

May - 02

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Prime Minister inaugurated and addressed the 6<sup>th</sup> Edition of One Earth One Health – Advantage Healthcare India – 2023 in New Delhi.
- ❖ Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd (PGCIL), has been conferred Global Gold Award by The Green Organization.
- ❖ Jaden Pariat Becomes First Indian in six years to Finish on Podium in British F4 Championship race.
- ❖ Reliance General Insurance become a first insurance company to accept the RBI's Central Bank Digital Currency e-Rupee for premium payments.
- ❖ Pakistan has become the largest recipient of the Asian Development Bank (ADB)-funded programmes/projects in the year 2022.
  - As per the ADB Annual Report 2022, out of total disbursement of over \$31.8 billion to 40 countries, Pakistan received loans of \$5.58 billion.
- ❖ Australia is set to host the third in-person Quad Summit on May 24 in Sydney.
  - The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue comprises of India, the US, Japan and Australia.

## INTERNATIONAL

### 2023 Sudan Conflict

- ❖ Sudan has been overwhelmed in a violent conflict between its military and paramilitary forces.
- ❖ The power struggle between Abdel Fattah al-Burhan and General Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo led to the conflict.
- ❖ Abdel is Sudan's military ruler and head of the army.
- ❖ Dagalo, widely known as Hemedti is the country's deputy and head of the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) paramilitary group.
- ❖ During Sudan's Darfur conflict in the early 2000s, he was the leader of Sudan's notorious Janjaweed forces.
- ❖ The Janjaweed militias were first armed and organized in the early 1980s by the Sudanese government.
- ❖ Their main purpose was to help the government expand its influence in neighboring civil-war-torn Chad.

- ❖ Until recently, the two men were allies who worked together to topple ousted Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir in 2019.
- ❖ Also, played a pivotal role in the military coup in 2021.



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Oxygen from lunar soil simulant



- ❖ Scientists at NASA have successfully extracted oxygen from simulated lunar soil.
- ❖ Lunar soil refers to the fine-grained material covering the Moon's surface.
- ❖ This was the first time that this extraction has been done in a vacuum environment.

- ❖ It was paving the way for astronauts to one day extract and use resources in a lunar environment.
- ❖ It is called in-situ resource utilisation.

### **Shingrix Vaccine**

- ❖ GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (GSK) announced the launch of its shingles vaccine in India.
- ❖ The vaccine, named Shingrix, is one of the best-selling products of the company.
- ❖ Shingles is a viral infection that causes a painful rash and it can occur anywhere in the body.
- ❖ This is caused by the varicella-zoster virus.
- ❖ Shingrix is the world's first non-live, recombinant subunit vaccine that is given intramuscularly in two doses.



## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **W12+ Blueprint**

- ❖ The United Nations 2023 Water Conference held in New York.
- ❖ It was the first such meeting on water after 46 years.
- ❖ The last U.N. Water Conference was held in 1977.
- ❖ The W12+ Blueprint committed knowledge sharing for water security challenges at Un Water Conference 2023.
- ❖ It is an online information tool for urban water solutions.
- ❖ This is one of the W12+ programs for urban water challenges.
- ❖ It aims to create a tool that provides insight on how to address common urban water challenges through easy-to-read case studies.
- ❖ Bengaluru and Chennai are the two cities from India are listed in this Blueprint.

- ❖ It is a UNESCO platform that hosts city profiles.

# W2+ Blueprint



Holistic  
People Before Profit  
Ecologically Sensible

The Blueprint is an online knowledge sharing platform for holistic, people-oriented, and ecologically sensible water solutions. Discover the Blueprint you need today.

W2+ Programs

W2+

## HydroSOS

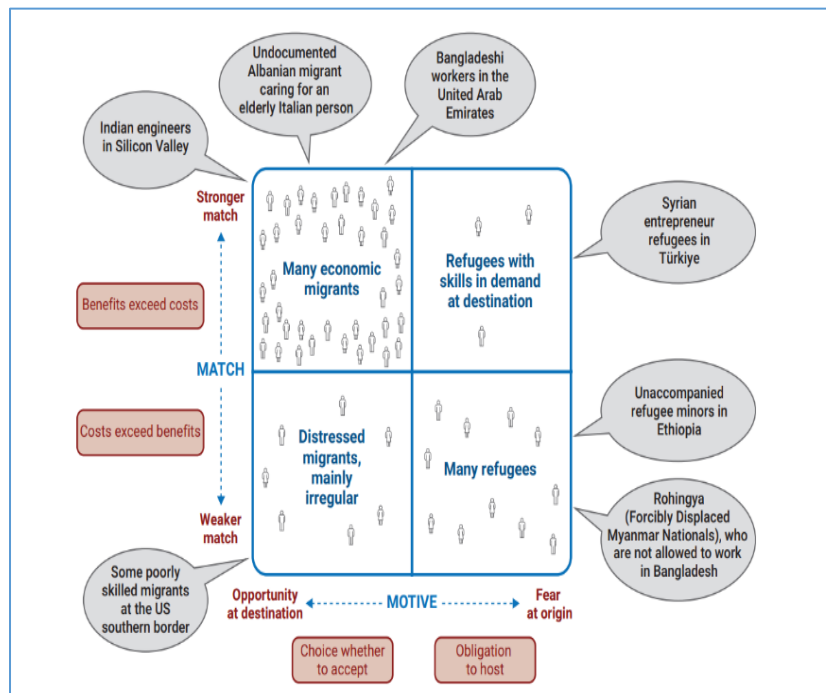


- ❖ The World Meteorological Organisation's Hydrological Status and Outlook System (HydroSOS) offered data analysis tools for simulations.

- ❖ It aims to provide an operational system capable of assessing the current hydrological status and its likely near-future outlook for all areas of the globe.
- ❖ HydroSOS integrates hydrological status assessments and outlooks from, and for National Hydrological Services (NHS).
- ❖ The system offers simple, accessible hydrological information to users such as government bodies, UN bodies, aid agencies, and the general public.

## REPORTS AND INDICES

### World Development Report 2023: Migrants, Refugees, and Societies



- ❖ The World Bank released a report titled “World Development Report 2023: Migrants, Refugees, and Societies”.
- ❖ It proposes policies for better migration management in destination, transit and origin countries, underscoring its urgency.
- ❖ The report discussed the migration trade-offs using a “Match-Motive Framework”.
- ❖ The “match” aspect is grounded in labour economics and focuses on how well migrants’ skills and related attributes match the needs of the destination countries.
- ❖ The term “motive” refers to the circumstances under which a person moves in search of opportunity.

- ❖ Spain, has a population of 47 million, is projected to shrink by more than one-third by 2100.
- ❖ Countries like Mexico, Thailand, Tunisia and Türkiye may soon need more foreign workers because their population is no longer growing.
- ❖ About 184 million people worldwide, including 37 million refugees, lack citizenship in the country in which they live.

## STATES

### New wildlife conservation reserves in Rajasthan

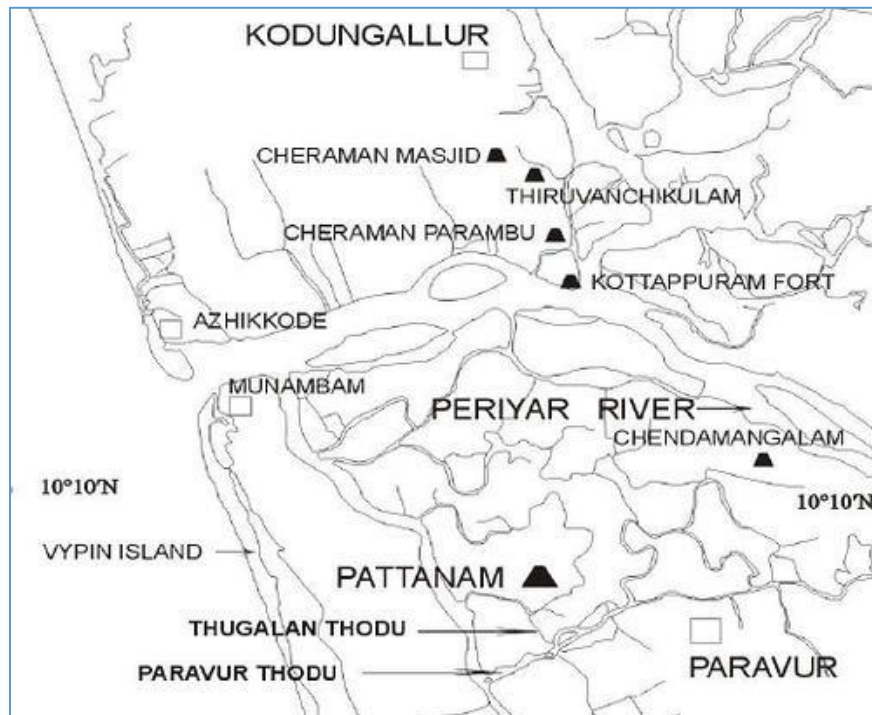


- ❖ Rajasthan's Forest Department announced three new conservation reserves that will protect the rare and endangered wildlife of Rajasthan.
- ❖ These three new wildlife conservation reserves are Sorsan in Baran, Khichan in Jodhpur, and Hamirgarh in Bhilwara.
- ❖ The grasslands of Sorsan in Baran will be a safe home for the Great Indian Bustard.
- ❖ Khichan in Jodhpur, hosts thousands of migratory Demoiselle cranes.

- ❖ Khichan is also India's first conservation reserve for Demoiselle cranes.
- ❖ With these three new additions, now there are 26 wildlife conservation reserves

## MISCELLANEOUS

### The Pattanam mystery



- ❖ The archaeological site of Pattanam is located on the South-western coast in Kerala's Ernakulam district.
- ❖ It is believed by historians to be part of the ancient port city of the Muziris.
- ❖ Ancient Muziris played a key role in trade and cultural exchanges between India and the Middle East, North Africa and the Mediterranean regions.
- ❖ The excavations suggest that the site was first occupied by the indigenous and 'Megalithic' (Iron Age) people.
- ❖ They are followed by the Roman contact in the early historic period.
- ❖ It appears that the site was continuously occupied at least from the 2nd century BC to the 10<sup>th</sup> century AD.
- ❖ The mitochondrial DNA of 12 ancient skeletal samples shows the presence of both South Asian and West Eurasian-specific lineages.
- ❖ The Pattanam excavations have unearthed over 45 lakh sherds (ceramic fragments).



- ❖ This includes approximately 1.4 lakh belonging to the littoral regions of the Mediterranean, the River Nile, the Red Sea, the western and eastern Indian Oceans, and the South China Sea.
- ❖ Recent findings include the seal of a sphinx, native to the ancient Greek city of Thebes.
- ❖ There is no evidence that institutionalised religion existed in ancient Pattanam till date.
- ❖ This iron-age and post-iron-age site was also absence of sophisticated weaponry.

