



May - 14

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres honoured Indian UN Peacekeeping officer Yuvraj Singh during the UN annual Memorial Service 2021.
 - He died in line of duty in 2020.
- ❖ Delhi Police has launched a helpline number for senior citizens who are struggling with their essential needs amid Covid-19.
 - South District Police of the national capital has launched a COVI Van Helpline (012- 26241077) for senior citizens.
- ❖ Padmakumar Madhavan Nair of State Bank of India has been appointed as the CEO of Bad Bank.
 - The Bad Bank is a proposed entity of the National Asset Reconstruction Company (NARC).
- ❖ The President of Nepal Bidhya Devi Bhandari recently prorogued the Parliament after the Prime Minister Oli lost vote of confidence.
 - Proroguing is to discontinue a session of parliament or legislative assembly.

NATIONAL

Digitally Inclusive Bharat

- ❖ NITI Aayog and Mastercard released a report titled 'Connected Commerce: Creating a Roadmap for a Digitally Inclusive Bharat'.
- ❖ The report identifies challenges in accelerating digital financial inclusion in India.
- ❖ It provides recommendations for making digital services accessible to its 1.3 billion citizens.



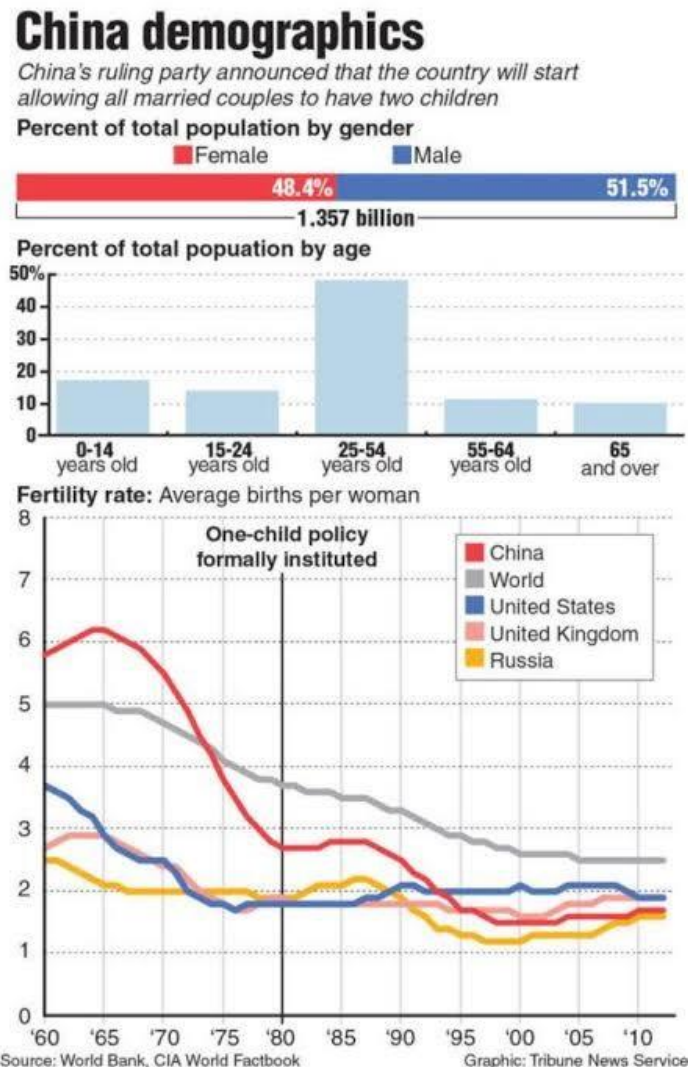


Key recommendations

- ❖ Strengthening the payment infrastructure to promote a level playing field for NBFCs and banks.
- ❖ Digitizing registration and compliance processes and diversifying credit sources to enable growth opportunities for MSMEs.
- ❖ Building information sharing systems and ensuring that online digital commerce platforms carry warnings to alert consumers to the risk of frauds.
- ❖ Enabling agricultural NBFCs to access low-cost capital and deploy a 'phygital' (physical + digital) model for achieving better long-term digital outcomes.

INTERNATIONAL

Population growth of China





- ❖ The annual population of China has slowed during the decade.
- ❖ This has put the demographic dividend of the country at risk.
- ❖ The annual population growth of China was at 0.53% in 2020 census.
- ❖ It was 0.57% in 2010 census.

Covid-19 Line on Everest

- ❖ To prevent coronavirus transmission at the summit of Mount Everest, China is planning to erect a “line of separation” at the top.
- ❖ This line would prevent any contact between mountaineers from both sides of the peak i.e. Nepal and China.
- ❖ In Nepal, a wave of the pandemic is currently surging.
- ❖ But in China, the pandemic is largely suppressed.

ECONOMY

Green Urja Award

- ❖ Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd (IREDA) has been conferred with the “Green Urja Award” by the Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC).
- ❖ This award is given for being the Leading Public Institution in the Financing Institution for Renewable Energy this year.
- ❖ IREDA gets the award for the pivotal and developmental role it plays in Green Energy Financing.
- ❖ The award recognises our immense contribution to the development of the Renewable Energy Sector in line with the Hon’ble Prime Minister’s vision of Atma Nirbhar Bharat.

‘I choose my number’ feature

- ❖ Jana Small Finance Bank has announced the launch of the “I choose my number” feature for all its customers across India.
- ❖ The bank will allow its customers to choose their favourite numbers as the last 10 digits of their bank account, savings or current.
- ❖ The allocation of the account number chosen by the customer will be subject to the availability of the requested number.

Jana Small Finance Bank

- ❖ It was founded on 24 July 2006.

- ❖ Its headquarters is at Bengaluru.
- ❖ The tagline of Jana Small Finance Bank is 'Paise Ki Kadar'



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Mission Ax-1

- ❖ The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) recently signed an agreement with Axiom Space.
- ❖ Under the agreement, Axiom is to send its astronauts to International Space Station.
- ❖ This is the first private astronaut mission to the space station.
- ❖ The mission has been named as Ax-1.
- ❖ The Axiom astronauts will spend eight days in the space station.

ENVIRONMENT

2021 Renewable Energy Market Update

- ❖ The International Energy Agency recently released the "2021 Renewable Energy Market Update".
- ❖ The Agency has increased its forecast for the global growth of solar energy and wind energy by 25%.
- ❖ The report reveals that 280 GW of the renewable energy was installed in 2020.
- ❖ This is 45% increase as compared to that of 2019.
- ❖ This increase is the highest in last three decades.
- ❖ The wind power increased by 90% and the solar power (Photo Voltaic) increased by 50%.



- ❖ The Biofuel demand in 2020 decreased.

STATES

Mission Hausla

- ❖ The Uttarakhand Police has launched a drive called "Mission Hausla".
- ❖ This mission is to help people get oxygen, beds and plasma for COVID-19 patients.
- ❖ The police are also helping the public in getting ration, ambulance, cremation of bodies as part of the mission.

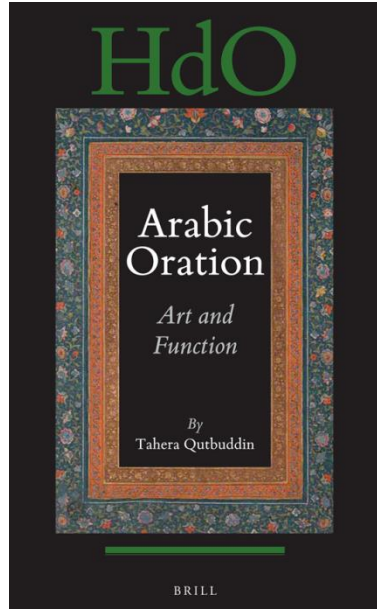
Monkey Census - Haryana

- ❖ The Wildlife Institute of India recently conducted a "Monkey Census" in the state of Haryana.
- ❖ The "Monkey Census" was a part of the "Wildlife Census of Haryana-2021".
- ❖ The unique feature of the "Monkey Census" is that the Wildlife Institute of India invited the local people to participate in the census.
- ❖ Around 600 people spotted 6,000 monkeys in three days.
- ❖ The Census for the first time was conducted using a mobile application called "Wildlife Census Haryana".
- ❖ The mobile app was designed by Wildlife Institute of India.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

15th Sheikh Zayed Book Award

- ❖ Mumbai born, Dr Tahera Qutbuddin is a professor of Arabic Literature at the University of Chicago.
- ❖ She became the first person of Indian-origin to win the 15th Sheikh Zayed Book Award.
- ❖ The award is considered to be the Nobel Prize of the Arab world.
- ❖ She won the award for her latest book, "Arabic Oration – Art and Function"
- ❖ It was published by Brill Academic Publishers of Leiden in 2019.



IMPORTANT DAYS

International Nurses Day - May 12



- ❖ International Nurses Day is observed every year to honour nurses.
- ❖ The celebration of International Nurses Day started in 1965 by the International Council of Nurses (ICN).
- ❖ This day is the birth anniversary of the famous Florence Nightingale.
- ❖ She was an English nurse, social reformer, and statistician.
- ❖ The theme for this year is 'A Voice to Lead-A Vision for Future Healthcare'.

