



March - 10

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ President Droupadi Murmu launched the Jal Shakti Abhiyan - Catch the Rain 2023 campaign under the theme of 'source sustainability for drinking water'.

TAMIL NADU

Best Airport in Asia Pacific region



- ❖ The Tiruchi International Airport has been rated the best airport in the Asia Pacific region.
- ❖ This is topped in the category of under two million passengers for 2022.
- ❖ This is the first time that the Tiruchi Airport had received this recognition.
- ❖ The Tiruchi Airport received this global recognition following an Airport Service Quality (ASQ) survey.

- ❖ Airports Council International (ACI), a global non-profit organisation of airport operators conducted this survey.

200 years of Thol Seelai Porattam



- ❖ Tamil Nadu and Kerala Chief Ministers came together in Kanyakumari's Nagercoil on March 6, to commemorate 200 years of the Thol Seelai Porattam or Maaru Marakkal Samaram.
- ❖ It is a decades-old struggle by women of the oppressed castes in erstwhile Travancore to cover their upper bodies.
- ❖ Travancore was comprised parts of present-day south Kerala and south Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Wearing clothes to cover chests was at the time – early 19th century – deemed a right only enjoyed by women of the dominant castes.
- ❖ In 1812, the Maharani of Travancore gave order that allowed the depressed class women who converted to Christianity to wear a blouse.
- ❖ Social reformer Ayya Vaikunda Swami began the struggle, bringing together women and holding meetings with them.
- ❖ The first stage of 'Upper Cloth Revolt' held between 1822-1823.
- ❖ The second stage of the revolt happened between 1827-1829.

- ❖ It was during the third stage of revolt held between 1958-1859 that the women, irrespective of class, caste and religion, were allowed to wear the upper cloth.

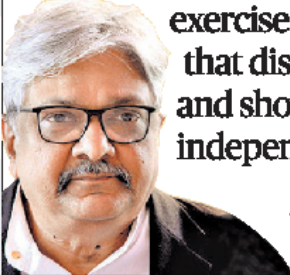
NATIONAL

Supreme Court Verdict on ECI Appointments

Revamp mode

A Constitution Bench hearing a series of petitions seeking functional independence for ECs, is examining various aspects:

- Appointment of CEC and ECs by a Collegium of PM, CJI and Leader of the Opposition
- Equal protection to CEC and ECs and common procedure of removal
- Rule-making power to Election Commission like Supreme Court, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha
- Independent secretariat, budget for the commission



Independence is not an unruly horse ... Independence also partakes in playing by the rules of the game. In areas where he [EC] has discretion, he should exercise that discretion and show independence

JUSTICE K.M. JOSEPH

- ❖ A five-judge bench of the Supreme Court (SC) headed by Justice KM Joseph unanimously gave verdict on appointment of the Chief Election Commissioner and the Election Commissioners.
- ❖ These appointments shall be made by the President on the advice of a selection Committee.
- ❖ This Committee will be consisting of the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition of the Lok Sabha and Chief Justice of India (CJI).
- ❖ In case no leader of Opposition is available, the leader of the largest opposition Party in the Lok Sabha in terms of numerical strength will be a part of such committee.
- ❖ The Bench also appealed to the central government to constitute an independent secretariat for dealing with the expenditure of the Commission.

Appointment Procedure

- ❖ As per the Article 324(2), The appointment of the CEC and other Election Commissioners shall be made by the President.

- ❖ It is also subject to the provisions of any law made in that behalf by Parliament.
- ❖ The President determines the conditions of service and tenure of office of the Election.
- ❖ Under the Election Commission (Conditions of Service of Election Commissioners and Transaction of Business) Act, 1991 they have a tenure of six years, or up to the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.
- ❖ Typically, the senior-most election commissioner is appointed as the CEC.

INTERNATIONAL

Exercise Desert Flag VIII



- ❖ UAE is hosting 3-week long Exercise Desert Flag VIII.
- ❖ It is a multilateral air exercise involving the participation of UAE, France, Kuwait, Australia, the UK, Bahrain, Morocco, Spain, the Republic of Korea, and the US.
- ❖ It aims to bring about the interoperability of different fighter engagements and sharing of best practices of various Air Forces.
- ❖ The IAF would be participating with five LCA Tejas and two C-17 Globemaster III aircraft.
- ❖ This is the first occasion when the LCA Tejas shall participate in an international flying exercise outside India.

Malabar Exercise 2023

- ❖ Malabar 2023 is scheduled to be held in August this year and Australia will host this edition.
- ❖ Australia was included as a permanent member of Ex Malabar in 2020.

- ❖ Japan joined the Naval Exercises in 2015.
- ❖ Japan hosted the last edition of Malabar which was held in November 2022.
- ❖ 2022 edition marked 30 years of the exercise which began as a bilateral exercise between India and the U.S. in 1992.



World's longest calligraphic mural

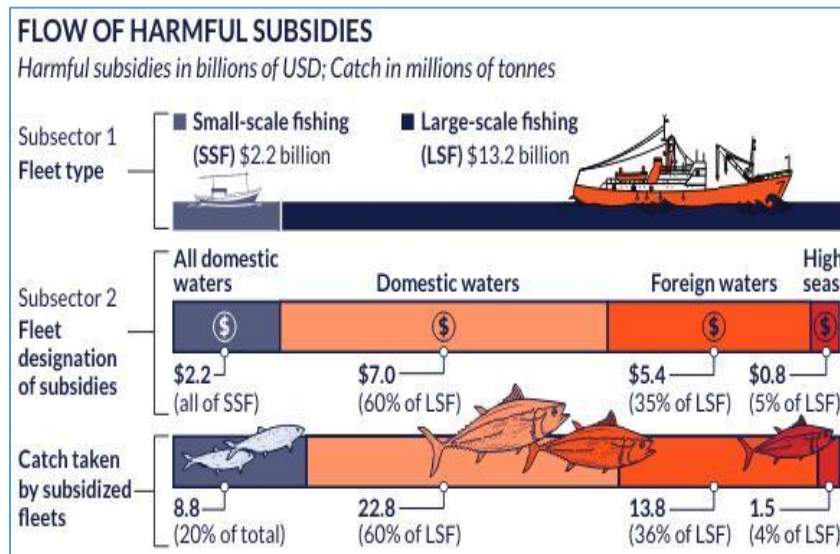


- ❖ Saudi Arabia has installed the longest calligraphic mural in the world on King Abdul Aziz Street, the road that leads to Makkah's Grand Mosque.
- ❖ The 75-meter-long mural, designed by artist Amal Felemban, joins an array of sculptures and installations.

- ❖ The mural presents a beauty that carries the heritage of people, their ideas and their history throughout the ages.

New Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies

- ❖ Switzerland is the first WTO member to formally accept the new Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies.
- ❖ Singapore became the second member to ratify this agreement.
- ❖ WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies was adopted at the 12th Ministerial Conference in 2022.
- ❖ The agreement is prohibiting harmful fisheries subsidies, which are a key factor in the widespread depletion of the world's fish stocks.
- ❖ Developing Countries and Least Developed Countries have been allowed a transition period of two years from the date of entry into force of this Agreement.
- ❖ It is the first WTO agreement to focus on the environment, the first broad, binding, multilateral agreement on ocean sustainability.
- ❖ Also, this is the second agreement reached at the WTO since its inception.



ENVIRONMENT

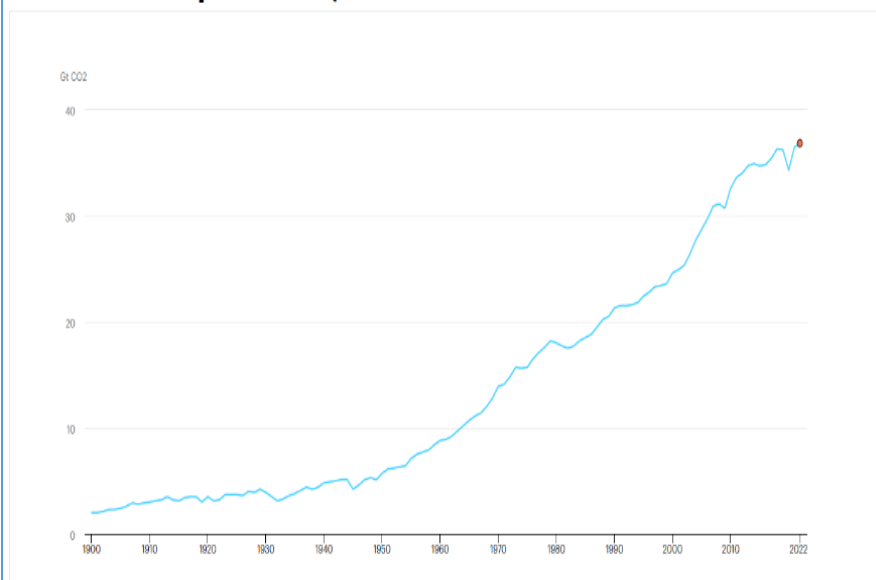
‘CO₂ Emissions in 2022’ report

- ❖ CO₂ Emissions in 2022 Report was released by the International Energy Agency.
- ❖ Global energy-related emissions of carbon dioxide hit a record high last year.



- ❖ Global emissions from energy rose by 0.9% in 2022 to a record 36.8 billion tonnes.
- ❖ Carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from coal grew by 1.6% last year
- ❖ CO₂ emissions from oil rose by 2.5% but remained below pre-pandemic levels.
- ❖ Emissions in China decreased in 2022 due to the COVID lockdown.
- ❖ In the European Union, emissions decreased by 2.5%.
- ❖ The Asia Pacific region also saw unprecedented reductions (-1.8%).
- ❖ The emissions from the global industries decreased.
- ❖ The main reason behind the reduction was a 10% decrease in cement production and a 2% decrease in steel production.
- ❖ Emissions due to natural gas decreased by 1.6%.
- ❖ The biggest sectoral increase in emissions in 2022 came from electricity and heat generation.

Global CO₂ emissions from energy combustion and industrial processes, 1900-2022



STATES

New Gold Deposits

- ❖ Gold mines have been found at different locations of three districts (Deogarh, Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj) of Odisha.

- ❖ An estimated 1,685 kg of gold ore has been detected by the Geological Survey of India experts along with copper in the Adas area.
- ❖ Odisha is accounting for 98 per cent of the country's chromite deposits.

