



October - 14

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ Amazon India has partnered with 'Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation' (IRCTC), to provide its customers with the facility to book reserved train tickets on Amazon.

## **NATIONAL**

### **Gyan Circle Ventures**

- ❖ The Union Minister for Education Ramesh Pokhriyal has inaugurated the Gyan Circle Ventures.
- ❖ It is a MeitY (Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology) funded Technology Business Incubator (TBI) developed by the Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ These incubators would hold the institutions' entrepreneurial spirit by utilizing its intellectual capital.
- ❖ It would also encourage the young minds to engage in using emerging technologies including the Artificial Intelligence (AI), Block-chain, Cyber Physical Systems (CPS), Cyber Security, Internet of Things (IoT) and Robotics.

### **Sagar Kavach Coastal Security Exercise**

- ❖ The Indian Navy conducted a two-day coastal security exercise called "Sagar Kavach".
- ❖ The exercise was conducted by Indian Navy along with Indian Coastal Guard.
- ❖ It is a half-yearly exercise to check coastal security mechanism and validate Standard Operating Procedure.

### **Matla Abhiyan Exercise**

- ❖ The Matla Abhiyan Exercise is a five-day coastal security exercise that was conducted by the Indian Navy in Matla river.
- ❖ Two Indian boats undertook the patrol in the Sunderban Delta during the exercise.
- ❖ The sailors interacted with the local fishermen spreading awareness about the coastal security, marine police stations.

- ❖ The river forms a wide estuary in and around the Sundarbans.



## INTERNATIONAL

### One day Prime Minister

- ❖ Aava Murto, a 16-year-old girl, ceremoniously assumed the post of Finnish prime minister for one day for the "Girls Takeover" program.
- ❖ It is part of the U.N. International Day of the Girl to raise more awareness of gender equality.
- ❖ Sanna Marin is the current Finland Prime Minister and she is also one of the world's youngest government leaders.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Rudram - 1st anti radiation missile

- ❖ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully flight tested indigenously developed Anti-Radiation Missile (Rudram-1).
- ❖ It is an anti-radiation missile can locate and target any radiation-emitting source like enemy radars, communication sites and other Radio Frequency emitting targets.
- ❖ This is the first indigenous anti-radiation missile of the country.

- ❖ It has a range of up to 200 km depending upon the launch conditions.
- ❖ It can be launched from altitudes of 500 m to 15 km and speeds of 0.6 to 2 mach.



## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **Animal and Plant Discoveries 2019**

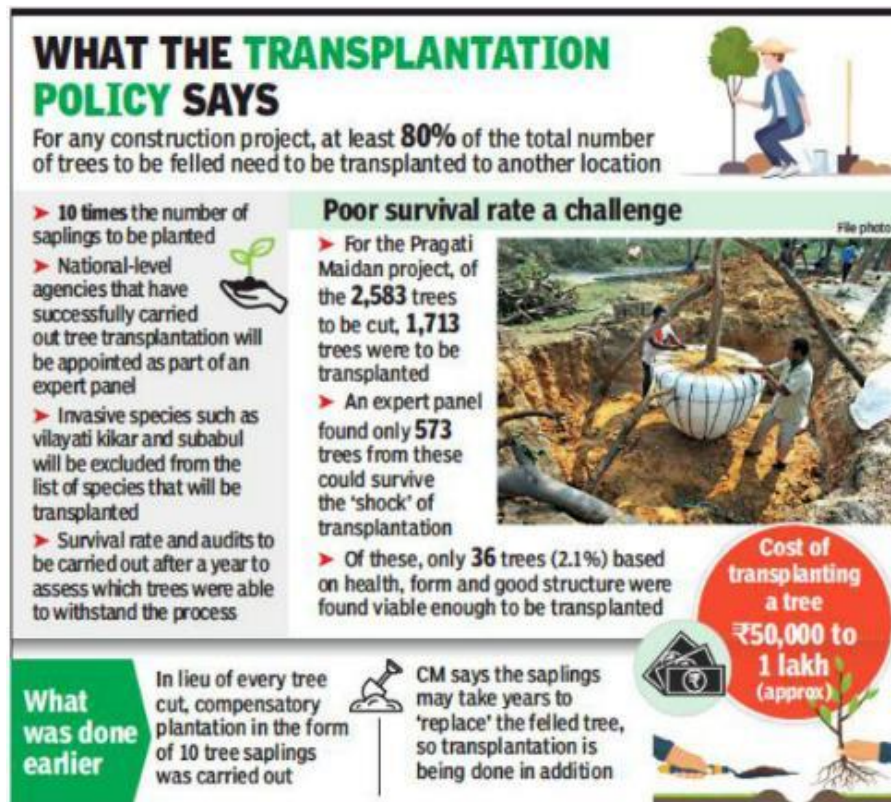
- ❖ Scientists have discovered at least 364 new species of animals and 253 new species of plants from India in 2019.
- ❖ While these 364 animal species were unknown to humans.
- ❖ Another 116 species of animals, which were earlier found elsewhere in the world, but not recorded from India previously.
- ❖ Out of the 364 new species that have been discovered, four are fossil species.
- ❖ Another four sub-species have been discovered.
- ❖ The maximum numbers of species that have been discovered are of insects.
- ❖ With the new animal discoveries, India now has 102,161 species of animals.
- ❖ This is around 6.52 percent of the global share.
- ❖ More than 50,000 species of plants have also been identified from the country.
- ❖ The list of discoveries was published in the form of two books by the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) and Botanical Survey India.

## STATES

### Farmers Welfare Fund Board - Kerala

- ❖ For the first time in the country, Kerala government has decided to set up a Welfare Fund Board for the farmers in the state.
- ❖ The board to be known as 'Kerala Karshaka Kshemanidhi Board'.
- ❖ As per the Kerala Karshaka Kshemanidhi Act, agriculture includes horticulture, medicinal plant cultivation, nursery management, fish, ornamental fish, mussels, bees, silkworms, poultry, ducks, goats, rabbits, livestock, and the maintenance and use of land for such agricultural purposes.

### Tree Transplantation Policy - Delhi



**WHAT THE TRANSPLANTATION POLICY SAYS**

For any construction project, at least **80%** of the total number of trees to be felled need to be transplanted to another location

**> 10 times the number of saplings to be planted**

**> National-level agencies that have successfully carried out tree transplantation will be appointed as part of an expert panel**

**> Invasive species such as vilayati kikar and subabul will be excluded from the list of species that will be transplanted**

**> Survival rate and audits to be carried out after a year to assess which trees were able to withstand the process**

**Poor survival rate a challenge**

**> For the Pragati Maidan project, of the 2,583 trees to be cut, 1,713 trees were to be transplanted**

**> An expert panel found only 573 trees from these could survive the 'shock' of transplantation**

**> Of these, only 36 trees (2.1%) based on health, form and good structure were found viable enough to be transplanted**

**Cost of transplanting a tree ₹50,000 to 1 lakh (approx)**

**What was done earlier**

In lieu of every tree cut, compensatory plantation in the form of 10 tree saplings was carried out

CM says the saplings may take years to 'replace' the felled tree, so transplantation is being done in addition

- ❖ Delhi has become the first State in India to pass Tree Transplantation Policy.
- ❖ A dedicated panel of government agencies with track record and experience of tree transplantation is being formed under the policy.
- ❖ The agencies concerned will have to transplant 80 per cent of the trees affected by their projects to a new location.

- ❖ The government will also form local committees, which will also include citizens, for checking, monitoring and certification of the tree transplantation exercise.
- ❖ Payments for transplantation will be made after one year to ensure this, and if less than 80 per cent of the transplanted trees survive, payment will be deducted.

### **Jagananna Vidya Kanuka Scheme - Andhra Pradesh**

- ❖ Andhra Pradesh government has launched Jagan Anna Vidya kanuka scheme.
- ❖ Under the scheme, the state government will provide school kits to 43.32 to lakh government school students.
- ❖ The kits to be provided have been named Vidya Kanuka kits.

### **Mukhya Mantri Saur Swarojgar Yojana – Uttarakhand**

- ❖ The scheme promotes self-employment of the youth and production of green energy.
- ❖ The beneficiaries of the scheme are to be allocated with solar power plants of 25 KW each.
- ❖ It is estimated that these power plants will generate 38,000 units of electricity per year.
- ❖ The generated electricity is to be bought by Uttarakhand Power Corporation for 25 years.

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **International Day of the Girl Child – October 11**





- ❖ UN General Assembly on December 19, 2011 declared October 11 as the International Day of the Girl Child.
- ❖ The day has been dedicated to the welfare of the girl child internationally.
- ❖ This year's theme will be "My Voice, Our Equal Future".

