



**November - 21**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ An Indian-origin Sikh Volunteer Amar Singh has been honoured with the prestigious 2023 New South Wales Australian of the Year Award.
  - Amar Singh founded 'Turbans4Australia' 7 years ago.
- ❖ Google announced the winner of the Doodle for Google 2022 competition.
  - Shlok Mukherjee from Kolkata has been declared the winner for India for his inspiring Doodle 'India on the Center Stage.'
- ❖ An Iranian refugee Mehran Karimi Nasseri, who lived for 18 years in Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris, passed away in that same airport.
  - His tale inspired the 2004 Steven Spielberg film "The Terminal".
- ❖ The 41st India International Trade Fair was organized started at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.
  - This year the theme of the trade fair is Vocal For Local, Local to Global.
- ❖ New Zealand's Greg Barclay unanimously was re-elected as the International Cricket Council (ICC) chairman for another two-year term.
- ❖ Amazon becomes the World's First Public Company in History to lose a trillion dollars in market value.
  - It was a combination of rising inflation, tightening monetary policies and disappointing earnings updates.
- ❖ Reports from high courts on the pendency of criminal cases against sitting and former MPs and MLAs showed a 21% increase in three years from 4,122 in December 2018 to 4,984 in December 2021.
  - Maharashtra registered the highest number of cases against sitting and former lawmakers.

## **NATIONAL**

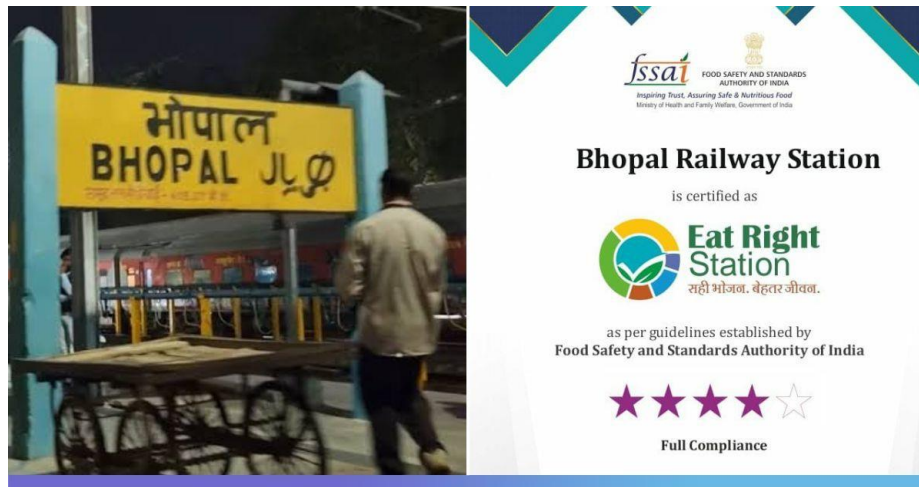
### **Aadhaar Rules**

- ❖ The Central Government has amended Aadhaar regulations.
- ❖ It is advising card holders to update documents supporting their information at least once every 10 years.
- ❖ Updating documents is not mandatory but would be encouraged.

- ❖ The users may update their documents to ensure the continued accuracy of their information in the Central Identities Data Repository.



### **‘Eat Right Station’ – Bhopal**



- ❖ The Food Safety and Standard Association of India (FSSAI) awarded Bhopal Railway Station a 4-star ‘Eat Right Station’ certification for providing “high-quality, nutritious food to passengers”.
- ❖ Chandigarh Railway station was the fifth Indian railway station to receive a 5-star ‘Eat Right Station’ certification.
- ❖ The other railway stations with this certification include Anand Vihar Terminal Railway Station; (Delhi), Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus; (Mumbai), Mumbai Central Railway Station; (Mumbai), and Vadodara Railway Station.



- ❖ 'Eat Right India' movement is a large-scale effort by FSSAI to transform the country's food system to ensure safe, healthy and sustainable food for all Indians.

### India's first Hydrogen Fuel Cell Catamaran Vessel

- ❖ Cochin Shipyard has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Inland Waterways Authority of India to build the country's first hydrogen fuel cell catamaran vessel for Varanasi in UP.
- ❖ It will pave the way for the reduction in the usage of fossil fuels and thereby further reducing the emissions in India's national waterways.



## INTERNATIONAL

### Interest-free Banking System

#### Islamic Banking in Pakistan

- ❖ **Islamic Banking**  
Means such a bank where all the financial, trade, business matters are done according to the Islamic Rules & Regulations and it is free from Interest.
- ❖ At the time of independence Muslims had thought to root out Riba (Interest) in financial matters in this Islamic State.
- ❖ **1947 to 1960:**  
No possible decision could be taken in this era to eliminate interest from the Banking World.
- ❖ **1960 to 1977:**  
In this era, the Council of Islamic Ideology (CII) put a lot of reports in front of Government to guide the Govt. that Interest is prohibited in Islam.
- ❖ **1977 to 1980:**  
the Council of Islamic Ideology (CII) and State Bank of Pakistan took some steps to remove interest from the economy. The steps are:
  - ✓ In Feb, 1979 financial institutions which are (ICP, NIT, HBFC) were targeted for elimination of interest

- ❖ The Pakistan Government is planning to implement an interest-free banking system in the country from 2027 under the Islamic law.
- ❖ It will operate based on ethical standards and prevents Muslims from paying or receiving any kind of interest.
- ❖ It is considered to be an effective tool to achieve the economic objectives of Islam.
- ❖ However, Pakistan is bound to honour the existing international financial commitments, though they do not comply with the sharia laws.

## Sea Vigil 22

### 'SEA VIGIL' FOR COASTAL SECURITY

➤ Exercise being undertaken along the entire **7516.6km coastline** and Exclusive Economic Zone of India

➤ Aims to comprehensively and holistically validate the efficacy of the measures taken for coastal defence since 26/11

➤ It will provide a realistic assessment of our strengths and weaknesses



➤ Mock drills and simulation of terror attacks will be conducted on Wednesday

- ❖ The third edition of the 'pan-India' coastal defence Exercise 'Sea Vigil-22' is conducted by the Indian Navy.
- ❖ Sea Vigil is a national-level coastal defence exercise which was conceptualised in 2018.
- ❖ The exercise is being conducted by the Indian Navy in coordination with the Coast Guard and other ministries involved in maritime activities.
- ❖ The exercise validates various measures that have been instituted towards enhancing maritime security since '26/11'.
- ❖ Sea Vigil and TROPEX together will cover the entire spectrum Maritime Security challenges.

- ❖ Theatre Level Readiness Operational Exercise (TROPEX) is an inter-service military exercise conducted every two years.

### **Operation Barkhane**

- ❖ France announced the end of the decade-long military Operation Barkhane in Africa.
- ❖ France began its military operations in Sahel region in January 2013 with the title Operation Serval.
- ❖ It aimed to target Islamic extremists linked to al-Qaeda who took control of northern Mali.

### **The Sahel region of Africa**



## **ECONOMY**

### **India's Agri Exports 2021/22**

- ❖ India's agricultural exports this year are on track to surpass the \$50 billion mark achieved in 2021-22.
- ❖ After petroleum, electronics, gold and coal, vegetable oils are now the country's fifth largest import item.

- ❖ India has turned into a net cotton importer primarily due to lower domestic production.
- ❖ In pepper, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and Brazil have outcompeted India, while Guatemala has gained market share in cardamom.



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Indian Biological Data Center (IBDC)



- ❖ The Union Minister of state for Science and Technology Jitendra Singh recently dedicated Indian Biological Data Center (IBDC) to the nation.
- ❖ It is India's first national repository for life science data.

- ❖ It will store all life science data generated from publicly funded research in the country.
- ❖ It operates with the assistance from the Department of Biotechnology (DBT).
- ❖ It was established at the Regional Centre of Biotechnology (RCB) in Faridabad, Haryana.
- ❖ It has a data “disaster recovery” site in National Informatics Centre (NIC) in Bhubaneswar.
- ❖ It has a data storage capacity of around 4 petabytes.
- ❖ It hosts the ‘Brahm’ High Performance Computing (HPC) facility.

## LOFTID mission



- ❖ NASA completed the technology demonstration of its Low-Earth Orbit Flight Test of an Inflatable Decelerator (LOFTID) mission.
- ❖ The cone-shaped structure will have an inflatable structure that is capable of holding its shape against drag forces.
- ❖ It will also have a protective flexible thermal protection system that will protect it from the heat generated during re-entry.

## ENVIRONMENT

### E-waste (management) rules 2022

- ❖ It will come into force from 1 April next year and apply to every manufacturer, producer refurbisher, dismantler and recycler of e-waste.

- ❖ India is the third-largest e-waste generator in the world after China and the USA as per the Global E-waste Monitor 2020.
- ❖ E-Waste refers to all items of electronic and electrical equipment (EEE) and its parts that have been discarded by their owner as waste without the intent of re-use.
- ❖ Under E-Waste Management Rules 2016, it is mandatory for the organization to comply with the Extended producer responsibility of recycling e-waste.
- ❖ In this, the Extended Producer Responsibility Certificates (similar to carbon credit mechanism) will allow the offsetting of e-waste responsibility to a third party.
- ❖ It restricts the use of hazardous substances (such as lead, mercury, and cadmium) in manufacturing electrical and electronic equipment.
- ❖ It increases the range of electronic goods covered e.g., laptops, mobile, cameras etc.
- ❖ Producers of electronic goods have to ensure at least 60% of their electronic waste is collected and recycled by 2023 with targets to increase them to 70% and 80% in 2024 and 2025, respectively.
- ❖ The 'Environmental compensation' is to be provided by the companies that don't meet their target.



### 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties

- ❖ The 14th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP14) to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands was co-hosted by Wuhan (China) and Geneva (Switzerland).
- ❖ During the event, the Wuhan Declaration was adopted and a report on Ramsar sites was released.
- ❖ Information on 75 per cent of wetlands in the list of Ramsar Sites is outdated.



- ❖ Parties to the Ramsar Convention are required to update the Ramsar Information Sheets (RIS) for their Ramsar sites at least once in every six years.



## Dynamic Ground Water Resource Assessment 2022 Report



- ❖ An assessment report on groundwater by the Central ground water board under the Ministry of Jal Shakti was released recently.
- ❖ India is the largest user of Groundwater, accounting for 1/4th of total withdrawal.
- ❖ Water Extraction is very high in Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan etc.
- ❖ 87% of Ground Water is used for Irrigation.

## REPORTS AND INDICES

### Citizen Perception Survey (CPS)

- ❖ The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) launched CPS to directly capture the perception of citizens with respect to the quality of life.
- ❖ It carries 30% weightage in the Ease of Living Index and is undertaken by the National Institute of Urban Affairs and Quality Council of India.
- ❖ It was the part of the Ease of Living Index.
- ❖ The Ease of living index and Municipal Performance Index are the assessment tools used by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs to evaluate the quality of life and the impact of various initiatives for urban development in the city.



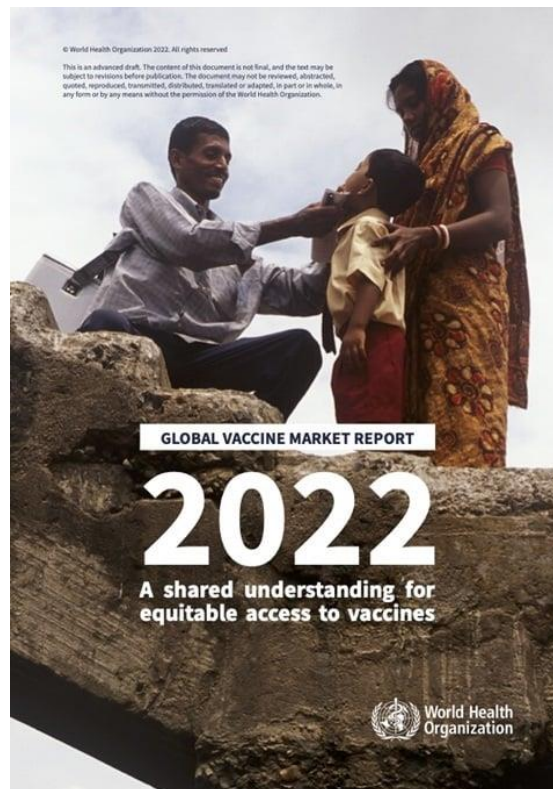
### Rule of Law Index 2022

- ❖ World Justice Project released this report.
- ❖ It said that the global Rule of Law has declined for the fifth year in a row.
- ❖ India has been ranked 77 (out of 140 countries).

- ❖ It was topped by Denmark.
- ❖ The World Justice Project (WJP) is an international civil society organization with the stated mission of "working to advance the rule of law around the world".



## **Global Vaccine Market Report 2022**



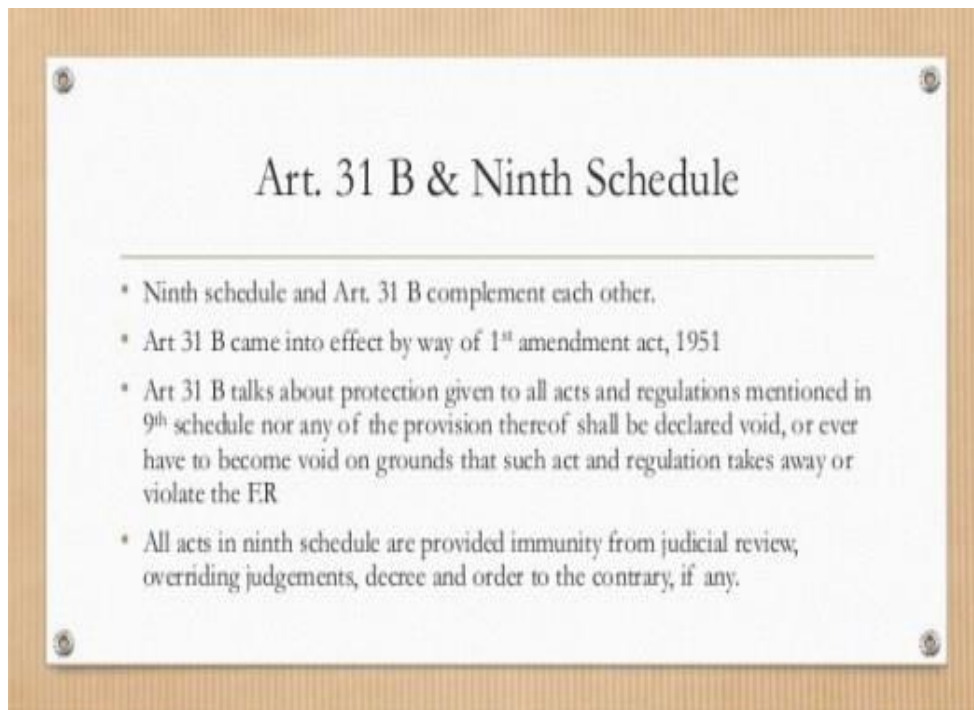
- ❖ The WHO has released this report to capture the implication of COVID-19 on global vaccine markets.



- ❖ As per the report, the Vaccine supply is concentrated in hands of a few countries and a few manufacturers.
- ❖ Only 10 manufacturers provide 70% of the vaccine doses (excluding the COVID vaccine).
- ❖ Africa received only 3% of the total COVID vaccine doses.

## STATES

### 9<sup>th</sup> Schedule and Jharkhand



- ❖ Jharkhand government has passed a bill increasing the reservation in vacant government posts and services to 77%.
- ❖ Thus, it is violating the 50% mandate of the Supreme Court (Indra Sawhney Case).
- ❖ The government has further called for putting the bill in the 9th Schedule to avoid Judicial Review.
- ❖ The Ninth Schedule (inserted Article 31B by the 1st Constitutional Amendment) contains a list of central and state laws which cannot be challenged in courts.
- ❖ Currently, 284 such laws are shielded from judicial review.
- ❖ Article 31B can be applied retrospectively.

- ❖ Although Article 31B excludes judicial review, laws under the Ninth Schedule are open to scrutiny if they are violative of the basic structure of the Constitution (I R Coelho case 2007).
- ❖ So, any law that was added to the Ninth Schedule after April 24, 1973, can be contested.

### **STREET Project**

- ❖ The Kerala Tourism has bagged the prestigious Responsible Tourism Global award at the World Travel Mart held in London.
- ❖ The award was given for the STREET project implemented by the Responsible Tourism Mission under the Kerala Government.
- ❖ STREET is an acronym for Sustainable, Tangible, Responsible, Experiential, Ethnic, and Tourism hubs.



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

### **Sir David Butler**



- ❖ Dubbed as the “father of modern election science” or psephologist, he has died at the age of 98 in London.
- ❖ Butler developed upon a long forgotten Edwardian equation called “the cube rule” for his research on elections.
- ❖ He discovered that he was able to estimate the total number of seats won from the polling numbers
- ❖ In 1955, he introduced the swingometer to the BBC’s election night broadcast,
- ❖ It went on to become a staple of election coverage all over the world.

### **Bihari Puraskar**



- ❖ Noted writers Madhu Kankariya (Hum Yahan The) and Dr Madhav Hada (Pachrang Chola Pahar Sakhi Ri) were awarded the 31st and 32nd Bihari Puraskar, respectively.
- ❖ The Bihari Puraskar is given every year for an outstanding work published in the last 10 years by a Rajasthani author in Hindi or Rajasthani.
- ❖ The Bihari Puraskar is one of the three literary awards instituted by KK Birla Foundation in 1991.

### **Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award 2022**

- ❖ Carlos Saura, Award-winning Spanish Film Director will be honoured with this award. Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award at the

- ❖ It will be given in the 53rd edition of the International Film Festival of India in Panaji, Goa.



## SPORTS

### Women's World Boxing Championship 2023



- ❖ India will host the Women's World Boxing Championships in 2023 at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi.
- ❖ It is the biennial amateur boxing competition organized by the International Boxing Association (IBA).
- ❖ Notably, India has never conducted the men's world championship.



- ❖ But it will be the third time that the elite women's competition will be held in India.
- ❖ The Women championship was held in 2006 and 2018 in New Delhi.

### **IBSA Blind Football Women's Asian/Oceania Championship 2022**

- ❖ Kerala Governor Arif Muhammad Khan inaugurated this cup at Kochi, Kerala.
- ❖ It will be India's biggest para football event.
- ❖ Ten teams are participating in the event including India, China, Thailand, Malaysia, Kazakhstan, South Korea, Japan, Iran, Australia, and Uzbekistan.
- ❖ This is the first time in India that a para football event will have 10 men's teams and 2 women's teams.

