

June - 29

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Indigo, India's largest airline by market share, placed an order for 500 Airbus A320 Family aircraft in the largest purchase agreement in aviation history.
- ❖ National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day on 19 June.
- ❖ Assam's first underwater railroad tunnel will be built between Numaligarh and Gohpur region.
- ❖ Dr. K. Venugopal from Alappuzha, has been selected for an award instituted by the Indian Medical Association (IMA) to commemorate National Doctors' Day under the category of community service.
- ❖ The International Association Football Federation (FIFA) Council has selected Indonesia to host the U-17 World Cup by replacing Peru.
  - FIFA also announced Colombia as the host of the 2024 U-20 Women's World Cup and Dominica as the host of the U-17 Women's World Cup.

## TAMIL NADU

### Zero cases of Covid in Tamilnadu



- ❖ Tamil Nadu recorded zero cases of Covid on 26th June 2023.
- ❖ This is the first time that no fresh case of Covid has been recorded in the State since the beginning of the pandemic in 2020.

- ❖ The first case of Covid was reported on March 7, 2020.
- ❖ The total number of cases of Covid in Tamil Nadu stands at 36,10,593.
- ❖ More than 7.09 crore samples have been tested in Tamil Nadu to test for Covid.
- ❖ Total recovery stands at 35,72,497.
- ❖ The death toll stands at 38,080.

## FSSAI's Eat Right certification – Cuddalore



- ❖ The Thirupapuliur Uzhavar Sandhai in Cuddalore has obtained Eat Right (Fruits and Vegetable Market) certification from FSSAI.
- ❖ The certification was issued as the farmers' market had met the benchmarks established by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India.

- ❖ The Eat Right initiative aims at promoting safe, healthy, and sustainable food on campuses such as schools, universities, colleges, workplaces and food markets.

### **Madras High Court on appointment of priests**



- ❖ The Madras High Court made it abundantly clear that pedigree based on caste will have no role to play in the appointment of Archaka (temple priest).
- ❖ The only criteria for such appointments would be how well-versed a person is in religious texts and rituals.
- ❖ Muthu Subramania Gurukkal had filed a writ petition in 2018.
- ❖ This petition challenging a job announcement for the post of Archagar/Sthanigar (temple priest, also known as Archaka) in Sri Sugavaneswarar Swamy Temple, Salem.
- ❖ An argument was made that the appointments must follow the specific Agama (scriptures governing temple rituals) principles adhered to by the temple, and that the job advertisement infringed upon the hereditary right of the petitioner and others.
- ❖ But the justice Venkatesh cited the Supreme Court's verdict in the 2016 All India Adi Saiva Sivachariargal Seva Sangam's versus Government of Tamil Nadu case.
- ❖ The top court had held that the appointment of a temple priest is a secular function and not about a hereditary right.
- ❖ The top court had held that the religious service by an Archaka is the secular part of the religion and the performance of the religious service is an integral part of the religion.
- ❖ In the 2022 case of N Adithayan versus Travancore Devaswom Board, the Supreme Court had held that there is no justification to insist that only a

Brahmin (in this case, a Malayali Brahmin) alone can perform the rites and rituals.

## NATIONAL

### 'Dakshta' course

- ❖ The central government introduced a new curated collection of courses called "Dakshta" on the iGOT Karmayogi Platform.
- ❖ Dakshta stands for 'Development of Attitude, Knowledge, Skill for Holistic Transformation in Administration'.
- ❖ The iGOT (Integrated Government Online Training) Karmayogi platform is a comprehensive portal to guide government officials in their capacity-building journey.

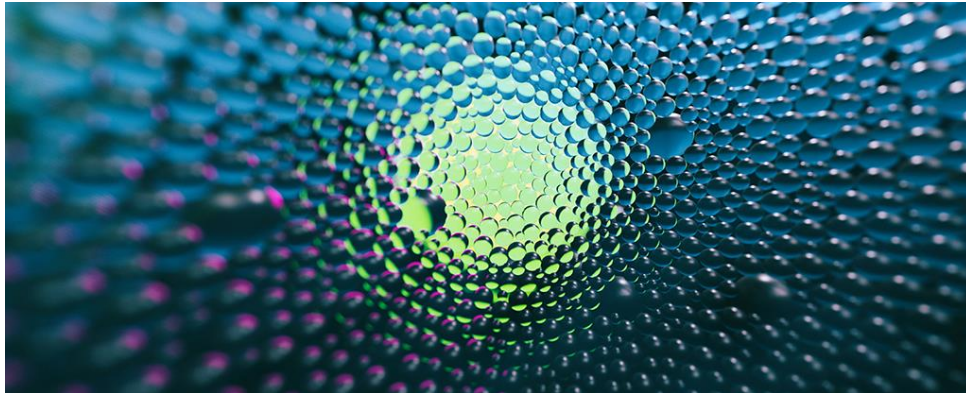


## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

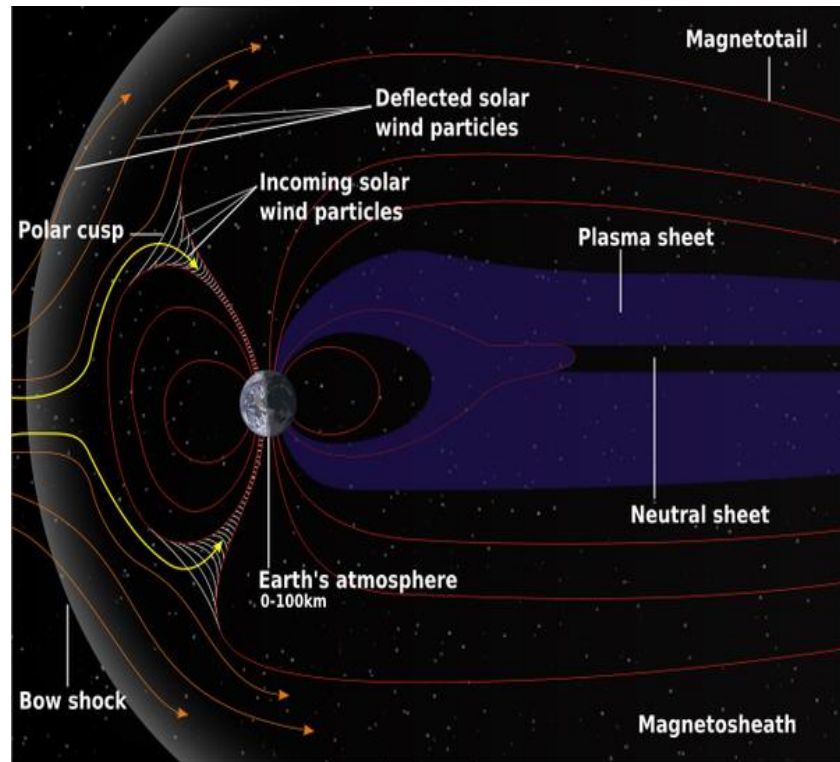
### Chiral Bose-liquid State

- ❖ The Researchers found an entirely new state of matter.
- ❖ So far, all of us encounter matter in three states - solid, liquid and gas.
- ❖ The Chiral-Bose liquid state is formed by bringing two layers of a special material very close together at absolute zero.
- ❖ It is a system with built-in constraints that prevent particles from interacting as they might typically.

- ❖ In the quantum state, matter behaves in ways quite different from the three states that we are used to.



### **Link between Earthquakes and Cosmic Radiation**

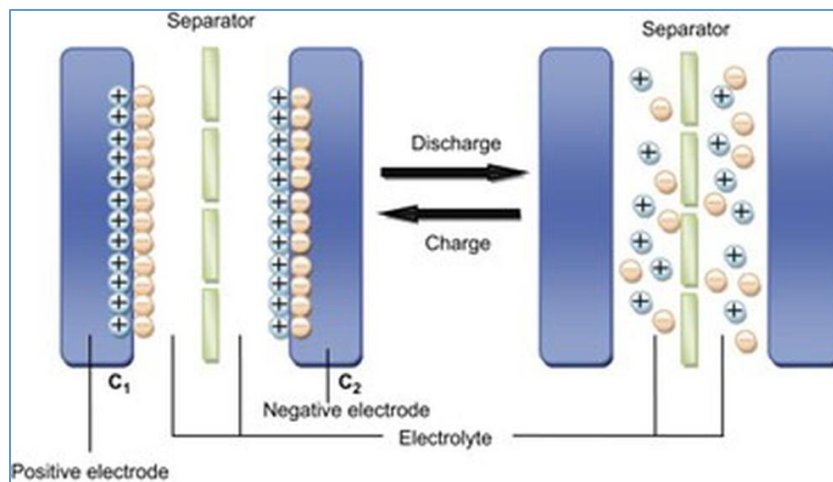


- ❖ Scientists have identified a striking link between earthquakes and changes in the intensity of cosmic radiation measured on Earth's surface.
- ❖ This correlation could aid in earthquake prediction by up to two weeks.
- ❖ Location-specific analyses do not reveal clear correlations between cosmic ray intensity and earthquakes.

- ❖ When seismic activity is taken into account on a global scale, these correlations become more noticeable.
- ❖ This suggests that changes in cosmic ray intensity may be a phenomenon experienced by the entire planet.

### **Paper-based Supercapacitor**

- ❖ Gujarat Energy Research and Management Institute (GERMI) have developed the thinnest, lightweight and biodegradable paper-based supercapacitor.
- ❖ This supercapacitor can fully charge a device within 10 seconds.
- ❖ It has been developed from seaweed (marine macroalgae).
- ❖ The device is of high tensile strength and performance, as well as cost-effective,
- ❖ A supercapacitor is an electrochemical charge storage device with a fast charging/discharging cycle, high power density and a longer lifecycle.



## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **National Statistics Day 2023 - June 29**

- ❖ This day commemorates the birth of the legendary Indian statistician, P.C. Mahalanabis.
- ❖ He is regarded as the father of Indian statistics.
- ❖ He invented a formula called Mahalanabis Distance.
- ❖ Mahalanabis also established the National Statistical Institute (ISI) in 1950.
- ❖ The day was observed for the first time on June 29, 2007.

- ❖ The theme of Statistics Day 2023 is “Alignment of State Indicator Framework with National Indicator Framework for Monitoring Sustainable Development Goals”.

Scientist & applied statistician **Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis** was born on this day, in 1893

**FATHER OF INDIAN STATISTICS**

Devised **Mahalanobis Distance** — a very useful statistical measure of comparison between two data sets

Established the **Indian Statistical Institute** in Kolkata and **Central Statistical Organization** to coordinate statistical activities in the country

In 1949, was appointed as **honorary statistical advisor** to the Government of India

Was instrumental in formulating **India's strategy for industrialisation** in the **Second Five-Year Plan (1956–61)**

His birthday is celebrated as **National Statistics Day**

Notable awards include **Padma Vibhushan (1968)**, **Officer of the Order of the British Empire (1942)**, **Fellow of the Royal Society**

### International Day of the Tropics 2023 - June 29

**Tropical Zone**

Sustains over **95%** of planet's coral species and mangroves

Hosts about **80%** of the planet's terrestrial species

**International day of TROPICS**  
29th June

- ❖ It highlights the challenges faced by the nations of the Tropics and the opportunities their citizens have access to.

- ❖ The nations of the tropics are those that fall between the Tropic of Capricorn and the Tropic of Cancer.
- ❖ The majority of Africa, ASEAN countries, Gulf nations, and a significant part of South America fall in the region.
- ❖ The central and the southern parts of India also fall between the two imaginary lines on the globe.
- ❖ In 2016, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution to declaring this day.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Duck-billed dinosaur

- ❖ Remains of a species of herbivorous dinosaur, previously unknown in the southern hemisphere, have been discovered in Chile
- ❖ It was challenging long-held beliefs about the range of duck-billed dinosaurs.
- ❖ The *Gonkoken nanoi* lived 72 million years ago in the extreme south of what is now Chilean Patagonia.
- ❖ Very ancient species of hadrosaurs, a type of duck-billed dinosaur common in North America, Asia and Europe.
- ❖ They lived during the Cretaceous period, from 145 to 66 million years ago.
- ❖ *Gonkoken nanoi*, the fifth species of dinosaur discovered in Chile, was actually found in 2013.

