

March - 22

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ International Nowruz Day, the Iranian New year, has observed that occurs on 21 March.
  - Nowruz marks the first day of spring and is celebrated on the day of the astronomical vernal equinox.
- ❖ Indian Coast Guard's fifth offshore patrol vessel 'Saksham' was commissioned in Goa by Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar.
  - The 105-meter offshore patrol vessel [OPV] has been designed and built indigenously by Goa Shipyard Limited.
- ❖ The 2nd India-Indonesia Security Dialogue (IISD) was held in Jakarta.
  - It was co-chaired by the Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal, and Security Affairs of Indonesia, Mohammad Mahfud, and National Security Adviser Ajit Doval.

## TAMIL NADU

### Tamil Nadu Agriculture Budget

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister MRK Paneerselvam presented his first full-fledged Agricultural Budget 2022-2023.
- ❖ The state has increased the agricultural land area to 53.50 lakh acres.
- ❖ Further, the state allotted Rs 400 crore for organic farming and also decided to implement special schemes to enhance millet production.
- ❖ The state is set to provide Rs 1 lakh to 200 educated youngsters for starting up agriculture-related businesses.
- ❖ Tamil nadu will launch State Agricultural Development Plan for Rs 71 crore.
- ❖ The State is to increase subsidy for SC/ST farmers by 20% and Rs 5 crore has been allotted for the purpose.
- ❖ Special zones are to be set up for cultivation of Toor dal in Salem and Krishnagiri.
- ❖ New soil testing center is to be set up in Mayiladuthurai for Rs 75 lakh.
- ❖ Tamilnadu allotted Rs 5,157 crore for providing free electricity to farmers.
- ❖ The NPKR Ramasamy Coop Sugar Mills to be reopened in Mayiladuthurai
- ❖ Rs 2 crore has been allotted for reviving cultivation of traditional vegetables.
- ❖ For the cultivation of unseasonal tomatoes, Rs 4 crore has been allotted.



- ❖ The state is to distribute 10 lakh palm seeds to increase palm trees in the state.
- ❖ The state aims to achieve 126 lakh MT of food grains production this year.
- ❖ Three food parks are to be set up in Theni, Dindivanam, and Manaparai for Rs 381 crore.
- ❖ Farmers are to be involved in the production of jaggery
- ❖ 3,000 solar pumps are to be set up under TN CM's scheme.
- ❖ Digital Agricultural is to be allocated Rs 8 crore.
- ❖ State government is to allot Rs 150 crore for purchasing machinery to overcome the agriculture labour shortage.
- ❖ A special team is to be set up under Tamil Nadu Chief Secretary to find solutions to problems faced by the farmers.
- ❖ Farmers excelling in agriculture are to be honored with a state government award.
- ❖ Millet festivals are to be conducted at the state and district level.
- ❖ The Government designed the app is to be launched for farmers to know details about seedings to sales.
- ❖ A Vegetable market complex is to be set up in partnership with private players in Coimbatore, Theni, and Kanyakumari.

#### **Tamil Nadu Agriculture Budget Highlights**

- **Rs 400 crore allocated for organic farming**
- **Rs 2,339 crore allocated to crop insurance scheme**
- **Rs 5,157.56 crore allocated for free electricity to farmers**
- **Rs 12 crore allocated to encourage tree plantation**
- **New soil testing centre to be set up in Mayiladuthurai for Rs 75 lakhs**

### **Narasingapettai nagaswaram**

- ❖ The Narasingapettai Nagaswaram has earned the Geographical Indication (GI) tag under 'musical instruments of class 15'.
- ❖ The unique feature of the nagaswaram is its production process.
- ❖ It is handmade in Narasingapettai village in Thanjavur, unlike the other machine-made ones.



- ❖ Artisans of the nagaswaram choose the wood wisely.
- ❖ It is a type of ebony, ensuring it is 200 years old.
- ❖ The reeds are made from the leaves of a locally grown plant called 'naanal' (a variety of bamboo).



## **NATIONAL**

### **Digital payment to non-internet users**

- ❖ Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited has teamed up with UltraCash Technologies Pvt. Ltd.
- ❖ This is to provide BharatGas customers with a voice-based digital payment option for booking LPG cylinders.
- ❖ Customers who do not have access to a smartphone or the internet can use this feature to book cylinders and pay via the 'UPI 123PAY' system.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **UN World Happiness Report 2022**

- ❖ India has improved its rank by three spots to acquire 136th position in the United Nations' World Happiness Report for the year 2022.
- ❖ It is being published by United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, since 2012
- ❖ The report ranked 146 countries.
- ❖ In 2021, India's rank was 139.
- ❖ Finland has topped the 2022 World Happiness Report, for the fifth continuous year.

- ❖ Afghanistan has been ranked as the unhappiest country in the world, at 146th position.



## SPORTS

### Asian Billiards title

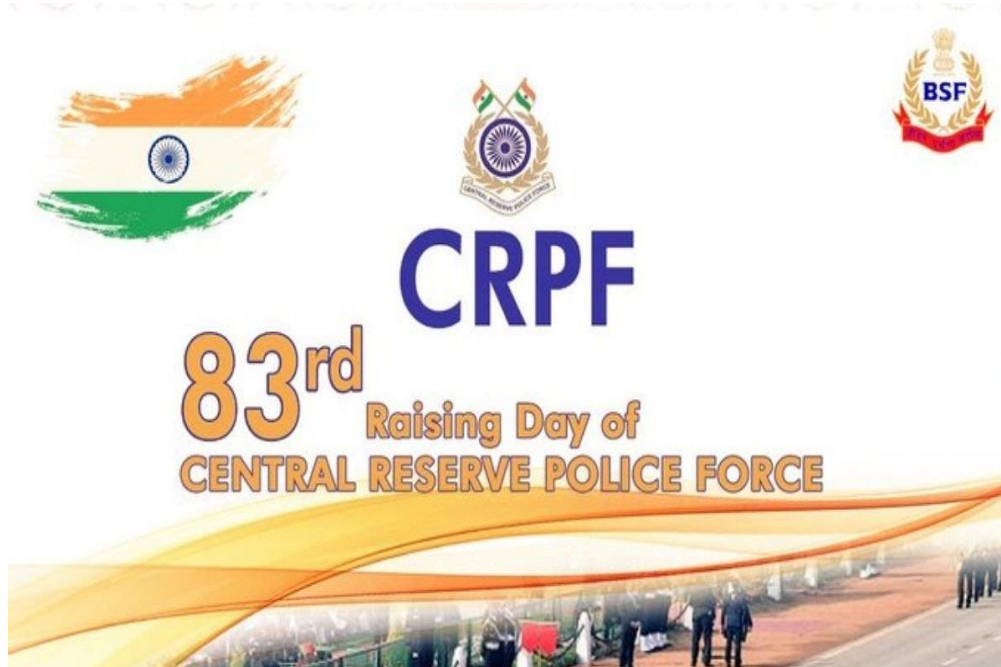


- ❖ Indian cueist Pankaj Advani has defeated Dhruv Sitwala to win his eighth title at the 19th Asian 100 UP Billiards Championship 2022.
- ❖ It was held in Doha, Qatar.

- ❖ Overall this is Advani's 24th international title and 8th Asian crown.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### Central Reserve Police Force 83rd Raising Day - March 19



- ❖ The 83rd Raising Day parade was organized at the Maulana Azad Stadium in Jammu.
- ❖ This was for the first time that the CRPF celebrated its Raising Day outside the national capital of India.
- ❖ The CRPF came into existence on July 27, 1939, as Crown Representative's Police.
- ❖ It was renamed the Central Reserve Police Force on December 28, 1949, upon the enactment of the CRPF Act.

### International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination - March 21

- ❖ It is to remind people about the negative consequences of racial discrimination.
- ❖ The 2022 edition of the International Day focuses on the theme "Voices For Action Against Racism".
- ❖ The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination is observed annually on March 21.

- ❖ On the day the, police in Sharpeville, South Africa, opened fire and killed 69 people at a peaceful demonstration against apartheid “pass laws” in 1960.



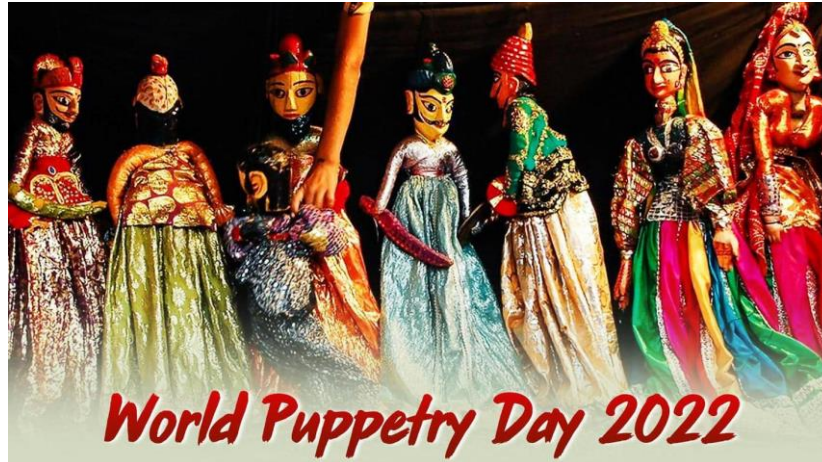
### **International Day of Forests - March 21**



- ❖ The day is celebrated to raise awareness about the significance of different types of forests.
- ❖ The UN General Assembly in 2012 proclaimed March 21 as the International Day of Forests.

- ❖ The day reminds people to value and save forests and the importance of forests in the lives of living creatures.
- ❖ The theme for 2022 is "Forests and sustainable production and consumption."

### **World Puppetry Day – March 21**



- ❖ This day aims to recognize puppetry as a global art form.
- ❖ It is also an attempt to pay tribute to and honor puppeteers from around the world.
- ❖ World Puppetry Day was established in 2003.

### **World Down Syndrome Day - March 21**



- ❖ It is a global awareness day that has been officially observed by the United Nations since 2012.



- ❖ Down syndrome is a condition in which a person has an extra chromosome, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- ❖ This year, the theme for World Down Syndrome Day is “Inclusion Means”.

