

March - 29

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Central government extended the scheme to provide 5 kg of foodgrains free of cost to the poor by six months till September 30.
  - The scheme, which started when India went into stringent lockdown two years back, was to end on 31 March.
- ❖ The Sports Ministry is set to build India's first-ever Sports Authority of India's National Centre of Excellence for Mountain Terrain Biking and Bicycle Motocross in Shimla.
  - It will be done in partnership with the Himachal Pradesh state government.
- ❖ The Council of Europe expelled Russia from the continent's foremost human rights body in an unprecedented move over Moscow's invasion and war in Ukraine.
  - It was an end to its 26 years of membership in the group.

## TAMIL NADU

### Award to 21 Scholars

Awards Details:
Ayyan Thiruvalluvar Award for the year 2022 (late) Mr. M. Meenakshi Sundaram
Thantai Periyar Award – K. Thirunavukarasu
Annal Ambedkar Award – Justice Chandru
Grandfather Anna Award – Nanjil Sampath
Chief Kamarasar Award – Dr. Kumari Ananthan
Mahakavi Bharathiar Award – Bharathi Krishnakumar
Pavender Bharathi Dasan Award – Puluvar Senthalai Gauthaman
Muthamil police constable K.A.P. Viswanatham Award – Dr. M. Rasendran
Kambar Award – Mrs. Bharathi Bhaskar
Sollin Selver Award – Surya Xavier
Jiu Pope Award – A.S. Panneerselvan
Umarupulavar Award – Na.Mammadu
Youngsters Award – Nelli Kannan
Devanayap Pawanar Award – Ku. அரங்கநாதிரன்
Singaravelar Award – Poet Madhukur Ramalingam
Maraimalai Adigalar Award – Suki Sivam
Arutperunjoythi Vallalar Award – Dr. Ira. சஞ்சீவிராயர்
Ayodhya Pandit Award – Gnana Aloysius
Chief Minister Computer Tamil Award for the year 2020 – Dr. V. Dhanalakshmi
C.P. Adithyanar Monday Award – Uyirmai Magazine
Tamil Thai Award – Malaysian Tamil Writers Association, Malaysia

- ❖ Chief Minister MK Stalin presented the award of the Government of Tamil Nadu to 21 Tamil scholars
- ❖ Chief Minister MK Stalin presented the award, cheque for the award, and gold medal on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu at a function held on behalf of the Tamil Development Department at the Kalaivanar Arena, Chennai.

## NATIONAL

### ‘Sambhav’ and ‘Svavlamban’



- ❖ ‘Sambhav’ and ‘Svavlamban’ are the initiatives to tackle the issue of plastic waste in India.
- ❖ The initiatives were launched by the Union Minister of State for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma.
- ❖ It was launched at the International Summit on Plastics Recycling and Waste Management.
- ❖ These initiatives aim to encourage young entrepreneurs, especially from the aspirational districts of India.

### United Nations Commission on Status of Women

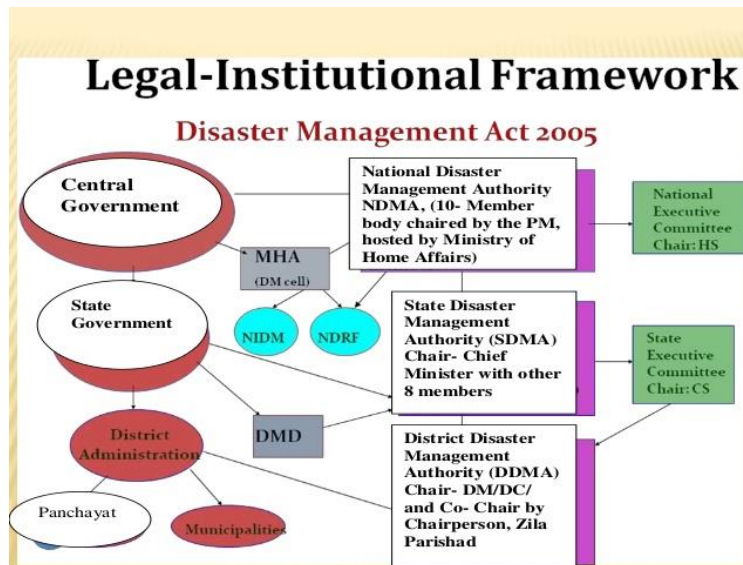
**COMMISSION** *on the*  
**STATUS OF WOMEN**

United Nations Headquarters, New York



- ❖ Union Minister for Women and Child Development Smriti Irani addressed the 66th session of the United Nations Commission on Status of Women
- ❖ The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women.
- ❖ It is a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and was established on June 21, 1946.

## Disaster Management Act provisions



- ❖ The Centre has revoked the provisions of the Disaster Management Act 2005 for Covid containment measures.
- ❖ This is because the number of Covid-19 cases continues to show a downward trend.
- ❖ Covid containment measures such as the use of face masks and hand hygiene can be continued.

## INTERNATIONAL

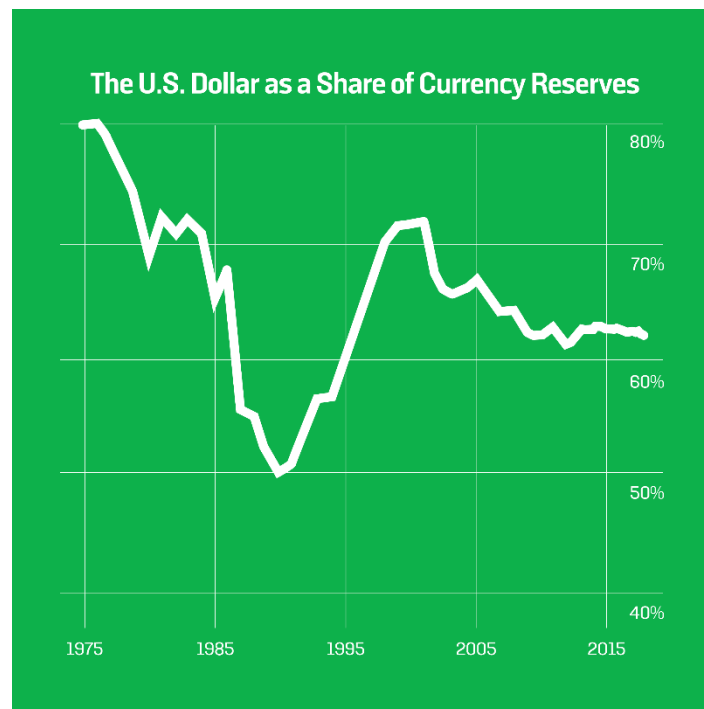
### Resolution demanding aid access

- ❖ 193 Member States adopted a resolution drafted by Ukraine.
- ❖ The UN General Assembly overwhelmingly demanded civilian protection and humanitarian access in Ukraine
- ❖ 140 votes were in favor.

- ❖ Five were against - Russia, Syria, The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (more commonly known as North Korea), Eritrea and Belarus, and 38 others abstaining.

Voting Started		24-Mar-22		11:30:46	
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<b>Humanitarian consequences of the aggression against Ukraine</b>					
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- ❖ This is because the Central banks turn to nontraditional currencies, including the renminbi, to diversify their holdings.
- ❖ Reserve managers have moved out of dollars in two directions, with one quarter headed into the renminbi and three quarters into currencies of smaller countries.
- ❖ The findings are in a new paper issued by the International Monetary Fund titled: “The Stealth Erosion of Dollar Dominance: Active Diversifiers and the Rise of Nontraditional Reserve Currencies.”
- ❖ It was co-authored by Serkan Arslanalp of the IMF, Barry Eichengreen of the University of California Berkeley, and Chima Simpson-Bell also of the IMF.



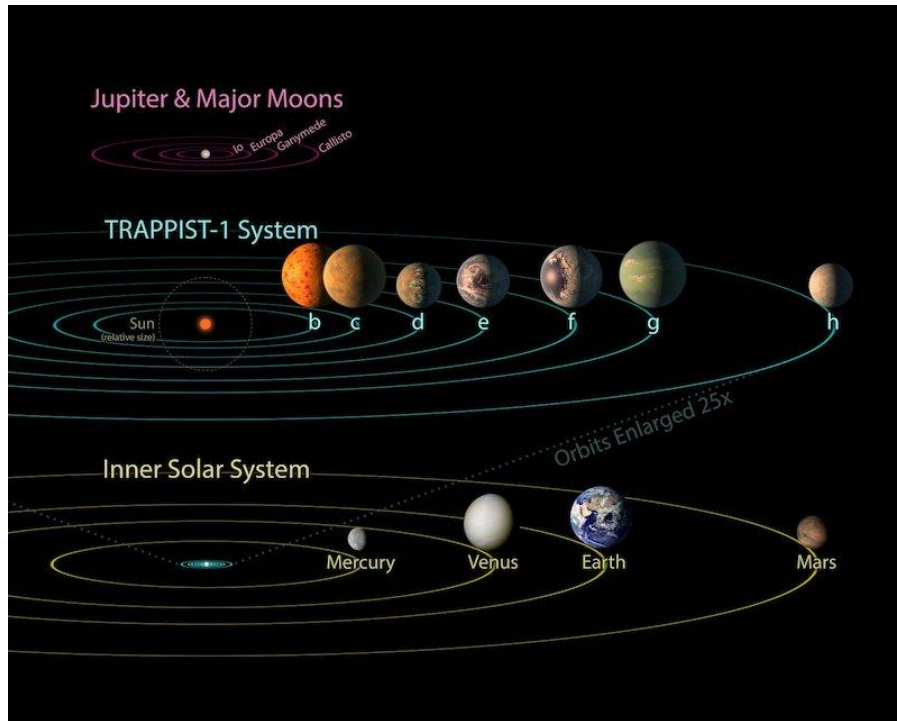
## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **TRAPPIST-1 system**

- ❖ TRAPPIST-1 is a red dwarf star in the Aquarius constellation.
- ❖ TRAPPIST-1 was earlier known as 2MASS J23062928–0502285 or K2-112, because it was spotted with the Two Micron All-Sky Survey (2MASS).
- ❖ It was discovered in 1999 by astronomer John Gizis.
- ❖ It is older than the solar system, as it is 7.6 billion years old.
- ❖ Its mass is about 9% of the Sun.
- ❖ Its radius is slightly larger than Jupiter.



- ❖ It has a surface temperature of about 2,290 °C.
- ❖ It is about 39 light-years from the Sun.
- ❖ James Webb Telescope will be directed towards the TRAPPIST-1 system.
- ❖ It will look for signs of atmosphere on the planets of TRAPPIST-1.



## ENVIRONMENT

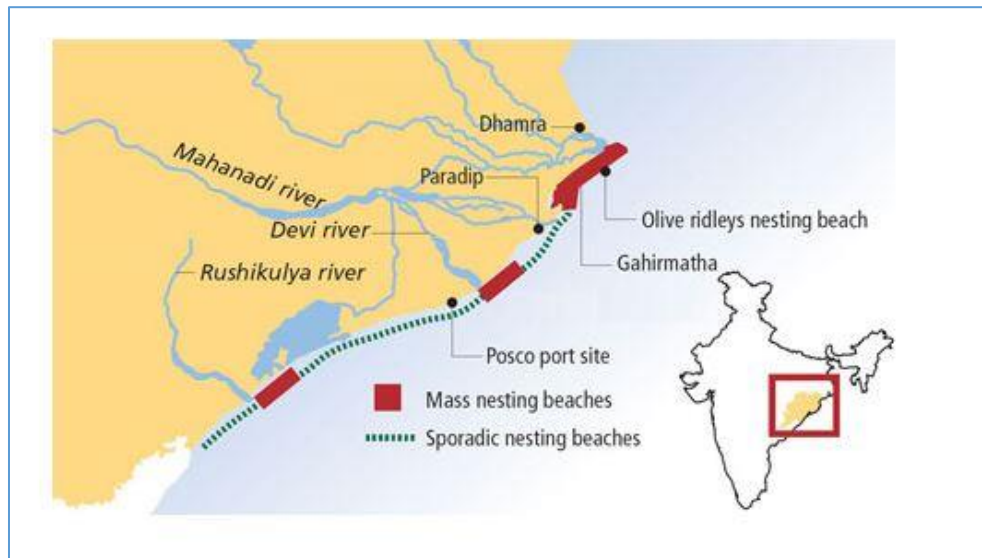
### Annual Frontier Report 2022



- ❖ Recently, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has released the Annual Frontier Report 2022.
- ❖ It is titled Noise, Blazes, and Mismatches: Emerging Issues of Environmental Concern.
- ❖ In the new report, UNEP has said that wildfires, noise pollution, and other looming environmental threats could cause widespread ecological damage, and need to be urgently addressed.
- ❖ The report highlights the urgent need to address the triple planetary crisis of climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss.
- ❖ Noise pollution has been termed as “a raucous killer” .
- ❖ The report has highlighted that between 2002 and 2016, an average of 423 million hectares of the land surface have burned due to wildfires.

## STATES

### Gahirmatha arribada



- ❖ About 2.45 lakh Olive Ridley sea turtles crawled ashore on the Nasi-II beach of the Gahirmatha Marine Sanctuary along the Odisha coast for laying eggs.
- ❖ The Olive Ridley Sea Turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) is also known as the Pacific ridley sea turtle.
- ❖ It is a medium-sized species of sea turtle found in warm and tropical waters, primarily in the Pacific and Indian Oceans.
- ❖ In the Indian Ocean, the majority of olive ridleys nest in two or three large groups at Rushikulya rookery near Gahirmatha in Odisha.

- ❖ The coast of Odisha in India is the largest mass nesting site for the olive ridley.
- ❖ It is followed by the coasts of Mexico and Costa Rica.

## **PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS**

### **Madeleine Albright**



- ❖ Madeleine Albright, the first female secretary of state of USA has died at the age of 84.
- ❖ Albright came to the United States as a refugee with her family in 1948.
- ❖ She became a US citizen in 1957.
- ❖ She served under the President Bill Clinton from 1997 to 2001.

### **Stockholm Water Prize 2022**





- ❖ Professor Wilfried Brutsaert is awarded the Stockholm Water Prize 2022 by SIWI (Stockholm International Water Institute).
- ❖ This is for his important contribution to understanding the effects of climate change on our planet.
- ❖ Professor Brutsaert is the Professor Emeritus of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Cornell University, New York.
- ❖ He has also been hailed for his pioneering approaches to understanding changes in groundwater storage.

