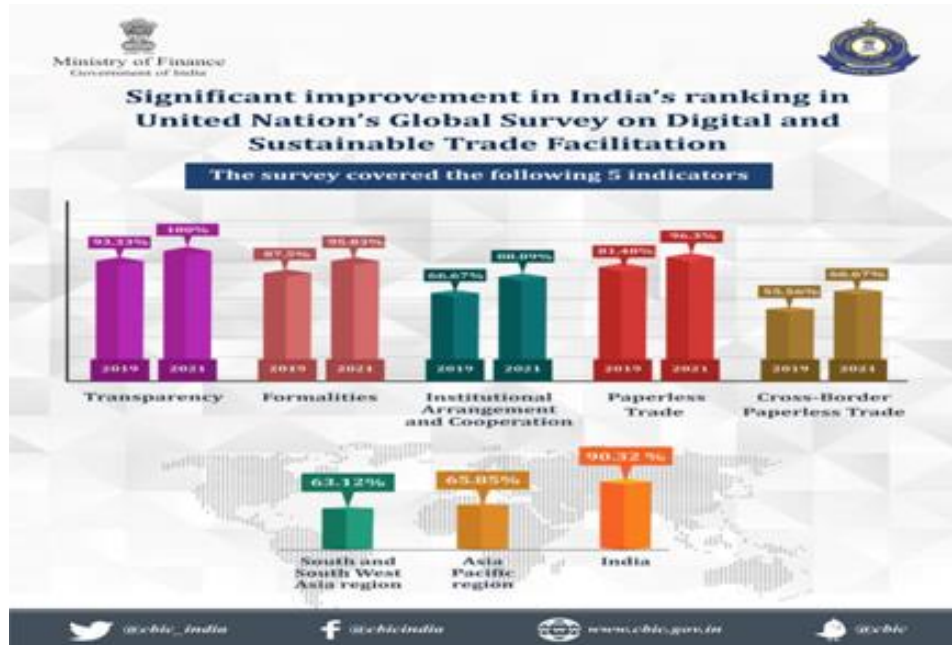
## **NATIONAL**

### **MP suspended from Rajya Sabha**

- ❖ Santanu Sen, Trinamool Congress (TMC) MP, was suspended from the Rajya Sabha for the rest of the Monsoon Session.
- ❖ This was done because of him being unruly a day after he snatched papers from newly appointed information technology minister Ashwani Vaishnav while he was reading out a statement regarding the Pegasus snooping scandal.
- ❖ The government sought the suspension of the TMC MP under Rule 256 (2).

### **Trade facilitation survey – India**

- ❖ India has substantially improved its score on a trade facilitation survey conducted by the United Nations.
- ❖ India scored 90.32 per cent in the UNESCAP's (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific's) latest Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation
- ❖ It had improved from 78.49 per cent in 2019.
- ❖ In its evaluation of 143 economies, the Survey for 2021 has pointed out India's improvement in the scores on all five key indicators.
- ❖ The indicators are transparency, formalities, institutional arrangement and cooperation, paperless trade and cross-border paperless trade.
- ❖ Under the transparency indicator, India scored 100 per cent in 2021.
- ❖ The survey is conducted every two years by UNESCAP.
- ❖ A higher score for a country helps businesses in their investment decisions.



## INTERNATIONAL

### Golden Rice



- ❖ “Golden Rice” which is genetically modified has been given approval for commercial production by Philippines.
- ❖ Health experts believe that this decision will save lives and combat childhood blindness in the developing regions of the world.
- ❖ The government issued a bio safety permit which paves way for this rice which is enriched with beta-carotene.

- ❖ International Rice Research Institute along with the Department of Agriculture-Philippine Rice Research Institute has spent two decades to develop the golden rice which is named so due to its bright yellow hue.
- ❖ This is the first kind of genetically modified rice which has been approved for commercial usage in the South and Southeast Asia region.

## 2008 GO20 Asteroid

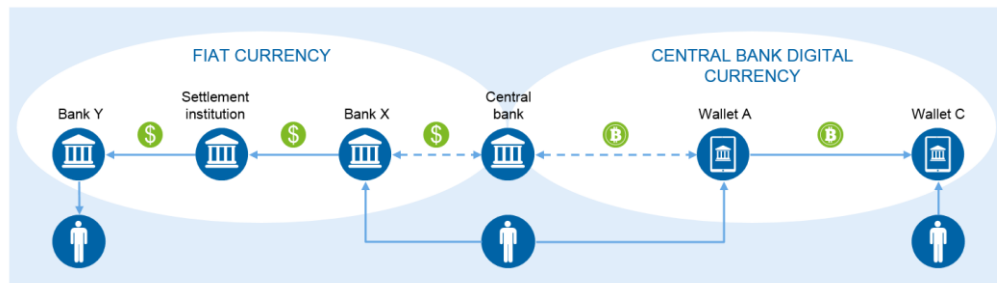
- ❖ A giant stadium-sized asteroid was headed towards the Earth.
- ❖ It was expected to fly past the Earth on July 24, 2021.
- ❖ The giant asteroid called 2008 GO20 flew past the Earth previously on June 20, 2008.

## ‘Vision for Everyone’ - UN

- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly adopted a new first-ever resolution on vision named ‘Vision for Everyone’.
- ❖ The objective is to provide eye care service for at least 1.1 billion people with vision impairment by 2030, especially those who lack eye service.
- ❖ The resolution ‘Vision for Everyone: accelerating action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)’ was introduced by Bangladesh’s U.N. Ambassador Rabab Fatima and proposed by Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh and Ireland to the UN General Assembly.

## ECONOMY

### Central Bank Digital Currency



- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India is considering launching Central Bank Digital Currency in the near future.
- ❖ This was informed by Deputy RBI Governor T Rabi Shankar.

- ❖ This was shared during a webinar organised by the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, New Delhi.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Great Indian Bustards

- ❖ The Central government informed that there were no Great Indian Bustards (GIB) in Kutch Bustard Sanctuary (KBS) in Gujarat.
- ❖ KBS near Naliya in Kutch district's Abdasa block is a tiny sanctuary notified in 1992 and spread over just 2 sq km.
- ❖ But its eco-sensitive zone spread over 220 sq km covers most of present-day core GIB habitat.
- ❖ The Great Indian Bustards are the largest among the four bustard species in India.
- ❖ The other three being MacQueen's bustard, lesser florican and the Bengal florican.
- ❖ Overhead power transmission lines are the biggest threat to the GIBs.



### Note

- ❖ In April 2021, the Supreme Court ordered that all overhead power transmission lines in core and potential GIB habitats in Rajasthan and Gujarat should be undergrounded.
- ❖ The SC also formed a three-member committee to help power companies comply with the order.

### Siberian wildfires

- ❖ Russia's coldest city Yakutsk, most of Europe, and several parts of the US are engulfed by uncontrollable wildfires causing heatwaves in the countries.



- ❖ More than 6.5 million acres of land in Yakutia has been charred.
- ❖ Climate change and poor land management are the possible causes stated by experts.

## **PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS**

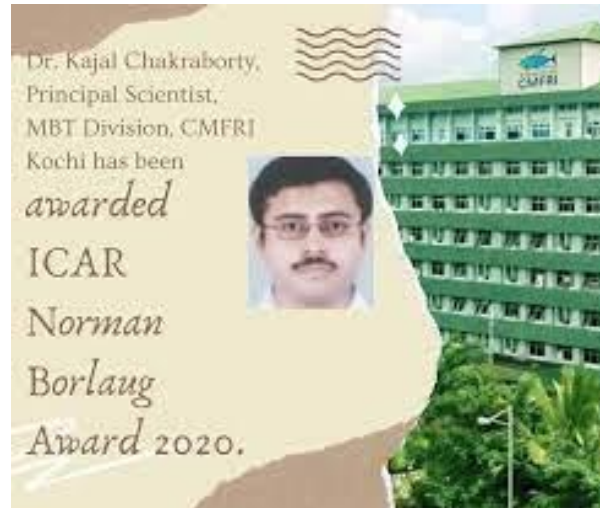
### **Alexander Dalrymple award**

- ❖ The Vice Admiral Vinay Badhwar, the Chief Hydrographer to the Govt. of India has received the Alexander Dalrymple award from the British High Commissioner.
- ❖ He was rewarded in recognition of his leadership in the disciplines of hydrography and nautical cartography.
- ❖ The Alexander Dalrymple award has been named after the first hydrographer of the Admiralty and was instituted in 2006.
- ❖ Recipients are selected for their efforts in raising the standards of hydrography, cartography and navigation around the world.



### **ICAR Norman Borlaug Award 2020**

- ❖ Kajal Chakraborty, has been honoured with the ICAR Norman Borlaug Award 2020.
- ❖ It is the National Award For Excellence In Agricultural Research
- ❖ Kajal Chakraborty is the Principal Scientist Marine Biotechnology Division of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)- Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Kochi.



## SPORTS

### World Cadet Wrestling Championship

- ❖ Indian wrestler Priya Malik won a gold medal at the ongoing World Cadet Wrestling Championship in Budapest, Hungary.
- ❖ Malik beat her Belarus opponent Kseniya Patapovich 5-0 to clinch the gold in the 73kg category.
- ❖ Priya Malik has become the first Indian wrestler to win a gold medal in the World Cadet Wrestling Championship.





## Tokyo Summer Olympic Games

- ❖ On July 23 Japanese Emperor Naruhito declared the Tokyo Summer Olympic Games open.
- ❖ The opening ceremony of the 32nd Olympic Games is taking place at the National Stadium in Tokyo without spectators due to the pandemic.
- ❖ Japan is hosting the Olympics for the fourth time.
- ❖ Previously, the country hosted the Winter Olympics twice (Sapporo-1972 and Nagano-1998), as well as the 1964 Summer Olympics in Tokyo.

