

June - 26

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Mark William Calaway, better known as The Undertaker, is an American professional wrestler.
  - He announced his retirement from WWE (World Wrestling Entertainment).
- ❖ Donald Trump appointed the Indian American scientist Dr Sethuraman Panchanathan as the Director of the National Science Foundation (NSF).
  - He is the second Indian-American ever to be nominated to the prestigious science position after Mr Subra Suresh.
- ❖ Serbia in June 2020 became the first country to conduct National Elections in Europe amid the Covid issue.
- ❖ India has pledged USD 10 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) over the coming two years.
- ❖ Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami inaugurated a compressed biogas plant at Namakkal.
  - The plant was established by the Indian Oil Corporations at a cost of `25 crore.
- ❖ The Nobel prize-winning economist Amartya Sen has won the prestigious 2020 Peace Prize of the German Book Trade.

## NATIONAL

### YUKTI 2.0

- ❖ The Union Human Resource Development Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal launched YUKTI 2.0 web portal initiative.
- ❖ YUKTI stands for Young India combating COVID with Knowledge, Technology, and Innovation.
- ❖ It is in line with the mission of making Atma Nirbhar Bharat.
- ❖ The YUKTI 2.0 portal is for the Higher Education Institutes of New Delhi.



MHRD



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INNOVATION CELL  
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ACTE

# YUKTI 2.0

## **Private Sector Participation in Space Activities**

- ❖ The Cabinet has approved setting up of Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe).
- ❖ The Cabinet approved the participation of the private sector in various space activities.
- ❖ IN-SPACe will have the responsibility to guide the private sector in various space activities.
- ❖ The State-owned enterprise New Space India Limited (NSIL) was founded in March 2019.

## **Suicides in India**

- ❖ India has the highest suicide rate in the South-East Asian region, according to the World Health Organization report released last year.
- ❖ India's suicide rate is at 5 suicides per 100,000 people.
- ❖ India also had the third-highest female suicide rate (14.7) in the world.
- ❖ Suicide was decriminalised in India in 2017, but Section 309 of the Indian Penal Code still stays.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)**

- ❖ The people's Republic of China will join the multilateral Arms Trade Treaty (ATT).
- ❖ The fifth-largest arms-exporter in the world was China.
- ❖ Under this treaty, international sales and transfer of conventional arms are regulated as per the global standards.
- ❖ The treaty was adopted at the United Nations General Assembly in 2013.
- ❖ It came into force from 24th December 2014.

- ❖ India has not signed the treaty yet.
- ❖ The U.S. President has announced that the U.S. will never ratify the Arms Trade Treaty.

## **ECONOMY**

### **Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund**

- ❖ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved setting up of this fund worth Rs 15000 crore.
- ❖ The fund is a part of the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan stimulus package.
- ❖ It would facilitate much needed incentivization of investments for dairy and meat processing and value addition infrastructure and establishment of animal feed plant in the private sector.

### **UCBs and MSCBs under RBI supervision**

- ❖ The 1482 Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs) and 58 Multi-State Cooperative Banks (MSCBs) will be brought under the supervision of India's Central Bank- the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- ❖ The decision was taken by the Government following the financial irregularities of the Punjab & Maharashtra Cooperative (PMC) Bank that was unearthed.

### **International Comparison Program (ICP)**

- ❖ The World Bank has released new Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs) for reference year 2017.
- ❖ It was under ICP, that adjust for differences in the cost of living across economies of the World.
- ❖ ICP is the largest worldwide data-collection initiative, under the guidance of UN Statistical Commission (UNSC).
- ❖ Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs) of Indian Rupee per US\$ at Gross Domestic Product (GDP) level is now 20.65 in 2017 from 15.55 in 2011.

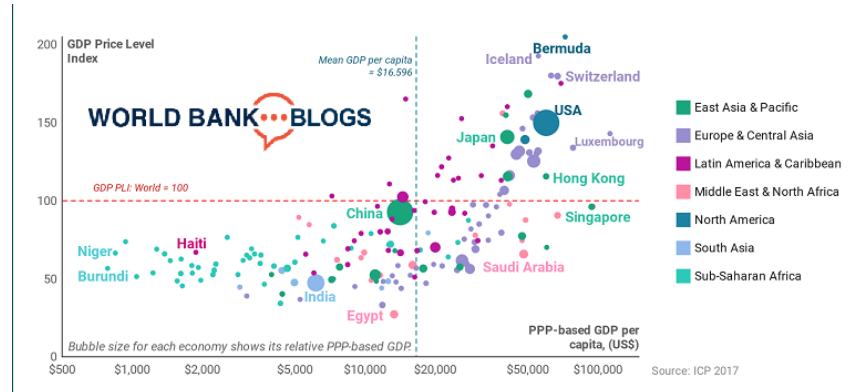
### **India's position**

- ❖ In 2017, India retained the position of third largest economy, accounted for 6.7 percent (\$8,051 billion out of World total of \$119,547 billion) of global Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in terms of PPPs.
- ❖ China (16.4%) and United States (16.3%), respectively.

- ❖ India is also third largest economy in terms of its PPP-based share in global Actual Individual Consumption and Global Gross Capital Formation.

### About PPP

- ❖ The rate at which the currency of one country would have to be converted into that of another country to buy the same amount of goods and services in each country.



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Detection of Fluorine

- ❖ The presence of singly ionised fluorine for the first time in the atmospheres of hot Extreme Helium Stars was detected.
- ❖ This discovery makes a strong case that the main formation of these objects involves a merger of a carbon-oxygen (CO) and a Helium (He) white dwarf.
- ❖ It was a study by the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) an autonomous institute of Department of Science and Technology.
- ❖ An extreme helium star or EHe is a low-mass supergiant that is almost devoid of hydrogen.
- ❖ Hydrogen is the most common chemical element of the universe.

### Liquid Cooling and Heating Garment

- ❖ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has got an Indian patent for its liquid cooling and heating garment (LCHG) for the period of 20 years.
- ❖ It is made up of biocompatible fabrics and components in order to give a comfortable temperature and removal of sweat for the astronauts.



## IMPORTANT DAYS

### **International Widows Day - June 23**

- ❖ The day had been established by The Loomba Foundation in memory of Shrimati Pushpa Wati Loomba.
- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly formally adopted this day in 2010.
- ❖ This year the theme is 'I am Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Rights'.

