

**March - 21**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ On March 20 the International Day of La Francophonie is celebrated around the world.
  - It commemorates the signing of the Niamey Convention which took place on March 20, 1970.

## **TAMIL NADU**

### **Tamilnadu Budget 2022 – highlights**



- ❖ The revenue deficit has been brought down by ₹ 7,000 crores from 4.61 per cent to 3.80 per cent.
- ❖ The revenue deficit which has been going up in an alarming trend since 2014 will be reversed this year.
- ❖ The revised budget estimate had pegged the revenue deficit at ₹58,692.68 crores for 2021-22.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's outstanding debt as of 31st March 2023 will be ₹6,53,348.73 crore.
- ❖ This constitutes 26.29% of Gross State Domestic Product in 2022-23.
- ❖ The fiscal deficit also will see a reduction from 4.61 per cent last year to 3.8 per cent.



- ❖ For the third consecutive year, the school education department has been accorded the highest allocation in the State Budget, at Rs 36,895.89 crore.

### **Important initiatives**

- ❖ The earlier 'Thalikku Thangam' scheme, which provided gold and financial assistance for women's marriages, has been reshaped into a higher education assurance scheme.
- ❖ ₹5 crores have been allocated to translate Periyar's writings and works in other languages.
- ❖ To provide quality mental health services, the government has planned to establish a Tamil Nadu Institute of Mental Health & Neuro Sciences, by upgrading the Institute of Mental Health (IMH), Kilpauk, Chennai.
- ❖ The New museums will be built this year in Villupuram and Ramanathapuram districts at an estimated cost of ₹10 crores.
- ❖ It has decided to set up a Children's Nature Park to house birds, butterflies and animals by remodelling the Guindy Children's Park.
- ❖ The State government has allocated ₹10 crores towards upgrading the disaster early warning system in Chennai.
- ❖ This is the first such initiative set up by the state government in India.
- ❖ To motivate government school students to aspire to join premier higher education institutions like IIT, IISc & AIIMS, the Tamil Nadu government will bear the full cost of undergraduate education of students who studied in government schools from classes 6-12.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government will revive and implement the Maduravoyal - Chennai Port Elevated Corridor Project.
- ❖ The Special Social Media Monitoring Cells would be set up in the state.
- ❖ It is to battle fake news and misinformation on social media platforms
- ❖ In order to commemorate the 200th birth anniversary of a famous Tamil saint and poet Ramalinga Adigal, or Vallalar, the government will launch 'Vallalar Palluyir Kappagangal' scheme, that will help NGOs take care of abandoned animals.
- ❖ The tribal on-site museum at Courtallam in Tenkasi district, the pre-historic on-site museum at Poondi in Tiruvallur district and the Hero-Stone on-site museum in Dharmapuri district will be upgraded.
- ❖ Under the 'Climate-Friendly Modernisation of Buses in Major Cities of Tamil Nadu' Project being implemented with Germany's KfW bank assistance, 2,213 BS-VI new diesel buses and 500 new electric buses will be procured.

### **MSME sector**

- ❖ It has hiked the allocation for Micro, Small and Medium-scale Enterprises (MSMEs) Department by almost 48%.
- ❖ With a view of helping micro enterprises' clusters, it would launch a new "Micro Cluster Development Programme".
- ❖ The Budget has announced an allocation of ₹50 crores for the development of 20 microclusters, including artificial jewellery making by Narikuruvars in Kancheepuram district, toy cluster in Madurai district, the cookware cluster in Tirunelveli district and cashew processing cluster in Cuddalore district.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Coir Business Development Corporation will be set up in Coimbatore.
- ❖ The government would set up new industrial parks in Coimbatore, Perambalur, Madurai, Vellore and Tiruvallur districts to promote widespread industrial development.
- ❖ For the manufacturing of electronic products, two exclusive clusters will be established at Pillaipakkam and Manallur.
- ❖ In order to ease traffic movement and to regulate the parking of heavy vehicles, Truck Terminal Facilities at Cheyyar and Gummidipoondi will be constructed.
- ❖ Reserving 5% of all government divisible procurement for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe entrepreneurs is another significant initiative.

## NATIONAL

### Rapid rail of India



- ❖ The coaches for the Delhi-Meerut Rapid Rail Corridor were launched by the National Capital Regional Transport Corporation.

- ❖ A total of 210 cars will be delivered from the Savli manufacturing factory for the first Regional Rapid Transit System corridor (RRTS).
- ❖ The RRTS is a first-of-its-kind system in which trains run at 180 kmph.

### **Flight Control System Integration complex**



- ❖ Rajnath Singh, Defence Minister, inaugurated a seven-story Flight Control System Integration facility at the Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), Bengaluru.
- ❖ Pilots of combat aircraft will also receive simulator training at the complex.

## **STATES**

### **Mathrubhumi**



**A century of thinking ahead**



- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the year-long celebrations of the centenary year of the Malayalam Daily, Mathrubhumi.
- ❖ Mathrubhumi started functioning on 18th March in 1923.
- ❖ It has been at the forefront of pushing across social reforms and developmental agendas, while constantly highlighting issues of national interest.

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **International Day of Happiness - March 20**

- ❖ The United Nations started celebrating this day in 2013.
- ❖ The resolution was initiated by Bhutan which shed the light on the importance of National Happiness.
- ❖ The theme for Happiness Day 2022 is Keep Calm, Stay Wise and Be Kind.



### **World Sparrow Day - March 20**

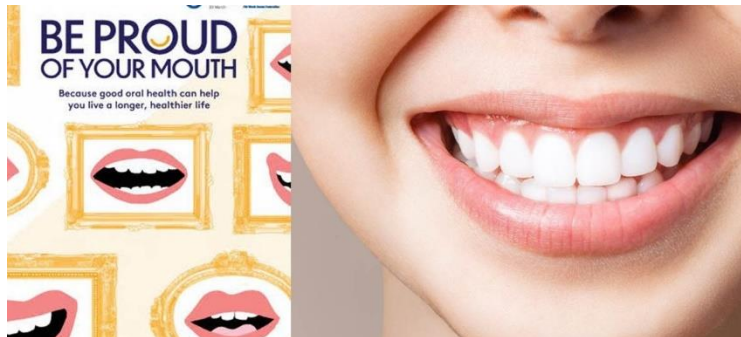
- ❖ This day is meant to raise awareness about the house sparrow and the dangers it confronts.
- ❖ The theme of World Sparrow Day of 2022 is "LOVE Sparrows."

- ❖ World Sparrow Day was established by Mohammed Dilawar, the founder of The Nature Forever Society.



### **World Oral Health Day - March 20**

- ❖ The event is observed to spread the message of the benefits of a healthy mouth and to promote worldwide awareness of the issues around oral health.
- ❖ The theme for 2022 is “Be Proud of Your Mouth”.



### **UN French Language Day - March 20**





- ❖ The day was established by the UN's Department of Public Information in 2010.
- ❖ It is to celebrate multilingualism and cultural diversity as well as to promote equal use of all six official languages throughout the Organization.
- ❖ March 20 was chosen as the date for the French language since it coincides with the 40th anniversary of the International Organization of La Francophonie.

### **The International Adolescent Health Week - March 20 to 26**



- ❖ It is an annual international week to inspire health care providers, policymakers, administrators, media and adolescents, and their communities to advocate for a successful transition into adulthood.
- ❖ The theme for this year is 'Transition'.

