

May - 07

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Karaikudi R. Mani, who dominated the Carnatic music world for more than half a century as a mridangam player passed away recently in Chennai.
- ❖ The NAMO Medical Education and Research Institute was recently inaugurated in Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli.
- ❖ The Indian Army inducted its first batch of “Five Women Officers” into the Regiment of Artillery in the process of expanding woman's role in the armed forces.
- ❖ Renowned physicist and Director of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) Ajit Kumar Mohanty has been appointed as the chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.
- ❖ Russia's Sberbank has launched its own generative artificial intelligence tool, GigaChat, to rival Microsoft-backed ChatGPT and Google's Bard.

## TAMIL NADU

### 'Namma Ooru Superu' campaign



- ❖ The Kallakurichi district administration has rolled out 'Namma Ooru Superu' initiative.
- ❖ It aims to ensure better sanitary conditions and cleanliness in the rural and urban areas of the district.

- ❖ The campaign would focus on creating awareness of drinking water, sanitation and solid waste management.

## **NATIONAL**

### **Command Cyber Operations and Support Wings**

#### **Indian Army: Army decides to operate command cyber operations-support wings**

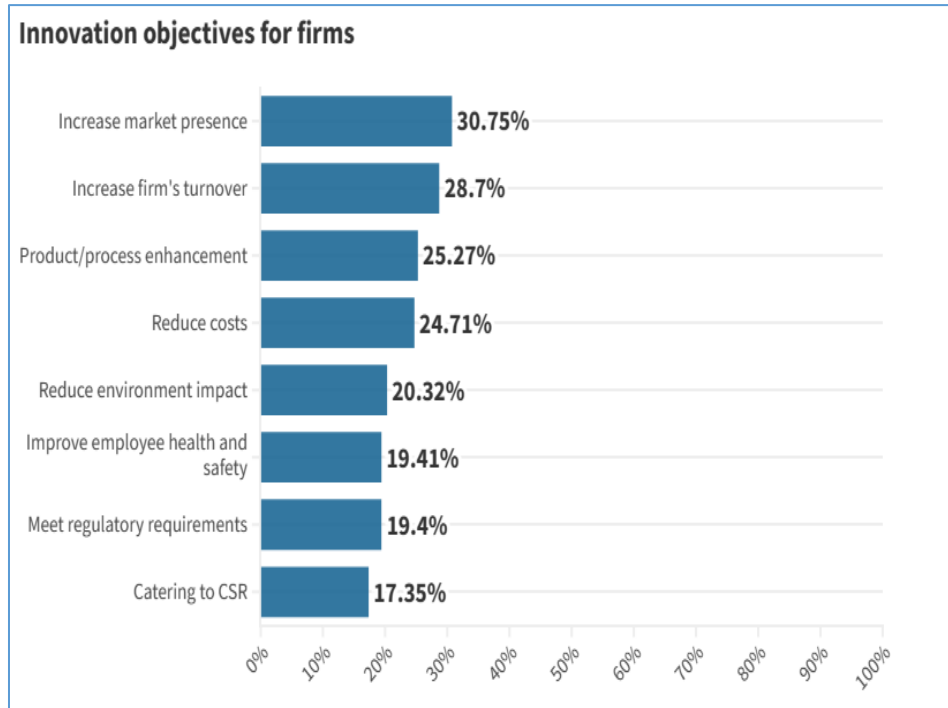


- ❖ The Army Commanders Conference (ACC) had decided to operationalise the Command Cyber Operations and Support Wings (CCOSWs) in the immediate future.
- ❖ The expansion of cyber warfare capabilities by our adversaries has made the cyber domain more competitive and contested than ever before.
- ❖ These organisations will assist the formations to undertake the mandated cyber security functions to strengthen the cyber security posture of the Army.

### **National Manufacturing Innovation Survey**

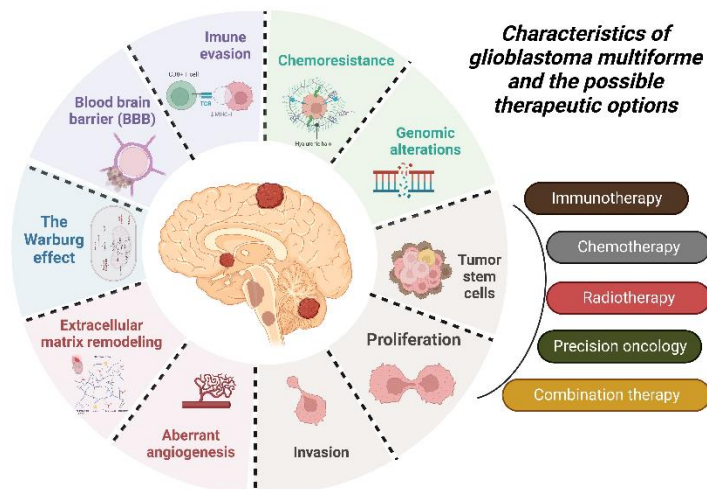
- ❖ It is a joint study by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).
- ❖ Karnataka was chosen as overall and the most “innovative” State.
- ❖ It is followed by Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu (DNH&DD), Telangana, and Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Telangana, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu had the highest share of innovative firms at 46.18% ,39.10% and 31.90%, respectively.

- ❖ Odisha, Bihar, and Jharkhand reporting the lowest share of such firms at 12.78%, 13.47% and 13.71%, respectively.



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Tool to detect glioblastoma



- ❖ Researchers at the IIT- Madras have developed a machine learning-based computational tool to detect malignant tumours in the brain and spinal cord.
- ❖ It is called glioblastoma multiform drivers (GBMDriver).

- ❖ Glioblastoma is a fast and aggressively growing tumour with limited therapeutic options.
- ❖ This has a survival rate of less than two years from the time of initial diagnosis.

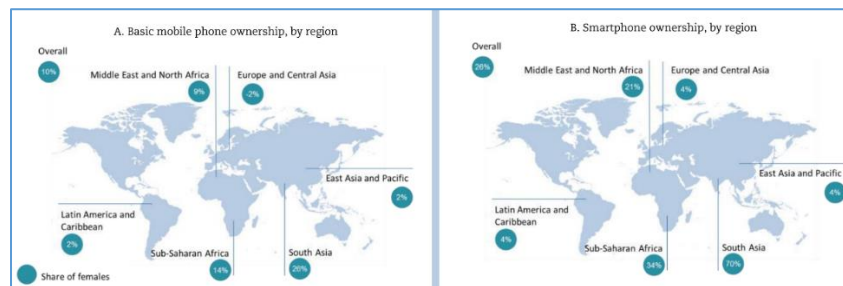
### **Arexvy vaccine**

- ❖ The US Food and Drug Administration has approved the first vaccine for respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) for people aged 60 and over.
- ❖ It becomes the world's first RSV immunization for adults.
- ❖ RSV is a "highly contagious" virus that causes infections of the lungs and breathing passages.



## **REPORTS AND INDICES**

### **Bridging the gender digital divide**



- ❖ As per the UNICEF report, worldwide roughly 327 million fewer women than men have a smartphone and can access mobile Internet.
- ❖ Women are on average 26% less likely than men to have a smartphone.
- ❖ In South Asia and Africa these proportions stand at 70% and 34%, respectively.

- ❖ The global digital gender divide in Internet usage remained almost unchanged between 2013 and 2017, at about 11%.
- ❖ At 15 years of age, on average across OECD countries, only 0.5% of girls wish to become ICT professionals, compared to 5% of boys.
- ❖ More women than men completed tertiary education in 2015.
- ❖ Only 24% of graduates in engineering, manufacturing and construction were women; the share in ICTs was just 25%.
- ❖ By 2020, India's online user base is estimated to increase from around 120 million in 2015 to more than 300 million.

### World Press Freedom Index 2023

| POS. | COUNTRIES   | GLOBAL SCORE | SCORE POL. | SCORE ECO. |
|------|-------------|--------------|------------|------------|
| 1    | Norway      | 95.18        | 96.54      | 92.46      |
| 2    | Ireland     | 89.91        | 93.91      | 82.11      |
| 3    | Denmark     | 89.48        | 91.95      | 85.17      |
| 4    | Sweden      | 88.15        | 92.58      | 86.08      |
| 5    | Finland     | 87.94        | 91.55      | 83.8       |
| 6    | Netherlands | 87           | 88.93      | 89.08      |
| 7    | Lithuania   | 86.79        | 88         | 77.65      |
| 8    | Estonia     | 85.31        | 85.36      | 76.75      |
| 9    | Portugal    | 84.6         | 86.32      | 71.02      |
| 10   | Timor-Leste | 84.49        | 81.88      | 74.51      |

- ❖ This report was released by global media watchdog Reporters Without Borders (RSF).
- ❖ India is ranked at 161<sup>st</sup> out of 180 countries in the 2023 Index.
- ❖ Pakistan has fared better when it comes to media freedom as it was placed at 150.
- ❖ In 2022, India was ranked at 150.
- ❖ Sri Lanka made significant improvement on the index, ranking 135th this year as against 146th in 2022
- ❖ Norway, Ireland and Denmark occupied the top three positions in the index.
- ❖ Vietnam, China and North Korea constituted the bottom three.

### Annual Report on Religious Freedom 2023

- ❖ United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) released this report.



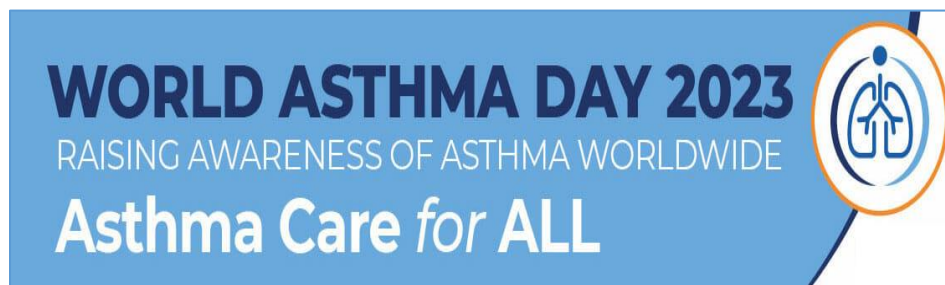
- ❖ USCIRF said it had recommended the re-designation of 12 countries as Country of Particular Concern (CPCs), including Iran and Pakistan.
- ❖ Besides, it recommended five additional CPCs status for Afghanistan, Nigeria, Syria, Vietnam and India.
- ❖ For the first time, USCIRF has proposed to include Sri Lanka in the “special watch list” or SWL.
- ❖ The report stated that conditions for religious freedom in India “continued to worsen” in 2022.



## IMPORTANT DAYS

### World Asthma Day - May 02

- ❖ Every year, this day is observed on the first Tuesday of May.
- ❖ It aims to raise awareness and promote better asthma management and care worldwide.
- ❖ This day is organized by the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA).
- ❖ The theme of 2023 is ‘Asthma Care for All’.



### World Press Freedom Day - May 03

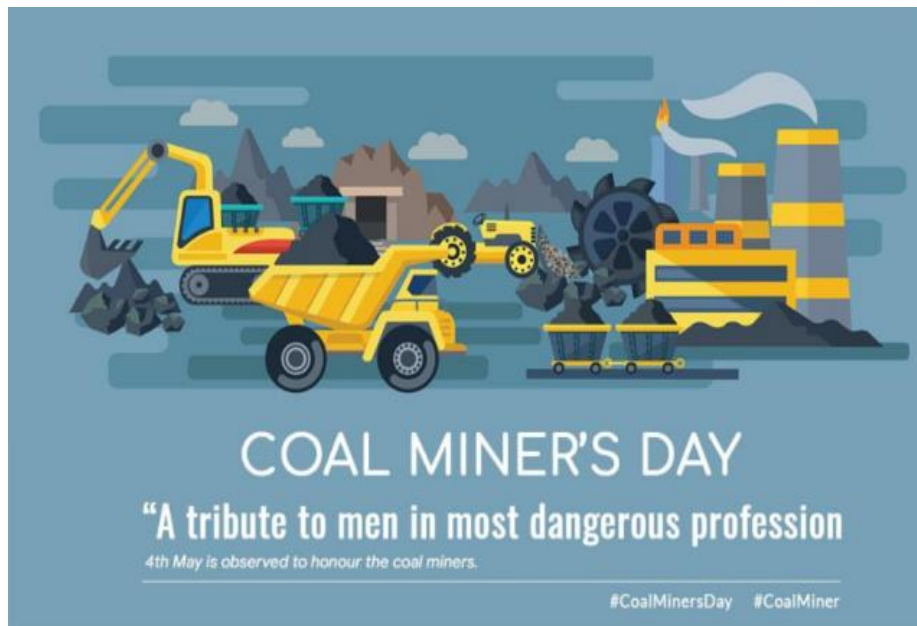
- ❖ The day symbolizes the importance of press freedom and its role in the smooth and effective functioning of society.



- ❖ World Press Freedom Day 2023 marks the 30th anniversary of this day.
- ❖ It was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in December 1993.
- ❖ Theme for 2023 is "Shaping a Future of Rights: Freedom of Expression as a Driver for all other human rights."



### **Coal Miners Day - May 04**



- ❖ This day aims to recognize and honour the tireless efforts and significant contribution of coal miners in extracting coal.
- ❖ Coal mining is a hazardous and strenuous task that involves digging, tunnelling, and extracting it from deep within the earth's crust.

- ❖ The first coal mine was opened in Scotland in 1575.
- ❖ India's first coal mine was established much later in 1774.

### **International Firefighters Day - May 04**

- ❖ This day aims to pay tribute to the brave firefighters who put their lives on the line to keep our communities safe.
- ❖ This Day was established in 1999 to honour the sacrifices and bravery of firefighters worldwide.
- ❖ The tragic loss of five Australian firefighters in a wildfire served as the inspiration for this annual commemoration.

