

March - 11

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Prime Minister dedicated to the nation the 7500th Janaushadhi Kendra at NEIGRIHMS (North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences), Shillong of Meghalaya.

NATIONAL

First Outcome Based Budget

- ❖ The government of Jharkhand has presented the “Outcome-Based Budget” for the first time.
- ❖ In this budget, all the departments were given specific targets and responsibilities that are required to be completed in a specified time.
- ❖ The results with respect to those targets will be evaluated at the end of financial year 2022.
- ❖ This technique of presenting budget was recommended from the budget 2007-08.
- ❖ Under this mechanism, each ministry handling a sector are required to present a preliminary outcome budget to the Ministry of Finance.
- ❖ This budget is presented with the objective of establishing correlation between the outlay, output and outcome of the budget.

3 Umbrella schemes

- ❖ The Women and Child Development Ministry classifies major programmes under 3 Umbrella schemes.
- ❖ The Ministry has decided to classify all of its major programmes under three Umbrella Schemes - Mission Shakti, Mission Poshan 2.0, and Mission Vatsalya.
- ❖ Mission Poshan 2.0 will look into the ways and measures for strengthening the nutritional content, outreach, delivery, and outcomes.
- ❖ Mission Vatsalya will be looking into the child welfare services and child protection services all over the country.
- ❖ The schemes covered under Mission Shakti will be:
 - One-Stop Centre
 - Mahila Police Volunteer

- Beti Bachao Beti Padhao
- Women's helpline
- Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana.

Municipal Performance Index 2020

Rank	Municipal Performance Index			
	Population Million+		Population Less than Million	
	Municipality	Score	Municipality	Score
1	Indore	66.08	New Delhi MC	52.92
2	Surat	60.82	Tirupati	51.69
3	Bhopal	59.04	Gandhinagar	51.59
4	Pimpri Chinchwad	59.00	Karnal	51.39
5	Pune	58.79	Salem	49.04
6	Ahmedabad	57.60	Tiruppur	48.92
7	Raipur	54.98	Bilaspur	47.99
8	Greater Mumbai	54.36	Udaipur	47.77
9	Visakhapatnam	52.77	Jhansi	47.04
10	Vadodara	52.68	Tirunelveli	47.02

- ❖ The Municipal Performance Index (MPI) was launched as an accompaniment to the Ease of Living Index.
- ❖ It seeks to examine local government practice in municipalities across areas of services, finance, policy, technology and governance.
- ❖ It seeks to simplify and evaluate the complexities in local governance practice and promote the ethos of transparency and accountability.
- ❖ The Ease of Living Index encapsulates the outcome indicators while the Municipal Performance Index captures the enabling input parameters.
- ❖ MPI 2020 has classified municipalities based on their population - Million+ (municipalities having over a million population) and Less than Million Population.

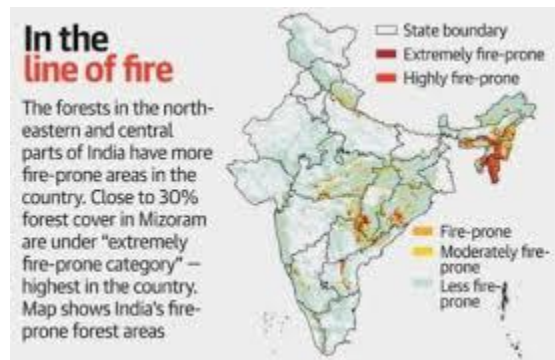
- ❖ In the Million+ category, Indore has emerged as the highest ranked municipality, followed by Surat and Bhopal.
- ❖ In the Less than Million category, New Delhi Municipal Council has emerged as the leader, followed by Tirupati and Gandhinagar.

FSI Report on forest fires

- ❖ The Forest Survey of India (FSI) has released a report on forest fires in the country.
- ❖ Forest fires have become an issue of global concern.
- ❖ In many countries, wildfires are burning larger areas, and fire seasons are growing longer due to global warming.

Key findings:

- ❖ At least 5,291 forest fires were recorded in Odisha between February 22 and March 1, 2021 - the highest in the country for the same period.
- ❖ Collection of mahua flowers and kendu leaves, practice of shifting cultivation and grazing in forest areas are some of the reasons for forest fires in Odisha.
- ❖ Telangana recorded the second-highest fires in the country at 1,527 during the same period.
- ❖ It was followed by Madhya Pradesh (1,507) and Andhra Pradesh (1,292).



INTERNATIONAL

Maitri Setu

- ❖ The bridge 'Maitri Setu' has been built over the Feni river.
- ❖ Feni river flows between the Indian boundary in Tripura State and Bangladesh.
- ❖ The 1.9 km long bridge joins Sabroom in India with Ramgarh in Bangladesh.

- ❖ With this inauguration, Tripura is set to become the ‘Gateway of North East’ with access to Chittagong Port of Bangladesh.



Switzerland to ban on face coverings

- ❖ In a recently held referendum, Switzerland voted in favour of banning face coverings in public, including the burka or niqab worn by Muslim women.
- ❖ The Swiss people are given a direct say in their own affairs under the country’s system of direct democracy.
- ❖ They are regularly invited to vote on various issues in national or regional referendums.
- ❖ France was the first country in Europe to ban burqas and niqabs in public places in 2011.

Women Will

- ❖ Google has launched a new web platform ‘Women Will’ on March 8, 2021 on the occasion of “International Women’s Day”.
- ❖ This platform will provide its support to 1 million rural women in India in order for them to become entrepreneurs with the help of accelerator programmes, business tutorials and mentorship.

UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

- ❖ The 14th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice is being held in the Japanese city of Kyoto.

- ❖ This year, the event is being held in a hybrid format.
- ❖ Key issues related to criminal justice, strategies for crime prevention and international cooperation in promoting the rule of law and preventing all forms of crime are expected to be discussed.
- ❖ This is the first time that Japan is hosting this congress since 1970.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Technology and Innovation Report 2020

	Country	Overperformance (positions)
1	India	65
2	Philippines	57
3	Ukraine	47
4	Viet Nam	45
5	China	40
6	Jordan	34
7	Brazil	33
8	Republic of Moldova	33
9	South Africa	29
10	Tunisia	29

- ❖ The report examines the likelihood of frontier technologies widening existing inequalities and creating new ones.
- ❖ It also addresses the national and international policies, instruments and institutional reforms that are needed to create a more equal world of opportunity for all, leaving no one behind.



- ❖ The report was released by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.
- ❖ India was the biggest 'overperformer' in frontier technologies than the country's per capita Gross Domestic Products would suggest.

ENVIRONMENT

Dinosaurs' fossils in Argentina

- ❖ The Researchers have announced the discovery of fossils of Dinosaurs that lived 140 million years ago.
- ❖ The incomplete skeletal remains of the dinosaur were discovered south of Neuquen city in Argentina.
- ❖ The researchers stated that the fossils represent a dinosaur species named Ninjatitan zapatai.
- ❖ They identified Ninjatitan as a Titanosaur.
- ❖ Titanosaurs were a diverse group of long-necked plant-eating dinosaurs that walked on four pillar-like legs.

World's Forgotten Fishes Report

- ❖ It was a recent report published by 16 global conservation organizations which includes the WWF and Global Wildlife Conservation.
- ❖ According to this, nearly a third of all freshwater fish are threatened with extinction.
- ❖ The report, World's Forgotten Fishes, stated that freshwater fish provide main source of protein to 200 million people across Asia, Africa and South America.
- ❖ The industry provides jobs and livelihoods to 60 million people, more than half of whom are women.
- ❖ In total, jobs in freshwater fisheries account for between 2.5 and 6 per cent of the global agricultural workforce.

