

October - 02

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Indian Institute of Technology-Madras (IIT-M) has been recognised with the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) platinum certification for its initiatives.
- ❖ Google Inc. has celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> birthday (founded in 1998) on September 27.
- ❖ Kerala's Kanthalloor village has been chosen by the Ministry of Tourism as the Best Tourism Village 2023 and won the Gold on World Tourism Day (September 27).
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh has achieved a remarkable feat by attaining 100% Open Defecation Free (ODF) Plus status across its 95,767 villages.

## TAMIL NADU

### State's peak demand in 2024-25

- ❖ Tamil Nadu's annual peak energy demand is expected to be 20,806 MW in fiscal 2024-25.
- ❖ The State reached an all-time high peak demand of 19,387 MW on April 20 this year.
- ❖ As per the data, the peak demand in 2024 is expected to be 20,806 MW in April, 19,785 MW in May, 19,800 MW in June, 19,005 MW in July and 20,631 MW in August.
- ❖ It is expected to be in the range of 16,933 MW to 18,465 MW during monsoon and winter seasons in 2024-25.
- ❖ It may increase to 20,460 MW in March 2025.
- ❖ The annual peak demand for the Southern region is expected to be 73,114 MW in 2024-25.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's annual energy requirement is expected to be 132,871 million units in 2024-25.
- ❖ On April 20 this year, the State recorded an all-time high daily consumption of 423.785 million units. The

### 15 odhuvars appointment

- ❖ The Government of Tamil Nadu appointed 15 'odhuvars' to government-controlled Hindu temples, including five women odhuvars.

- ❖ Odhuvars sing devotional hymns at Hindu temples in Tamil Nadu, but they are not priests.
- ❖ They sing devotional hymns but do not enter the sanctum sanctorum.



### **India's first Green Energy Archeological Site**

- ❖ The Shore Temple in Mahabalipuram is becoming India's first-ever green energy archaeological site.
- ❖ Dating back to the 7th century, built by Narasimha Varman II or popularly known as Rajamalla, this UNESCO World Heritage site is one of the oldest stone temples in South India.
- ❖ The Shore Temple will now be illuminated using clean and sustainable solar energy.



### **Primary animal care centre**

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has planned to set up a primary animal care centre in each district using MP MLA funds.

- ❖ The three rescue centres at Tiruchi, Madurai, and Coimbatore are already under progress.
- ❖ The new centres will be meant for emergency or primary care for wildlife.

## Rubber plantations in Tamil Nadu



- ❖ The rubber plantations in Tamil Nadu getting permissions for replanting takes several months resulting in losses.
- ❖ Most of plantation's areas are in Kanniyakumari district.
- ❖ Developed and cultivated areas in plantations were brought under Tamil Nadu Preservation of Private Forests Act in 1979.
- ❖ The land is classified as forest land.
- ❖ So, transfer or alienation of immovable property requires clearance from the district-level Forest Committees and this takes several months.
- ❖ Rubber is grown on 26,268 ha in Tamil Nadu and the annual production (worth almost ₹400 crores) is 24,163 tonnes.
- ❖ Of this, nearly 105 tonnes of rubber are exported.
- ❖ Less than one fifth of the total area under rubber plantations in Tamil Nadu is with large growers.
- ❖ The remaining land is with the small growers, who own less than 50 acres each.

- ❖ Rubber tapping starts from the seventh year of the tree and goes on till the tree is 21 - 30 years.

### **Chola-era Manambadi temple**

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Department of Archaeology is set to take up restoration of the 1,000-year-old Naganathaswamy Temple at Manambadi in Thanjavur district.
- ❖ It was built by Rajendra Chola I (1012-1044 CE).
- ❖ The temple, situated about 15 km from Kumbakonam, is a protected monument.
- ❖ It is known for its exquisite stone sculptures and important inscriptions.



## **NATIONAL**

### **Supreme Court on HIV Act 2017**

- ❖ The Supreme Court has directed the Centre and state governments to ensure effective implementation of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (Prevention and Control) Act, 2017.
- ❖ It is also known as the HIV Act.
- ❖ The court also directed all courts, tribunals, and quasi-judicial bodies in the country to prioritise cases relating to HIV-infected persons for early disposal as per the mandate of Section 34(2) of the HIV Act.



- ❖ They also directed that steps should be taken to keep the identity of HIV-infected individuals anonymous.



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### No Signals from Chandrayaan-3

- ❖ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has received no signals from the Chandrayaan-3 mission's Vikram lander and Pragyan rover.
- ❖ All the modules of the mission are solar powered and were designed to last for just one lunar day or about 14 days on Earth.
- ❖ The mission's electronics were not designed to withstand the extreme nighttime conditions on the Moon.
- ❖ The temperature drops well below minus 200 degrees Celsius near the lunar south pole where the lander and rover are.
- ❖ The Russian Luna-25 mission had a plutonium radioisotope device, which can be thought of as a kind of nuclear battery.

- ❖ It may help to generate heat that can keep instruments within an operable temperature.
- ❖ The Vikram Lander and Pragyan Rover have no such provisions.



## REPORTS AND INDICES

### THE World University Rankings 2024

| Institutions  | Rank 2024 | Rank 2023 |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Indian Institute of Science                                     | 201–250   | 251–300   |
| Anna University   | 501–600   | 801–1000  |
| Jamia Millia Islamia  | 501–600   | 501–600   |
| Mahatma Gandhi University                                       | 501–600   | 401–500   |
| Shoolini University of Biotechnology and Management Sciences    | 501–600   | 351–400   |
| Alagappa University   | 601–800   | 401–500   |
| Aligarh Muslim University                                       | 601–800   | 801–1000  |
| Banaras Hindu University  | 601–800   | 601–800   |
| Bharathiar University   | 601–800   | 801–1000  |
| Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati                         | 601–800   | 1001–1200 |
| Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines) Dhanbad | 601–800   | 1001–1200 |
| Indian Institute of Technology Patna                            | 601–800   | 801–1000  |
| International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad    | 601–800   | 501–600   |
| Jamia Hamdard University  | 601–800   | 601–800   |
| Jawaharlal Nehru University                                     | 601–800   | 601–800   |
| KIIT University   | 601–800   | 601–800   |
| Malaviya National Institute of Technology                       | 601–800   | NR        |
| Manipal Academy of Higher Education                             | 601–800   | 801–1000  |
| National Institute of Technology Rourkela                       | 601–800   | 1001–1200 |
| National Institute of Technology Silchar                        | 601–800   | 601–800   |

- ❖ As per the 'THE Rankings 2024', the UK's University of Oxford is the highest ranked university in the world.

- ❖ Stanford University is taking second place and third place is the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).
- ❖ In the top 10 of THE Rankings 2024, seven universities are from the US, while the other three are from the UK.
- ❖ The Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, has again become the best institute from India.
- ❖ A record 91 Indian universities have made it to the list this year making a significant improvement in the country's rank.
- ❖ Only 75 institutes from India were included in the rankings last year.

### Global innovation index 2023



- ❖ India has retained its 40th spot in the latest Global Innovation Index 2023.
- ❖ It is released by the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO).
- ❖ The index tracks the innovation ecosystem performance of 132 global economies and the most recent global innovation trends.
- ❖ In 2015, India stood at 81st spot and has been rising in the past eight years.
- ❖ Switzerland for a 13th year ranks first in the index.
- ❖ Sweden is now second and the United States on third.

- ❖ It is followed by the United Kingdom (4th) and Singapore (5th).

## SPORTS

### Asian Games 2023

- ❖ Indian trio of Manu Bhaker, Esha Singh and Rhythm Sangwan won gold medal in the women's 25m pistol team event at the Asian Games in Hangzhou, China.
- ❖ The Esha Singh-led women's 10m air pistol trio bagged a silver medal.
- ❖ India have won a total of 58 shooting medals, including nine gold, at the continental meet.

