


March - 28

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu and Kerala will jointly inaugurate the State-level celebrations in connection with the centenary year of the Vaikom Satyagraha at Vaikom on April 1.
- ❖ Kerala's women empowerment and poverty alleviation programme Kudumba Shree celebrates its silver jubilee in 2023.
- ❖ Dubai's Emaar Group will build a \$60 million shopping and office complex called 'Mall of Srinagar' in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir.
  - This marks the first foreign direct investment (FDI) in the Union Territory.
- ❖ The Income Tax Department of India has launched a new mobile app called ' AIS for Taxpayers' to facilitate taxpayers.
  - It uses to view their information as available in the Annual Information Statement.
- ❖ The International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims is observed on 24<sup>th</sup> March every year.

## TAMIL NADU

### TN Disaster Management Policy

Mainstreaming	State Development Plans/Strategies	To Mitigate	To ensure Reduced Disaster impacts
 <p>Disaster Risk Reduction &amp; Climate Change Adaptation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Policies</li> <li>➤ Land Use, Flood Plain Regulations</li> <li>➤ Building Regulations</li> <li>➤ Budget</li> <li>➤ Sector Plans</li> <li>➤ Programmes</li> <li>➤ Projects</li> <li>➤ City Development plans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Floods</li> <li>➤ Cyclone</li> <li>➤ Tsunami</li> <li>➤ Landslide</li> <li>➤ Earthquake</li> <li>➤ Drought</li> <li>➤ Heat Wave</li> <li>➤ Lightning</li> <li>➤ CBRN</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Reduction in Number of Vulnerable Areas,</li> <li>❖ Reduction in degree of Vulnerability</li> <li>❖ Minimising loss of Lives</li> <li>❖ Minimising Loss and Damages to public &amp; private properties</li> </ul>

- ❖ Chief Minister released the updated Tamil Nadu State Disaster Management Policy and Disaster Management Plan 2023.

- ❖ The policy aims at reducing the negative impact of disasters with the help of strong disaster management machinery.
- ❖ The policy has been developed adhering to the global and national frameworks for disaster risk reduction and contextualised to the State perspectives and priorities.
- ❖ It provides a consistent, state-wide institutional framework to enable the state, local governments, Central government, and the private sector to work together.

## NATIONAL

### Mission Sahbhagita

- ❖ Mission Sahbhagita has been launched by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- ❖ It is an important step towards participatory conservation and wise use of wetlands.
- ❖ Its aim is to enable a society ownership approach with communities leading at the forefront.
- ❖ The Ministry is currently implementing a centrally sponsored scheme namely, National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Eco-systems (NPCA).
- ❖ Under the NPCA scheme, the ministry has sanctioned the central assistance for conservation of 165 wetlands across the country, including 42 Ramsar sites.

### DigiClaim



- ❖ The Union Minister of Agriculture ministry launched the National Crop Insurance Portal's digitized claim settlement module 'DigiClaim'.

- ❖ This is launched under the ambit of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY).
- ❖ Now claims will be disbursed electronically, which will benefit the respective farmers of six states.
- ❖ Those 6 states are Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand and Haryana.

### **Vedic Heritage Portal**

- ❖ Union Home Minister inaugurated the Vedic Heritage Portal.
- ❖ It is created by the Indira Gandhi National Center for the Arts under the Ministry of Culture.
- ❖ It aims to communicate the message contained in the Vedas.
- ❖ It will be a one-stop solution for any information regarding Vedic Heritage.
- ❖ It has more than 18 thousand mantras of all four Vedas.



## **REPORTS AND INDICES**

### **Report on social protection for children**

- ❖ The International Labour Organization–UNICEF Second joint report on social protection for children has been released.
- ❖ Globally 26.4 per cent (just 1 in 4 children) of children aged 0-15 years are only shielded by social protection.

- ❖ The remaining 73.6 per cent are exposed to poverty, exclusion and multidimensional deprivations.
- ❖ Nearly 1.77 billion children aged 0-18 years lack access to a child or family cash benefit
- ❖ It is a fundamental pillar of a social protection system.
- ❖ Regional disparities exist in effective social protection coverage for children.
- ❖ In the Americas, coverage is 57.4%, in the Arab States at 15.4 % and in Asia and the Pacific, coverage is currently 18.0 %.
- ❖ 31 Indian states have implemented the national “PM CARES for Children” scheme launched during the pandemic.
- ❖ So far, only 4,302 children have received support from the scheme.



### City Index 2023

- ❖ According to City Index, the United States has the highest number of female billionaires in the world with 92 in total.
- ❖ China is in second place with 46 female billionaires.
- ❖ Germany takes third place with 32 female billionaires.
- ❖ With 16 female billionaires Italy stood in fourth place.



- ❖ Australia, India and Hong Kong are home to the fifth highest number (9) of female billionaires in the world.
- ❖ Savitri Jindal, an Indian politician and businesswoman, is the richest woman in India.

**Countries with the most female billionaires**

Rank	Country	Number of female billionaires
1	United States	92
2	China	46
3	Germany	32
4	Italy	16
=5	Australia	9
=5	India	9
=5	Hong Kong	9
=8	Spain	8
=8	Switzerland	8
=10	Brazil	7
=10	Sweden	7
=12	France	6
=12	Canada	6
=14	Denmark	4
=14	Israel	4

\*= represents joint value

## Utility Bidder's Deforestation Report

Average deforestation (hectares) between 2015-2020

Country, Continent	Deforestation (hectares)
<b>1</b> Brazil South America	1,695,700
<b>2</b> India Asia	668,400
<b>3</b> Indonesia Asia	650,000
<b>4</b> Tanzania Africa	474,000
<b>5</b> Australia Oceania	416,840
<b>6</b> Myanmar Asia	293,920
<b>7</b> Paraguay South America	279,340
<b>8</b> Mozambique Africa	267,030
<b>9</b> Sudan Africa	264,000
<b>10</b> Bolivia South America	242,540
<b>11</b> Colombia South America	199,230
<b>12</b> South Africa Africa	199,000
<b>13</b> Zambia Africa	189,710
<b>14</b> Peru South America	179,090
<b>15</b> Mexico North America	165,820
<b>16</b> Nigeria Africa	163,310
<b>17</b> Argentina South America	134,800
<b>18</b> China Asia	133,200
<b>19</b> Venezuela South America	108,290
<b>20</b> Nicaragua South America	105,030

- ❖ This report analysed deforestation trends of 98 countries in the last 30 years.

- ❖ India has seen the highest rise in deforestation in the last 30 years, with a stark surge recorded between 2015 and 2020.
- ❖ During these years, the country was ranked second only after Brazil, with average deforestation of 668,400 hectares.
- ❖ Indonesia witnessed a significant loss of forests due to palm oil cultivation.
- ❖ Soyabean cultivation is also responsible for significant deforestation globally.


## STATES

### TB drug – Bedaquiline

- ❖ Pharma major Johnson and Johnson made application to extend its patent on anti-Tuberculosis drug Bedaquiline that expires in July this year.
- ❖ The Indian Patent Office rejected this application.
- ❖ The patent would have extended J&J's monopoly on the drug in India till 2027.
- ❖ But with this rejection, generic manufacturers can now make their own versions at an affordable price from this year.

### Vital intervention

Bedaquiline, manufactured by J&J, is a crucial anti-TB drug



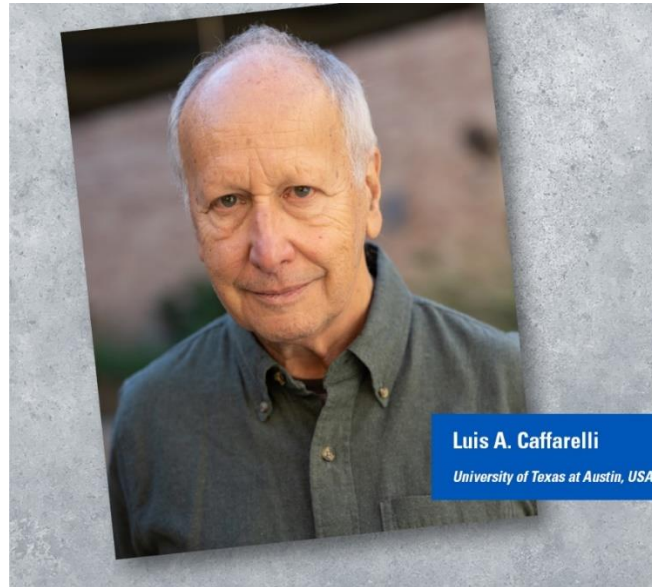
- India has rejected J&J's appeal to extend its patent beyond July 2023
- Currently priced at around \$400 for a six-month treatment regimen, the prices are likely to fall
- After July, generic producers like Lupin and Macleods are likely to manufacture the drug
- Over 55,000 patients, in whom other drugs have stopped working, may benefit from Bedaquiline access
- Till March 2020, only a little over 10,000 patients received the drug

## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### 2023 Abel Prize

- ❖ Argentine-American mathematician Luis Caffarelli was awarded the Abel Prize for this year 2023.
- ❖ The prize is conferred every year by the King of Norway and is awarded to one or more outstanding mathematicians.

- ❖ Caffarelli's work has had a significant impact on several areas of mathematics.
- ❖ This awarded is widely regarded as the equivalent of the Nobel Prize in mathematics.



## IMPORTANT DAYS

### World Meteorological Day - March 23



- ❖ This day commemorates the formal establishment of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) in 1950.
- ❖ The day highlights “the essential role that ‘National Meteorological and Hydrological Services’ (NMHS) plays in the safety and wellbeing of the society.”
- ❖ This year theme is ‘the future of weather, climate and water across generations’.

- ❖ The idea of IMO came from the Vienna International Meteorological Congress 1873.
- ❖ This year marks WMO's 150th anniversary.

### **World Tuberculosis Day - March 24**



- ❖ On this day in 1882, Dr. Robert Koch identified the bacterium that causes tuberculosis, Mycobacterium tuberculosis.
- ❖ It aims to create and raise awareness about tuberculosis (TB) and work to completely eliminate this disease.
- ❖ TB is caused by the bacterium Mycobacterium tuberculosis and primarily affects the lungs.
- ❖ TB is one of the top 10 causes of death worldwide
- ❖ 'Yes, we can end TB!' is the theme for 2023.

### **International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade - March 25**

- ❖ The day honours and remembers those who suffered and died as a consequence of the transatlantic slave trade.
- ❖ It has been called "the worst violation of human rights in history".
- ❖ Over 400 years more than 15 million men, women and children were the victims of this practice.





- ❖ The theme for this year is “Fighting Slavery’s Legacy of Racism Through Transformative Education.”

**For 300 years**, from the 16th to the 19th centuries, slave trade took place across the Atlantic Ocean

About 12 million Africans were shipped to the Americas to be sold as slaves

March 25 is designated by the UN as International Day of **Remembrance for the victims of slavery & the Transatlantic Slave Trade**

The International **Slavery Museum** opened on August 23, 2007, in Liverpool, UK

Despite the abolition of slave trading from 1807 onwards, **illegal trading continued for a further 60 years**

**1 in 5 Africans** died on board till the 1750s due to the deplorable conditions on slave ships

**MAN'S WORST CRIME AGAINST MAN**

The infographic features a central image of a bronze sculpture of a man in chains, with his arms raised and hands bound. The background is a light beige color with various text boxes and icons.

