

November - 23

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The United States has extended the authorization of the Moderna and Pfizer COVID vaccine booster doses for all adults aged 18 years and older.
- ❖ The Prime Minister Modi formally handed over the HAL's Light Combat helicopter to the Indian Air Force.
  - It is an Indian multi-role attack helicopter designed and manufactured by the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- ❖ The Central Government and Asian Development Bank (ADB) have signed a pact to fund development projects in Agartala, Tripura.
- ❖ Taliban welcomed India's meet on Afghanistan.
  - The Delhi dialogue assured world that Afghan soil not being used against anyone.
- ❖ The defence minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the first operationalised private sector defence manufacturing facility in the Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor (UPDIC) in Lucknow.
- ❖ India's first Assembly Session for children was held in Jaipur, Rajasthan to mark the National Children's Day on November 14.
  - The Rajasthan legislative assembly will be the first such assembly in the country to organise a session for children.
- ❖ Kannada film star Puneeth Rajkumar will be conferred with the 'Karnataka Ratna Award', the state's highest civilian honour, posthumously.
- ❖ The Spanish-German Actor Daniel Brühl has been named the Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations World Food Programme (UN-WFP).
- ❖ The Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu has released the book 'Srimadramayanam' in Hyderabad.
  - It has been written by Sasikiranacharya.
- ❖ The South African cricketer AB de Villiers announced his retirement from all forms of cricket.

## TAMIL NADU

### FinTech Governing Council

- ❖ The Government of Tamil Nadu has constituted a FinTech Governing Council in a bid to become a global fintech hub.

- ❖ It was set up under the chairmanship of Industries Minister Thangam Thennarasu.
- ❖ Announcement to set up this Council was made in the backdrop of launch of the fintech policy at Investment Conclave.
- ❖ Investment conclave is held in Coimbatore on November 23, 2021.
- ❖ It was presided over by Chief Minister MK Stalin.
- ❖ The Government has already started the implementation of a fintech city in Chennai.

**Guidance** TamilNadu

IN THE PURSUIT TOWARDS BECOMING THE GLOBAL FINTECH HUB  
**GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU CONSTITUTES FINTECH GOVERNING COUNCIL**

**MEMBERS**

 <b>Thiru. Thangam Thennarasu</b> Hon'ble Minister for Industries <b>Chairman</b>	 <b>Thiru. V. Irai Anbu IAS</b> Chief Secretary to Government <b>Vice - Chairman</b>	 <b>Thiru. S. Krishnan IAS</b> Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Industries Department	 <b>Thiru. N. Muruganandam IAS</b> Principal Secretary to Government, Finance Department	 <b>Dr. Neeraj Mittal IAS</b> Principal Secretary to Government, Information & Technology Department	 <b>Thiru. V. Arun Roy IAS</b> Secretary to Government, MSME Department	
		 <b>Dr. Sanjay Tyagi</b> CEO, Fintech Director, STPI - Chennai	 <b>Tmt. Pooja Kulkarni IAS</b> Managing Director & CEO, Guidance <b>Convenor</b>	 <b>Thiru. Balaji Nuthalapadi</b> MD & Head of Operations, Cit South Asia	 <b>Thiru. Ramesh Ramamoorthy</b> Former CMD, Cognizant India & Past President, MCC	 <b>Thiru. Sundar Kannan</b> Director at a leading Wall Street Investment Banking Corporation <b>FinTech Industry Experts</b>

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## NATIONAL

### National Generic Document Registration System

- ❖ It is a 'One Nation One Software' for registration of documents & properties.
- ❖ It is an in-house advanced software application developed by National Informatics Centre.

### 5G mobile phone

- ❖ Lava International has become the first Indian brand to launch 5G smartphones for domestic consumers.
- ❖ It was launched under the brand name 'Agni' and developed by Lava in India.

- ❖ It is getting manufactured at its plant in Noida, Uttar Pradesh.



### **Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development 2021**

- ❖ Pratham has been awarded this prize.
- ❖ It is given by the Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust.
- ❖ Pratham, an NGO, is dedicated to improving the quality of education for underprivileged children in India and across the world.
- ❖ It was set up in 1995 in Mumbai by Dr Madhav Chavan and Farida Lambay.



### **Swachh Survekshan 2021**

- ❖ The President of India Ram Nath Kovind conferred awards to 342 cleanest cities of India at the 'Swachh Amrit Mahotsav'.



- ❖ It is the part of Swachh Bharat Mission – Urban 2.0 by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs.
- ❖ It has become the world’s largest cleanliness survey by surveying around 4320 cities.
- ❖ Indore has been awarded the ‘Cleanest City’ for the 5th consecutive year in the ‘more than 1 lakh’ population category.
- ❖ It is followed by Surat and Vijayawada on the 2nd and 3rd rank respectively.
- ❖ Varanasi won the ‘Best Ganga Town’ and Ahmedabad Cantonment won ‘India’s Cleanest Cantonment’.
- ❖ Chhattisgarh has been awarded as the ‘Cleanest State’ of India for the 3rd consecutive year in the ‘more than 100 Urban Local Bodies’.
- ❖ Jharkhand won the ‘Cleanest State’ of India for the second time in the ‘less than 100 Urban Local Bodies’ category.
- ❖ Karnataka emerged as the ‘Fastest Mover State’ in the ‘more than 100 Urban Local Bodies’.
- ❖ Mizoram emerged as the ‘Fastest Mover State’ in the ‘less than 100 Urban Local Bodies’.
- ❖ Maharashtra won 92 awards and is followed by Chhattisgarh with 67 awards.
  - Cleanest City: Indore
  - Cleanest Ganga town: Varanasi
  - Cleanest State (with more than 100 urban local bodies): Chhattisgarh
  - Cleanest State (with less than 100 urban local bodies): Jharkhand
  - Cleanest City (with less than one lakh population): Vita city of Maharashtra
  - Cleanest small city (1-3 lakh population): New Delhi Municipal Council
  - Cleanest medium city (3-10 lakh population): Noida
  - Cleanest big city’ (10-40 lakh population): Navi Mumbai
  - Cleanest cantonment board: Ahmedabad cantonment
  - Cleanest District: Surat
  - Fastest Mover small city: Hoshangawad, Madhya Pradesh
  - Best Small City in Citizens’ Feedback: Triputi, Maharashtra
  - Top city in Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge: Navi Mumbai

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **BRICS Innovation Action 2021-24**

- ❖ It has been prepared in India’s leadership.
- ❖ It was agreed by all BRICS countries at the 13th BRICS S&T Committee Meeting hosted by India.



- ❖ It would be one key deliverable of the upcoming BRICS S&T and Innovation Ministerial.
- ❖ It is to be hosted by Department of Science and Technology (DST), India.



### **Glasgow Climate Deal 2021**



- ❖ Big carbon polluting Countries were asked to republish their climate action plans by the end of 2022, with stronger emissions reduction targets for 2030.
- ❖ A pledge in a previous draft to "phase out" coal was instead watered down to a commitment to "phase down" coal.
- ❖ It also included enough financial incentives to almost satisfy poorer nations and solved a long-standing problem to pave the way for carbon trading.
- ❖ The United Nations had set 3 criteria for success, and none of them were achieved.

- ❖ They are,
  - Pledges to cut carbon dioxide emissions in half by 2030
  - \$100 billion in financial aid from rich nations to poor
  - Ensuring that half of that money went to helping the developing world adapt to the worst effects of climate change.

### **World's richest country – China**



- ❖ It is a new report by the research firm McKinsey.
- ❖ China is overtaking the United States for the top spot worldwide in the global wealth.
- ❖ More than two-thirds of the wealth is held by the richest 10% of the households in US and China.
- ❖ Both are the world's biggest economies.
- ❖ The Global wealth has tripled over the last two decades.
- ❖ The world is now wealthier than it has ever been.

### **International Law Commission**

- ❖ Professor Bimal Patel has been elected to the International Law Commission for a five-year term starting January 1, 2023.

- ❖ He is the Vice-Chancellor, Rashtriya Raksha University and Member of National Security Advisory Board of India.
- ❖ He got more number of votes in the Asia-Pacific group that included candidates from China, South Korea and Japan.
- ❖ The International Law Commission was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1947.



### **SITMEX-21**



- ❖ The 3rd edition of the Trilateral Maritime Exercise named SITMEX-21 was hosted by the Royal Thai Navy in the Andaman Sea.
- ❖ The Navies of the India, Singapore and Thailand will participate in the event.

### **Largest Recipient of Remittances**

- ❖ The latest report titled 'World Bank's Remittance Prices Worldwide Database' was released by the World Bank.

- ❖ India became the world's largest recipient of remittances by receiving USD 87 billion in 2021.
- ❖ The United States was its biggest source, accounting for over 20% of these funds.
- ❖ India is followed by China, Mexico, the Philippines, and Egypt.



### Smoking data in World



**Commission Report:**  
**Reignite the Fight  
Against Smoking**

Prepared by  
The International Commission to  
Reignite the Fight Against Smoking

SEPTEMBER 2021

The development of the report was supported by the Foundation for a Smoke-Free World

- ❖ The International Commission to Reignite the Fight Against Smoking report was recently published.
- ❖ The report was prepared using secondary data from sources such as World Bank.
- ❖ China has been ranked first and India has been ranked second in the number of smokers aged between 16 and 64 years.
- ❖ India is among the nations having lowest quit rates for smoking.
- ❖ China and India are home 500 million tobacco users aged between 16 and 64 years.



## The Sydney Dialogue

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has delivered the keynote address at the Sydney Dialogue.
- ❖ He addressed the event on the theme 'India's technology evolution and revolution'.
- ❖ It has been organised by the Australian Strategic Policy Institute.
- ❖ It is an annual summit of cyber and critical technologies to discuss the fallout of the digital domain.



## 2021 TRACE global Bribery Risk Ranking

### COUNTRY'S POSITION IMPROVED SINCE 2014

Year	Rank
2014	185
2016	178
2017	88
2018	86
2019	78
2020	77
2021	82

**BETTER PLACED**

India is much better placed among its neighbours when it comes to bribery risk with Pakistan ranked 150th; Bangladesh 167th, Nepal 112nd; Sri Lanka 92nd and Afghanistan 174th

- ❖ India has slipped to 82nd position (drop by 5 slots from 2020) in this ranking.
- ❖ Denmark has topped the rankings.
- ❖ It was released by TRACE International.
- ❖ It measures business bribery risk in 194 countries.

## ECONOMY

### Global Services Conclave 2021

- ❖ The union minister Piyush Goyal said that India is poised to achieve the Services Export target of \$1 trillion by 2030.
- ❖ He was terming the 'Services' sector as the key driver of India's economic growth.
- ❖ Services sector provides employment to nearly 2.6 crore people and contributes approximately 40 per cent to India's total global exports.
- ❖ The services trade surplus was USD 89 billion in 2020-21 and it has been the largest FDI recipient.
- ❖ The theme of this conclave held at Delhi was 'India Serves: Exploring Potential Growth Sectors Beyond IT/ITes'.



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

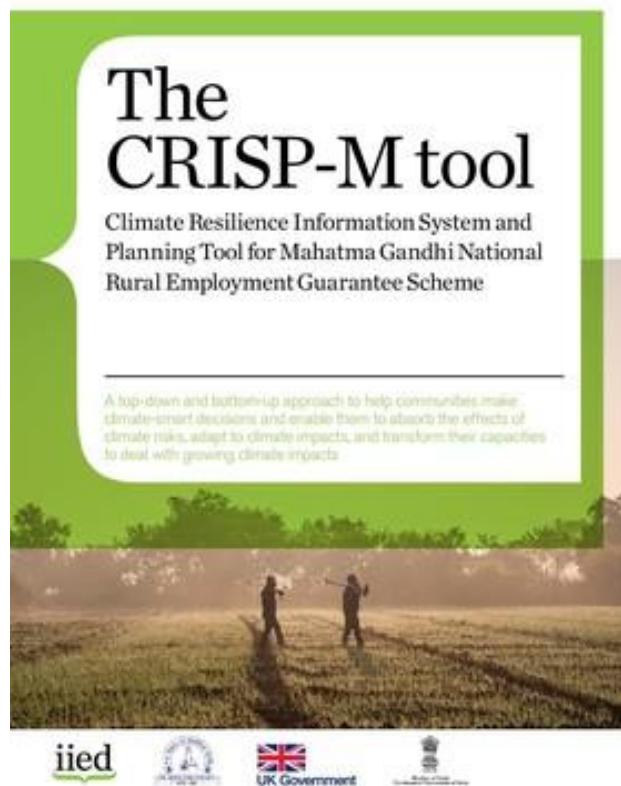
### Spirofy



- ❖ It is India's first pneumotach based portable, wireless Spirometer.
- ❖ It was launched by Cipla.
- ❖ It intends to revolutionize Obstructive Airway Disease (OAD) diagnosis.

- ❖ Spirometry is the gold standard for Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) diagnosis.
- ❖ Currently, the COPD remains the 2nd most common cause of death in India after heart diseases.
- ❖ India alone bears 32% of the global COPD burden.

### **CRISP-M for MGNREGA**



- ❖ Ministry of Rural Development reaches an important milestone with the completion of Geographical Information System (GIS) plans for around 75% Gram Panchayats (GPs) under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA.
- ❖ This tool was developed jointly by the Ministry of Rural Development and the British Government.
- ❖ CRISP-M will enable the local communities to understand the impact of changing climate in terms of various geophysical parameters
- ❖ Climate Resilience Information System and Planning (CRISP-M) tool will integrate this GIS-based planning data with the climate data.

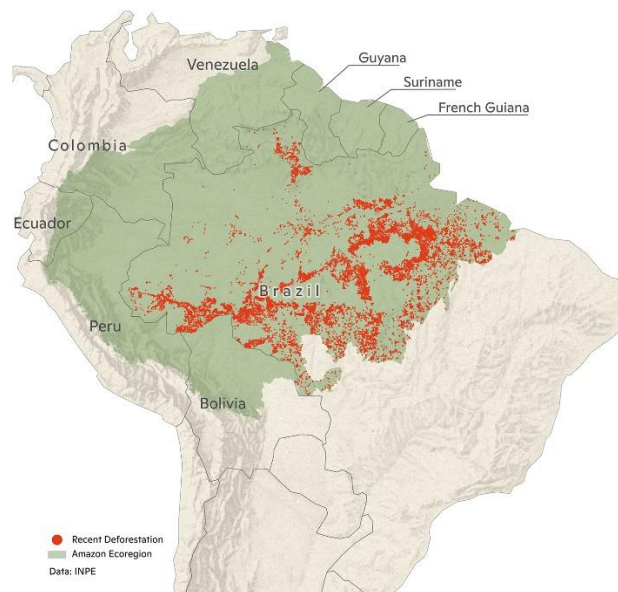
## ENVIRONMENT

### Deocha Pachami Harinsingha Dewanganj



- ❖ It is the world's second-largest coal block located in Birbhum district of West Bengal.
- ❖ West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee announced a compensation package of ₹10,000 crore for the ones who would get displaced or affected by this project.

### Amazon Deforestation



- ❖ As per the recent data, the area deforested in Amazon Forest of Brazil has reached a 15-year high.
- ❖ Amazon rainforest is a moist broadleaf tropical rainforest, located in Amazon biome.



- ❖ Amazon represents more than half of Earth's remaining rainforests.
- ❖ Main causes of deforestation in the Amazon are human settlement and development of the land.
- ❖ Forest fires are another reason of deforestation.

### **Cryptocarya Muthuvariana**

- ❖ It is a new plant species from the forest area of Idukki, where Muthuvar tribal community resides
- ❖ These species of the tree belong to genus Cryptocarya.
- ❖ Muthuvan people were loyal subjects of Madurai dynasty.



## **PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS**

### **Siren Award**



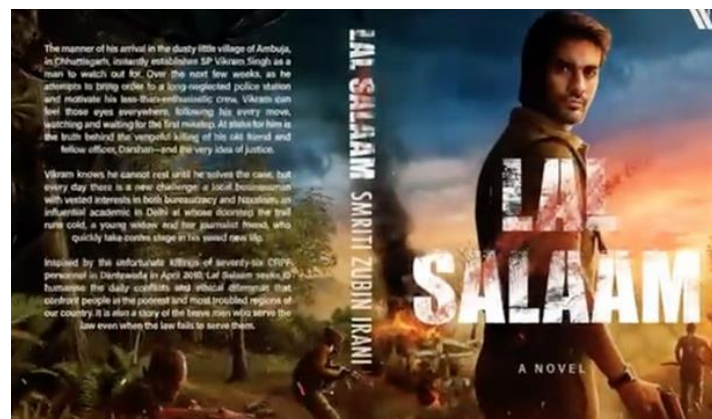
- ❖ The Hindu has been awarded the Project SIREN Award for Newspapers 2021.
- ❖ It was given for its responsible reporting on suicide between June 2020 and June 2021.
- ❖ Project SIREN is an initiative of the India Mental Health Observatory (IMHO) under the Centre for Mental Health Law and Policy (CMHLP).

## Indian Film Personality of the Year award 2021

- ❖ Actor and BJP leader Hema Malini, and lyricist and former CBFC chief Praseon Joshi will be facilitated with the Indian Film Personality of the Year award.
- ❖ It will be given at the 52nd International Film Festival of India 2021, India's largest festival, at Goa.
- ❖ This year it will honour Hollywood stalwart Martin Scorsese and Hungarian filmmaker Istevan Szabo with the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement award.



## Lal Salam



- ❖ The Union Minister of Women and Child Development, Smriti Zubin Irani is set to release her first novel titled “Lal Salaam: A Novel”.

- ❖ The novel is inspired by the killings of 76 Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel during the Maoist attack in Dantewada, Chhattisgarh in April 2010.

## SPORTS

### Arif Khan

- ❖ The Jammu and Kashmir alpine skier Arif Khan qualifies for Beijing Winter Olympics 2022
- ❖ Arif Khan has become the only Indian ski racer to secure a place in Beijing Winter Olympics 2022.
- ❖ This will be the first Winter Olympics in China and the second Olympics overall after the 2008 Summer Olympics.
- ❖ This will also be the first time that Winter Olympics will be hosted by a city that had previously hosted the Summer Olympics.



## IMPORTANT DAYS

### 552nd Guru Nanak Jayanti – 19 November

- ❖ Guru Nanak Jayanti is observed every year as the birth anniversary of the Sikh founder, Guru Nanak Dev Ji.
- ❖ It is also known as Prakash Utsav or Guru Purab.
- ❖ He is the first of the ten Sikh gurus.

- ❖ He was born in 1469 in a village named Talwandi, which is currently located in Nankana Sahib, Pakistan.

