

March - 14

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Debasish Panda has been appointed as the chairman of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI).
 - He is a former financial services secretary.
- ❖ The Union Minister for MSME, Narayan Rane has announced the MSME Innovative Scheme (Incubation, Design, and IPR) as well as the MSME IDEA HACKATHON 2022.
 - He claims that these programmes will assist entrepreneurs in launching new businesses.
- ❖ The Assam government has extended the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 (AFSPA) in the state for six more months.
 - The notification came into effect on February 28.

TAMIL NADU

Chief Minister's fellowship programme

Research will be done in 12 areas to: 1) augment water resources, 2) increase agricultural production and create marketing linkages, 3) provide housing for all, 4) improve educational standards, 5) boost health indicators, 6) achieve social inclusion, 7) upgrade infrastructure and facilitate industrial development, 8) provide skill development and entrepreneurship development, 9) facilitate institutional credit, 10) protect heritage and culture, 11) achieve ecological balance and 12) enhance data governance.

- ❖ The State government has issued orders for implementing Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Fellowship Programme (TNCMFP) during 2022-24.
- ❖ 24 persons would get the fellowship for researching in 12 identified thematic areas.
- ❖ TNCMFP aims to create a pool of knowledgeable and action-oriented resources to work on policy efficacy, identify gaps, build internationally referred benchmarks for policy and programme outcomes.



- ❖ Bharathidasan Institute of Management in Tiruchi has been proposed to be the academic partner for the fellowships.

Tamilnadu Petroproducts Ltd



- ❖ Tamilnadu Petroproducts Ltd. (TPL) has received the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certification for its product linear alkylbenzene (LAB) from the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.
- ❖ With the BIS certification, TPL emerges as the only authorized seller of LAB in the Indian market.
- ❖ It has also become the world's first LAB manufacturer accredited with BIS 12795:2020 certification.

NATIONAL

Chairperson of Chardham project Committee





- ❖ The Supreme Court of India has named Justice (retd) AK Sikri as Chairperson of the High Powered Committee (HPC), of the Chardham project (Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri, Yamunotri).
- ❖ The HPC would look after the environmental concerns and other issues related to the Chardham project.
- ❖ The committee will as well as look after the cumulative and independent impact of the Chardham project on the entire Himalayan valley.

Best Airports by Size and Region

The six Indian airports include:

Category – Over 40 million passengers per year

- Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA), Mumbai (5th consecutive year)
- Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi (4th consecutive year)

Category – 15 to 25 million passengers per year

- Rajiv Gandhi International airport, Hyderabad

Category – 5 to 15 million passengers per year

- Cochin International Airport, Cochin
- Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport, Ahmedabad

Category – 2 to 5 million passengers per year

- Chandigarh Airport, Chandigarh

- ❖ From India, six airports have found a place among the 'Best Airport by Size and Region'.
- ❖ The airports are recognized by the Airports Council International (ACI), in its Airport Service Quality (ASQ) survey for the year 2021.
- ❖ Awards take into account 33 parameters related to passenger amenities to recognize airport excellence in customer experience.

AARC and CLAWS tie up

- ❖ The Australian Army Chief Lt Gen Richard Burr paid a visit to the Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS).
- ❖ CLAWS is an Indian Army think tank in New Delhi.



- ❖ A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Australian Army Research Centre (AARC) and the Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS) to create academic cooperation and engagement.



INTERNATIONAL

V-Dem's Democracy Report 2022

Top 5 LDI Countries:

1. Sweden
2. Denmark
3. Norway
4. Costa Rica
5. New Zealand

- ❖ The latest edition of Democracy Report was released recently by the V-Dem Institute at Sweden's University of Gothenburg.
- ❖ The study was titled 'Democracy Report 2022: Autocratisation Changing Nature?'
- ❖ The report classifies countries into four regime types based on their score in the Liberal Democratic Index (LDI): Liberal Democracy, Electoral Democracy, Electoral Autocracy, and Closed Autocracy.

- ❖ It classifies India as an electoral autocracy ranking it 93rd on the LDI, out of 179 countries.
- ❖ India is one of the top ten 'autocratisers' in the world says the report.

STATES

Cheetah sanctuary

NEW CAT ON THE BLOCK



- The last cheetah sighted in India died in 1947 in what is now Chhattisgarh
- The Centre plans to get cheetahs from Iran, Namibia, and South Africa
- Initially, 18 cheetahs will be acquired for India
- 10 sites in India were assessed for suitability as cheetah territories
- The sites lie in Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh

- ❖ Madhya Pradesh will be the first state in the country to introduce cheetahs.
- ❖ The Kuno Palpur sanctuary in Sheopur will be home to the batch of 12-15 cheetahs.
- ❖ The move comes 74 years after the last cheetah was killed in the country.

Mukhyamantri Chaa Srami Kalyan Prakalpa scheme

- ❖ Tripura Government has announced a special scheme 'Mukhyamantri Chaa Srami Kalyan Prakalpa' for tea workers.
- ❖ It is introduced as a step towards bringing the 7000 tea garden workers of Tripura under the social security net.
- ❖ This special scheme would ensure housing, rations, and financial support to the tea garden workers.

Drone school - Gwalior

- ❖ The Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia and Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan jointly inaugurated the first drone school in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.



- ❖ This drone school is one of the five Drone Schools planned to be opened in different cities of Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ The other four cities are Bhopal, Indore, Jabalpur, and Satna.

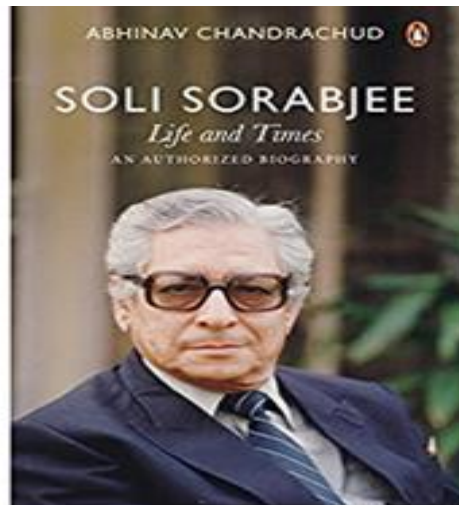
PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

International Women of Courage Award



- ❖ Bangladeshi environmental lawyer, Rizwana Hasan has been selected for the International Women of Courage (IWOC) Award for 2022.
- ❖ She is among the 12 women from around the world who will be honored by the US Department of State with the award.
- ❖ She has demonstrated exceptional courage and leadership in her mission to protect the environment and defend the dignity and rights of the marginalized Bangladeshis.

Book by Abhinav Chandrachud



- ❖ A new biography, titled “Soli Sorabjee: Life and Times” was announced, during the occasion of the 92nd birth anniversary of Soli Sorabjee.
- ❖ It is authored by advocate and legal scholar Abhinav Chandrachud.
- ❖ The book highlights the personal details of the life of Soli Sorabjee, his family background.
- ❖ Soli Sorabjee was the former Attorney General (AG) of India and served two times for the years 1989-90 and then from 1998- 2004.

SPORTS

Mithali Raj captainship

- ❖ India's ODI skipper Mithali Raj broke the record for most matches captained in the ICC Women's World Cup.
- ❖ She surpassed former Australian counterpart Belinda Clark.
- ❖ Mithali had led the country in 24 World Cup games.



S L Narayanan



- ❖ In Chess, S L Narayanan was declared the winner in the Grandiscacchi Cattolica International Open, held in Italy.
- ❖ Meanwhile, his compatriot R Praggnanandhaa came second.
- ❖ The 24-year old S L Narayanan from Thiruvananthapuram earned the title of Grandmaster in 2015.
- ❖ He is the 41st Grandmaster from India.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Day Against Cyber Censorship - March 12



- ❖ The day is observed every year to highlight the importance of free speech and expression on the internet.
- ❖ The day also highlights how governments all over the world are stifling free speech online.
- ❖ The World Day Against Cyber Censorship is also known as the international day of freedom of expression on the internet.

World Rotaract Day - March 13

- ❖ It aims to recognize the services offered by the Rotaractors throughout the World.
- ❖ “Rotaract” stands for “Rotary in Action”.
- ❖ Rotary Club is a community service organization for young men and women.



- ❖ Rotaract began as a Rotary International youth program in 1968 in North Carolina, USA.
- ❖ The first Rotaract Club was founded on March 13th, 1968.

