

October - 01

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Two villages from Tamil Nadu - Vettaikaranpudur in Coimbatore district and Hullada in the Nilgiris – received bronze medals for the best tourist villages from the Centre.
- ❖ The 19th edition of YUDH ABHYAS between Indian Army and the US Army was conducted in Alaska, USA.
- ❖ Veteran Bollywood actress Waheeda Rehman, 85, has been conferred with the Dadasaheb Phalke Award for the year 2021.

## TAMIL NADU

### TN State Biodiversity Board



- ❖ The State government recently reconstituted the Tamil Nadu State Biodiversity Board.
- ❖ It includes three special invitees from the Industries Department, the Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Department and the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board.

- ❖ The Minister for Forests will be the chairperson of the board.

## NATIONAL

### Fourth Gender Samvaad



4<sup>th</sup> Gender Samvaad ————— **SAVE THE DATE**

**WEBINAR**

**Significance of Community Based Strategies for addressing Gender - Based Violence under DAY-NRLM**

**KEYNOTE**

**Shri Charanjit Singh**  
Additional Secretary, RL  
Ministry of Rural Development

**OPENING REMARKS**

**Smt Smriti Sharan**  
Joint Secretary, RL  
Ministry of Rural Development

**Date:** Friday, 22 September 2023  
**Time:** 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM

The poster features three circular images: a woman speaking at a podium, a woman in an orange sari, and a woman in a blue sari.

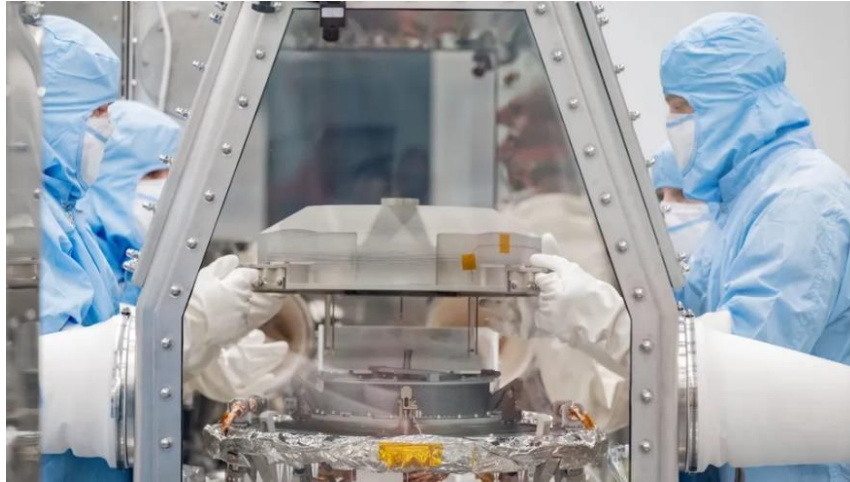
- ❖ It is a collaborative initiative by the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) and the Institute for What Works to Advance Gender Equality (IWWAGE),
- ❖ This platform aims to create awareness about DAY-NRLM's gender-focused initiatives in India.
- ❖ It also specifically focusing on amplifying the voices of states and self-help group (SHG) members.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### NASA's OSIRIS-Rex

- ❖ Recently, NASA's OSIRIS-REx spacecraft dropped off a capsule over the earth and landed in Utah in the U.S.
- ❖ It may contain around 250 grams of rocks and dust that OSIRIS-REx had collected from the surface of 101955 Bennu.

- ❖ OSIRIS-REx was launched toward the 1,650-foot-wide (500 meters) Bennu in September 2016.
- ❖ Bennu is an asteroid orbiting the sun (with a period of 436 days).
- ❖ Bennu could smash into the earth between 2178 and 2290.



### **Green Hydrogen Fuel Cell Bus**



- ❖ Indian oil unveiled the nation's first green hydrogen-powered bus in Delhi.
- ❖ Green hydrogen is a sustainable alternative and does not emit polluting gases.
- ❖ Only water vapour is emitted as a by-product when hydrogen is burnt, which means, no emission of polluting gases.



- ❖ Four cylinders with a capacity of 30 kg can run the buses for 350 km.
- ❖ It takes only 10-12 minutes for the four tanks to fill.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **Coimbatore's Kurichi tank**

- ❖ Greater sand-plover (*Charadrius leschenaultii*) has been spotted in an urban tank in Coimbatore.
- ❖ It is a long-distance migrant bird that normally prefers sea shores.
- ❖ It breeds during April to May in central Asia, late March to late May in Turkey and up to late June in Armenia.
- ❖ It winters in the shores of Indian and Australian Oceans after the breeding.
- ❖ Recently, a Red-necked phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*), a shore bird that breeds in the Arctic region, was sighted in Kurichi tank



## **REPORTS AND INDICES**

### **The State of the Rhino Report, 2023**

- ❖ The International Rhino Foundation (IRF) published the report named State of the Rhino, 2023.
- ❖ Poaching still threatens all five rhino species and has increased in several regions that had not previously been targeted.
- ❖ Black rhino populations are increasing despite constant poaching pressure.

- ❖ In Africa, climate change-induced drought is causing myriad detrimental impacts.
- ❖ In Asia dramatically increased precipitation and longer monsoon periods could cause more direct deaths of rhinos.
- ❖ India is estimated to be home to 3,262 rhinos.
- ❖ Greater one-horned rhinos in India and Nepal continue to thrive due to strong protection.
- ❖ The status and whereabouts of 12 of the approximately 76 remaining Javan rhinos are unknown.
- ❖ Sumatran rhinos are also increasingly difficult to find, raising uncertainty about their population in the wild.



## STATES

### First woman speaker of Odisha

- ❖ Pramila Malik from Biju Janata Dal party became the first woman Speaker of the Odisha state Assembly.
- ❖ She was elected unopposed.

- ❖ She has been a six-time MLA from the Binjharpur assembly seat in Jajpur district of Odisha.
- ❖ Earlier she held the post of Minister of Revenue and Disaster Management.



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

### **M.S. Swaminathan**

- ❖ Mankombu Sambasivan Swaminathan, popularly known as M.S. Swaminathan passed away recently.
- ❖ He is the legendary agricultural scientist and a key architect of the country's 'Green Revolution.'
- ❖ In 1954, Dr. Swaminathan joined the Central Rice Research Institute (CRRI), Cuttack and later, IARI.
- ❖ In July 1966, he became IARI Director, the post he held till 1972.
- ❖ He worked as Principal Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture (1979-80), Acting Deputy Chairman and later Member (Science and Agriculture), Planning Commission (1980-82) and Director General, International Rice Research Institute, the Philippines (1982-88).
- ❖ In 2004, Swaminathan was appointed as chair of the National Commission on Farmers, a commission setup to look into farmer distress amid alarming suicide cases.
- ❖ He was awarded the first World Food Prize in 1987.
- ❖ Swaminathan has been conferred with the Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and the Padma Vibhushan.

- ❖ He is also the recipient of the H K Firodia award, the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award and the Indira Gandhi Prize.
- ❖ Apart from several international awards including the Ramon Magsaysay Award (1971) and the Albert Einstein World Science Award (1986).



## SPORTS

### Asian Games 2023 women's cricket



- ❖ Indian women team beat Sri Lanka women in the final to win the gold medal.

- ❖ This is India's second gold medal of Asian Games 2023 in Hangzhou, China.
- ❖ Medal winners
  - India - Gold
  - Sri Lanka - Silver
  - Bangladesh - Bronze

### **Indian Grand Prix 2023**

- ❖ Italian rider Marco Bezzecchi, emerged as winner in the inaugural Indian Grand Prix for the 2023 MotoGP season.
- ❖ Jorge Martin finished in the second position.
- ❖ Yamaha's Fabio Quartararo claimed the third-place spot.



## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **105th Anniversary of Battle of Haifa**

- ❖ The Battle of Haifa was fought during First World War as a part of the Sinai and Palestine campaign against the Ottoman Empire.
- ❖ The Indian Army commemorates September 23 as 'Haifa Day' every year to pay its respect to three Indian Cavalry, Mysore, Hyderabad and Jodhpur Lancers who were mainly involved in the war.



- ❖ The troops tasked with capturing the vital ports were the soldiers of the 15th (Imperial Service) Cavalry Brigade, which mostly comprised Indian soldiers.
- ❖ Dalpat Singh Shekhawat was immortalised as the “Hero of Haifa”.
- ❖ This battle’s resulted in the following events:
  - Partition of the Ottoman Empire,
  - Leading to the eventual creation of the Republic of Turkey in 1923, and the subsequent creation of the Kingdom of Iraq in 1932,
  - The Lebanese Republic in 1943,
  - The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic in 1946, and
  - The State of Israel in 1948.

