

May - 14

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Assembly brought a Bill to empower the State government to appoint the Vice-Chancellor to a State university - Tamil Nadu Agricultural University.
- ❖ In Cyprus International Athletics Meeting 2022, India's Jyothi Yarraji smashed the national record to clinch a gold medal in the women's 100m hurdles.
- ❖ The 12th edition of the IBA Women's World Boxing Championships was kick-started in Istanbul, Turkey.

NATIONAL

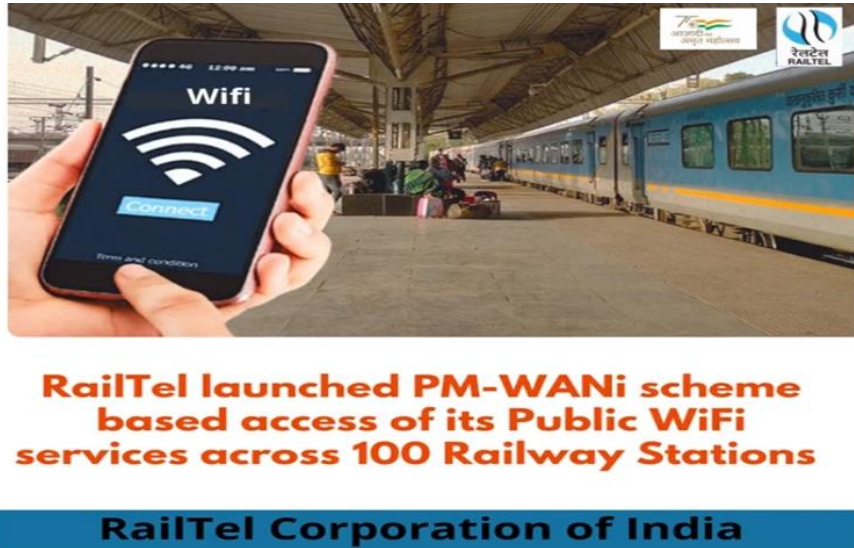
Gallantry and other Defense decorations



- ❖ President of India, conferred 13 Shaurya Chakras for their conspicuous courage displayed during operations.
- ❖ It included six posthumous to the personnel of the Indian Armed forces.
- ❖ Army Chief General Manoj Pande was conferred with the Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM) for his distinguished service of exceptional order at a defence investiture ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhawan.

- ❖ The President also conferred 14 PVSM, four Uttam Yudh Seva Medals (UYSM) and 24 Ati Vishisht Seva Medals (AVSM) for distinguished service of an exceptional order.

Wi-Fi at 100 Railway Stations



- ❖ RailTel launched the Prime Minister Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI) scheme.
- ❖ It aims to providing access to its Public WiFi services across 100 train stations in 22 states.
- ❖ PM-WANI is a Department of Telecom (DoT) initiative to connect all silo Wi-Fi networks for simplicity of use and to increase broadband adoption among the general public.

Baby berth BY Northern Railway



- ❖ Indian Railways has added a 'baby berth' to their trains.
- ❖ The unusual setup would allow women to travel by train while sleeping peacefully next to their children.
- ❖ On Mother's Day, the Lucknow Division of Northern Railways experimented with a baby berth in coach No.194129/B4, berths 12 and 60.

Local body polls every five years



STRENGTHENING LOCAL GOVERNANCE

- > Define and demarcate powers of bureaucrats such as corporation commissioners and elected representatives to eliminate collisions 
- > Facilitate seamless interaction between elected representatives and parastatals to make role of elected representatives meaningful
- > Ensure adequate flow of funds to urban local bodies
- > Arrange for frequent capacity building workshops for elected representatives
- > Establish ward committees to ensure greater participation of citizens 
- > Ensure integration of technology that will give greater transparency to functioning of elected representative such as creation of a web page and dissemination of e-mail ids of the elected representatives for easier communication

- ❖ The Supreme Court has declared that polls in each state must be conducted before expiry of the five years' term as per the constitutional mandate.
- ❖ The Court ordered initiation of poll process of over 23,000 local bodies in Madhya Pradesh which has been due since 2019.
- ❖ The Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies, are provided with a five-year term of office at every level as per 73rd & 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts.

Events of national importance

- ❖ The Information and Broadcasting Ministry has notified several sporting events as that of national importance.



- ❖ This is declared under the Sports Broadcasting Signals (Mandatory Sharing with Prasar Bharati) Act.
- ❖ The notification, which supersedes the earlier one issued in March 2021.
- ❖ 2021 notification has declared all Olympics Games, Commonwealth Games and Asian Games as events of national importance.

AIR PRIME Playbook



- ❖ AIM-PRIME Playbook was launched by NITI Aayog.
- ❖ Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) is the Government of India's flagship initiative to promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in the country.
- ❖ PRIME stands for Program for Researchers in Innovation, Market Readiness, and Entrepreneurship.
- ❖ The playbook was aimed at promoting early-stage science-based, deep technology ideas to market through training and guidance over a period of 12 months using a blended learning curriculum.

INTERNATIONAL

Yellow Brick Road at pacific



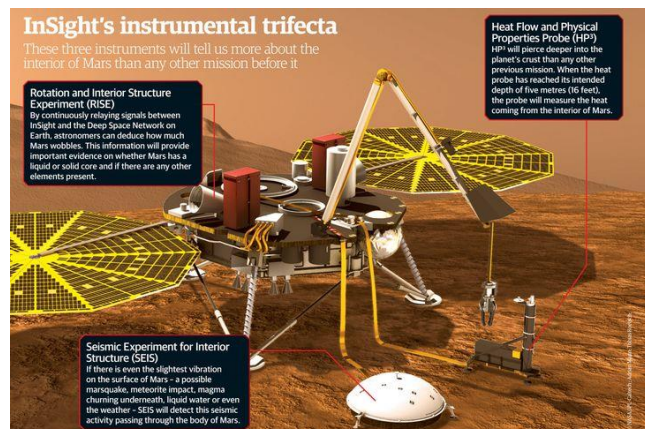
- ❖ A yellow brick road-like structure has been discovered at the bottom of the Pacific Ocean by a team of marine experts.
- ❖ The lake bed where the Yellow Brick Road was discovered looked dry despite being located under about thousands of metres of ocean.
- ❖ The yellow brick road is actually an example of ancient active volcanic geology.
- ❖ It may be a volcanic rock formed in high-energy eruptions where many rock fragments settle to the seabed.

1st Asian country join NATO Cyber Defense Group

- ❖ South Korea became the first Asian country join in North Atlantic Treaty Organization Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence.
- ❖ South Korea's National Intelligence Service is joined as a contributing participant in the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence.
- ❖ Now, the total NATO CCDCOE has 32 countries as its official members.
- ❖ It includes 27 NATO member countries and 5 five non-NATO states as contributing participants.
- ❖ South Korea has participated in the Locked Shields 2022, the largest and most complex annual international live-fire cyber defence exercise in the world.
- ❖ It has been participating two years in a row since 2020.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Marsquake

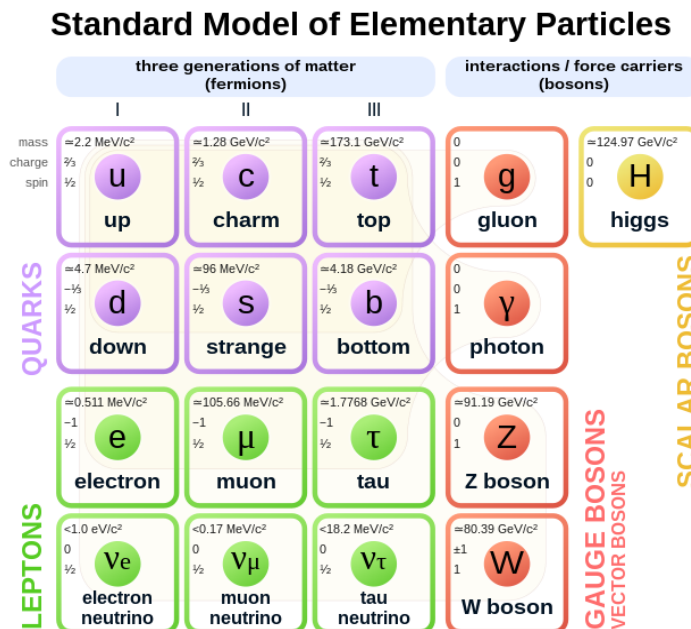


- ❖ NASA has reported that, its InSight Mars lander detected the largest quake ever observed on another planet.
- ❖ The rover first landed on Mars in November 2018.

- ❖ And has since heard 1,313 quakes.
- ❖ On Earth, quakes are caused by shifts in tectonic plates.
- ❖ Mars, however, does not have tectonic plates, and its crust is a giant plate.
- ❖ Therefore, 'marsquakes' are caused due to stresses that cause rock fractures or faults in its crust.

W boson

- ❖ Scientists re-measured the mass of the "W boson" particle.
- ❖ They found that it weighs more than the Standard Model suggests it should.
- ❖ The new measurement is the most accurate measurement ever of the W boson's mass.
- ❖ The new measurement suggests that the Standard Model is incomplete.



ENVIRONMENT

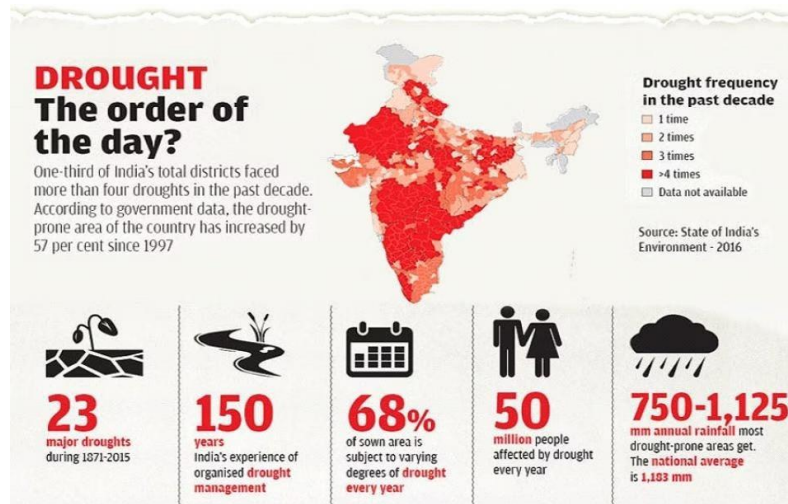
UNCCD COP15

- ❖ India addressed the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP15) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in Cote d'Ivoire (Western Africa).

- ❖ COP 15 is a key moment in the fight against desertification, land degradation and drought.
- ❖ Theme: 'Land. Life. Legacy: From scarcity to prosperity'.
- ❖ The Delhi Declaration of 2019, signed by 14th CoP of the UNCCD.
- ❖ UNCCD was established in 1994.



The Drought in Numbers 2022 – Report



- ❖ The Drought in Numbers, 2022 report was released at the ongoing 15th Conference of Parties (CoP15) to UNCCD.
- ❖ The latest assessment analysed droughts and impacts on life and livelihood over 122 years covering 196 countries.
- ❖ Since 2000, there has been a 29 per cent increase in frequency and duration of droughts in the world.
- ❖ Geographically, India's drought vulnerability compares with that of sub-Saharan Africa.
- ❖ The effect of severe droughts was estimated to have reduced India's gross domestic product by 2-5 per cent over the 20 years from 1998-2017.

