

March - 12

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has chosen feminist, teacher, and novelist Bama Faustina Soosairaj for the Avvaiyar award for the year 2024.
- ❖ IAS officer B. Jothi Nirmala Samy was named the Tamil Nadu State Election Commissioner succeeding outgoing retired IAS officer V. Palanikumar.
- ❖ Sardar Ramesh Singh Arora made history as Pakistani province Punjab's first Sikh minister.
- ❖ Jammu and Kashmir police have initiated "Operation Kamdhenu" to curb the rampant issue of cattle smuggling in the Jammu, Samba, and Kathua (JSK) police ranges.
- ❖ India has celebrated the Jan Aushadhi Diwas on March 7<sup>th</sup> promote awareness about generic medicines and how they can be helpful for millions across the country.

## TAMIL NADU

### India's 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Force

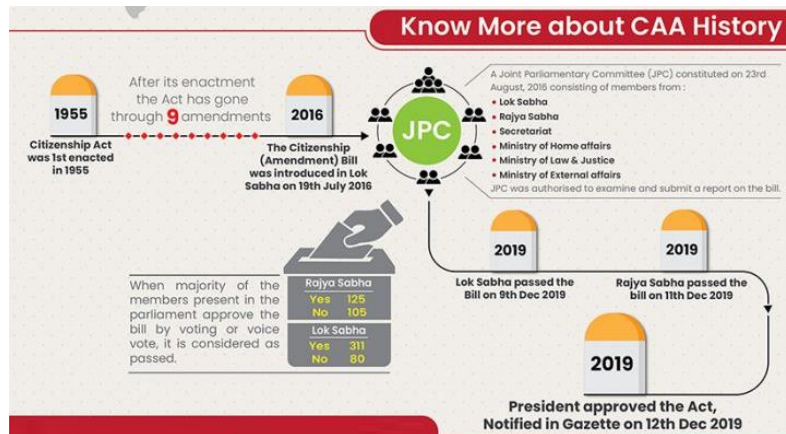


- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has launched the country's 'first' marine force to protect marine resources and biodiversity in the Gulf of Mannar and the Palk Bay.
- ❖ It will focus on the conservation and protection of precious marine biodiversity such as coral reef, sea grass, and other marine flora and fauna.
- ❖ The force will combat marine wildlife crimes, including smuggling, prevention, and poaching of marine animals.

- ❖ Twelve marine watchers have been engaged in the force from the local fishermen community in Ramanathapuram.

## NATIONAL

### Citizenship Amendment Act 2019



- ❖ The ministry of home affairs has notified the Citizenship Amendment Act's (CAA) rules recently.
- ❖ It is paving the way for the law's implementation across the country.
- ❖ These rules, called the Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 2024 will enable the persons eligible under CAA-2019 to apply for grant of Indian citizenship.
- ❖ The law makes it easier for Hindu, Sikh, Jain, Buddhist, Christian and Parsi refugees from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan, to get Indian citizenship.
- ❖ The law aims to give citizenship to non-Muslim migrants from these countries, who came to India before December 31, 2014.
- ❖ The CAA was passed in December 2019 and subsequently got the president's assent.

### Resignation of Election Commissioner

- ❖ Weeks before the Lok Sabha polls, the Election Commissioner Arun Goel has quit and his resignation has been accepted by the President.
- ❖ The three-member Election Commission of India already had a vacancy and will now be left only with Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar.
- ❖ In a landmark ruling in March last year, the Supreme Court had directed that Election Commissioners would be appointed by a panel consisting of
  - The Prime Minister,

- The Leader of the Opposition and
- The Chief Justice of India.
- ❖ The bench also stated that the order would stay in force until a law was made by Parliament.
- ❖ In December, the Parliament passed a Bill to replace the Chief Justice of India in the panel with a Union Cabinet minister.
- ❖ The Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Bill, 2023, was passed by Parliament.



### **Free Trade Agreement with EFTA Bloc**

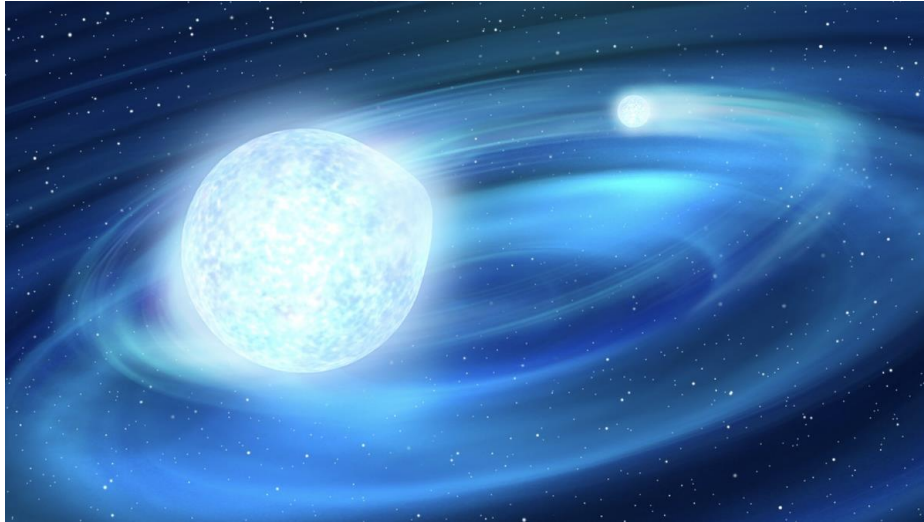


- ❖ India signed a free trade agreement with the four-nation European Free Trade Association (EFTA) in New Delhi.

- ❖ Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, and Liechtenstein are the four members of the EFTA.
- ❖ The deal is officially dubbed as the Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA).
- ❖ The agreement is likely made with the plan to attract \$100 billion in investments over a period of 15 years.
- ❖ Earlier to the signing, India had sought an investment commitment of \$50 billion during the first 10 years after the implementation of the agreement.
- ❖ Another \$50 billion will get over the next five years from the bloc members.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Helium-Rich Hot Subdwarf Stars



- ❖ A large international team of astronomers has discovered the smallest known star to date.
- ❖ Also, it found that it is paired with another, somewhat larger star.
- ❖ They burn helium at their cores and are typically found in galactic stellar groups.
- ❖ This star is part of a binary system known as J0526 and is located approximately 2,760 light years from Earth.
- ❖ The two stars are named J0526A, the larger unseen white dwarf; and J0526B, the hot subdwarf.
- ❖ The smaller star is approximately seven times the size of Earth, which means it is smaller than Saturn.
- ❖ It also has a surface temperature of approximately 2,226°C.



- ❖ It orbits the larger star approximately every 20 minutes.
- ❖ This means that it squeezes almost 72 years into just one Earth Day.
- ❖ Before TMTS J0526B, one of the smallest stars ever observed was the red dwarf EBLM J0555-57Ab, located 600 light-years from Earth.

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

### **Erasmus prize 2024**

- ❖ The Eminent writer Amitav Ghosh has been awarded the prestigious Erasmus Prize 2024.
- ❖ He receives the prize for his passionate written contribution to the theme 'imagining the unthinkable'.
- ❖ He received Jnanpith Award, India's highest literary prize, in 2018.
- ❖ Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands founded the Premium Erasmianum in 1958.



## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **Dissociative Identity Disorder Awareness Day 2024 - March 05**

- ❖ This day aims to raise awareness about the difficulties faced by people with dissociative identity disorder and what we can do to improve their standards of life.
- ❖ It is also known as Multiple Personality Disorder

- ❖ It is the condition where a person believes that he/she has multiple people living inside their minds.
- ❖ They are often controlled by multiple personalities and may face difficulties getting on with their normal lives.

### What is Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID)?

People with DID will experience intense changes in their identity, feeling like different aspects of their identity are in control of their behaviour. This can happen in various ways:

- Each identity state may have a different pattern of thinking and relating to the world.
- These identity states may come across as different ages and genders.
- There may be one 'main' part of their identity.
- The different parts of their identity may have conflicting memories or experiences
- Some people refer to these different parts of their identity as alters or parts, and to all the parts together as a system.
- They might not feel like they have control over when different parts of their identity take over.
- They may experience amnesia when another part of their identity is in control.

### International Women's Day 2024 - March 08



- ❖ This day is acknowledging the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women.
- ❖ The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity.
- ❖ 2024's theme is 'Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress' and the campaign theme is 'Inspire Inclusion.'

- ❖ In 1910, Clara Zetkin proposed International Women's Day at the International Women's Conference in Copenhagen.
- ❖ The United Nations began celebrating the day in 1975.
- ❖ In 1977, UN General Assembly invited member states to proclaim this day.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Patagonia Cave Paintings

- ❖ The Archaeologists have discovered the earliest dated cave paintings in South America in Argentine Patagonia, dating back 8,200 years.
- ❖ The 895 paintings were found by Argentine and Chilean archaeologists in the Huenul 1 cave.
- ❖ The practice of painting the particular pattern seen in the cave was sustained for a period of at least 3,000 years.



### Cavum Clouds

- ❖ NASA shared a picture of clouds that showcasing the breathtaking view of Cavum clouds as seen from space.
- ❖ The Cavum clouds are also called hole-punch clouds or fallstreak holes.
- ❖ These odd cloud formations are caused by airplanes.
- ❖ Cavum clouds form when planes fly through banks of altocumulus clouds, mid-level clouds that have supercooled (below the freezing point of water but still liquid) water droplets.
- ❖ As air moves around the plane, a process called adiabatic expansion can make the droplets freeze into ice crystals.

- ❖ The ice crystals eventually grow heavy and fall out of the sky, leaving a hole in the cloud layer.

