

October - 21

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Guidance, the nodal agency for investment promotion, Government of Tamil Nadu, has received the prestigious United Nations Promotion Award 2023.
 - It is given for excellence in scaling up energy transition investments at the 8th World Investment Forum, held in Abu Dhabi.
- ❖ Arindam Bagchi has been appointed as the next Ambassador/Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations and other International Organisations in Geneva.
- ❖ The International Olympic Committee (IOC) amended the Olympic Charter to strengthen its human rights commitments.
- ❖ Grandmaster Raunak Sadhwani of Maharashtra has won the FIDE World Junior Rapid Chess Championship in Sardinia, Italy.
- ❖ A group of 20 mountaineers have achieved the incredible feat of scaling all the highest points in the country.
 - It is given for hoisting the national flag on top of each peak as a part of "Har Shikhar Tiranga" mission.
- ❖ The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has celebrated its 50th Foundation Day on October 15, 2023.
 - It functions under the Electricity Act 2003.
- ❖ Microsoft has completed its USD 69 billion acquisition of video game publisher Activision Blizzard.
 - It's Microsoft's largest deal in its 48-year history.

TAMIL NADU

Muthuvan tribe

- ❖ Members of the Muthuvan tribe of the Anamalai hills have joined hands with the Tamil Nadu Forest Department for a unique task.
- ❖ They are known for coexisting with the wildlife with their traditional knowledge.
- ❖ They will be part of the Project Nilgiri Tahr, which is aimed at protecting the 'endangered' State animal.
- ❖ Members of the Muthuvan tribe are known for their traditional knowledge and understanding of hills.

- ❖ They are already contributing a lot on the conservation front by sharing their knowledge about the flora and fauna and helping us in preventing forest fires.



NATIONAL

Rights of the unborn child

MEDICAL TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2021

1. Opinion of one **RMP** for termination of pregnancy up to **20 weeks**.
2. Opinion of **2 RMPs** for termination of pregnancy of **20-24 weeks**.
3. **Pregnancy can be terminated up to 24 weeks, only in cases of survivors of rape.**
4. **In case of failure of contraceptive in a women of her partner, MTP can be done only up to 20 weeks.**
5. MTP can be done even after 24 weeks. In case of substantial foetal abnormalities diagnosed by a **Medical Board**.

“Note: MTP can be done at any time if it is immediately necessary to save the life of the pregnant woman.”

- ❖ Recently, the Supreme Court refused to permit the married woman to terminate her 26-week pregnancy, thereby upholding the right of unborn child.

- ❖ The woman was well past the abortion limit of 24 weeks under the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Act 2021.
- ❖ Section 5 of Act allows abortion only if the pregnancy poses an actual, physical and immediate danger to a woman's life and health according to medical experts.
- ❖ As per the Act, 20 weeks of pregnancy can be Termination of pregnancy is allowed on the advice of 1 doctor.
- ❖ The right to seek abortion is determined by 2 registered medical practitioners as an exception, but only under certain categories during the 20-24 weeks of pregnancy.
- ❖ Beyond 24 weeks, it is mandatory to form medical board at approved facilities to give opinion termination of pregnancy beyond 24 weeks owing to foetal abnormalities.

First edition of the IndiaAI report

- ❖ The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) submitted the first edition of IndiaAI report.
- ❖ AI is expected to add USD 967 billion to the Indian economy by 2035 and USD 450–500 billion to India's GDP by 2025.
- ❖ It will be accounting for 10% of the country's USD 5 trillion GDP target.
- ❖ IndiaAI has a mission-centric approach that ensures a precise and cohesive strategy to bridge the gaps in the existing AI ecosystem.



ECONOMY

50-Year Bond

- ❖ India's government had maintained its plans to borrow 6.55 trillion rupees (\$78.72 billion) through bond issues.

- ❖ For this it has introduced a new security with a 50-year maturity.
- ❖ India has projected gross market borrowing at 15.43 trillion rupees for the current fiscal year.
- ❖ The borrowing will be done through bonds with maturities of three, five, seven, 10, 14, 30 and 40 years.
- ❖ India plans to raise 300 billion rupees through the newly introduced 50-year bond.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

CO₂ on Jupiter's moon Europa

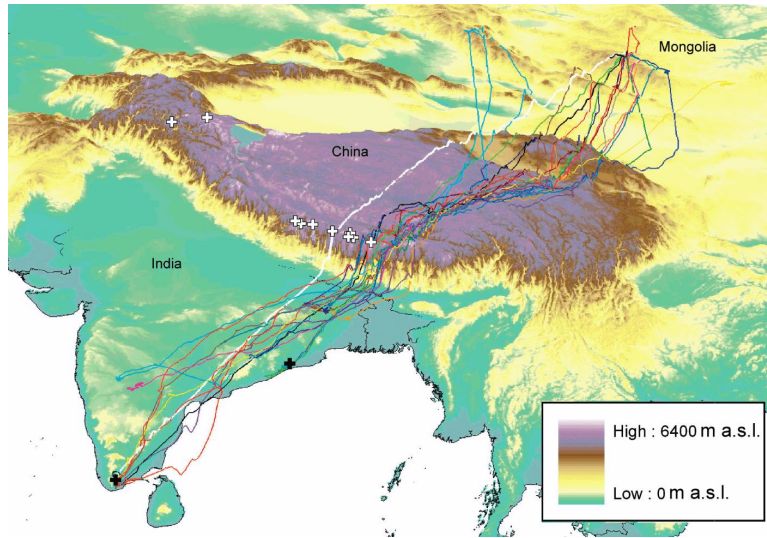


- ❖ Carbon dioxide detected on Jupiter's moon Europa comes from the vast ocean beneath its icy shell by James Webb Space Telescope.
- ❖ The most CO₂ was in the 1,800 kilometre-wide (1,120 miles) area called Tara Regio.

- ❖ Scientists are confident there is a huge ocean of saltwater kilometers below Europa's ice-covered surface.
- ❖ But whether it rose up from the ocean below remained an open question.

ENVIRONMENT

Bird Migration Patterns in the Himalayas



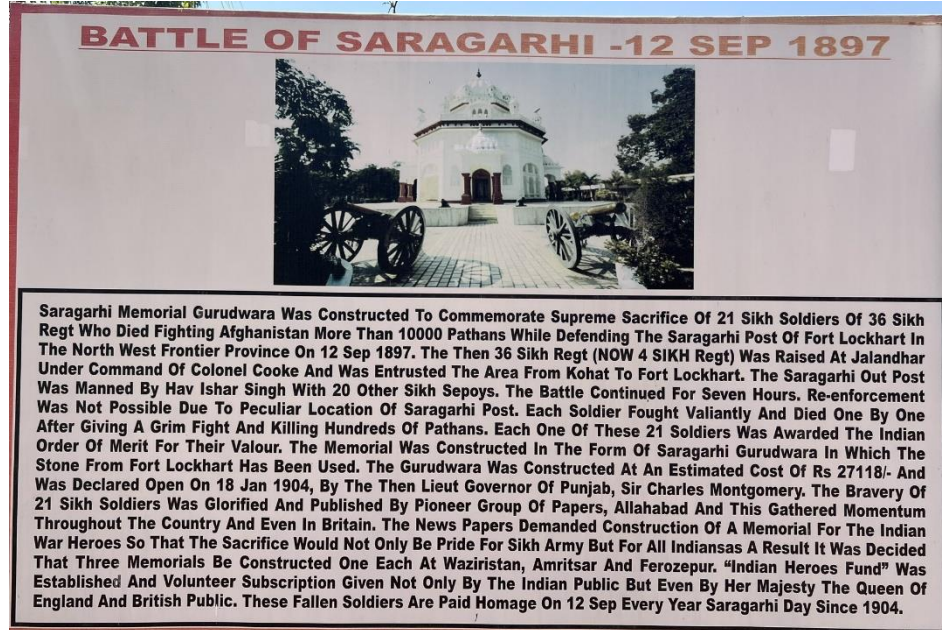
- ❖ The majority of birds in the Himalayas migrate downslope during the winter, while a small proportion of species in low elevations migrate upslope.
- ❖ 65 per cent of the species in the eastern and western Himalayas displayed seasonal elevational shifts within their species range compared with other bird communities reported in high seasonality or the peak season.
- ❖ About 10 per cent of the species showed upslope shifts while 35 per cent of them did not depict any shift in elevation.
- ❖ Out of 221 species in the western Himalayas, 57 per cent showed downslope shift, five per cent showed upslope shifts.
- ❖ About 38 per cent showed no elevational shift changes.

STATES

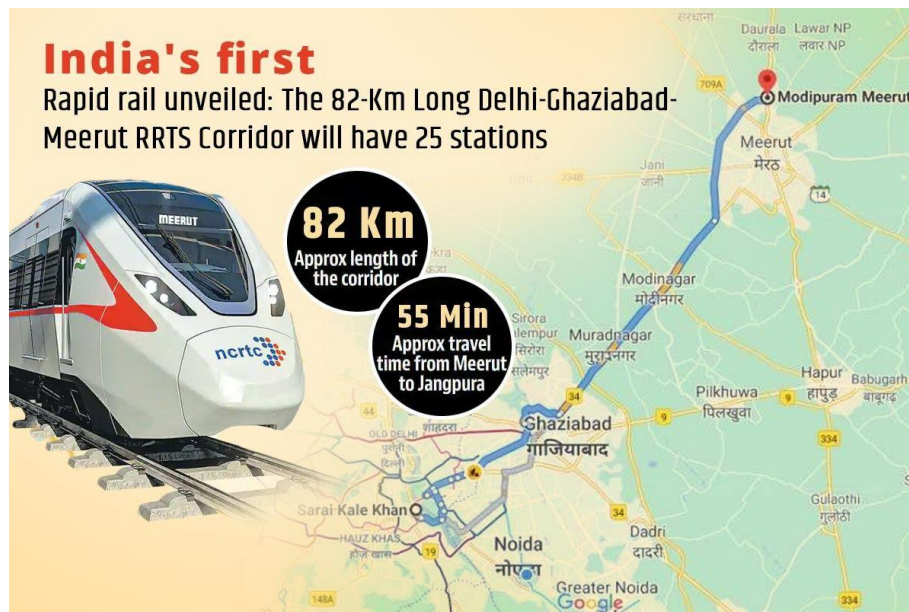
Saragarhi Memorial - Ferozpur

- ❖ The Punjab Chief minister laid the foundation stone of a Saragarhi memorial in Ferozpur.
- ❖ The battle of Saragarhi was held About 126 years ago, on 12 September 1897.

- ❖ 21 brave soldiers of the 36th Sikh Regiment of the British-Indian Army gave their martyrdom while fighting against about 10 thousand Afghani tribesmen.
- ❖ The 36th Sikh Regiment is now known as the 4th Sikh Regiment of the Indian Army.



India's First Regional Train Service



- ❖ India's first regional train service RapidX was inaugurated recently.

- ❖ The priority section of Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System opened between Duhai and Sahibabad, covering 17-kilometres.
- ❖ It has been named as NaMo Bharat.
- ❖ The total length of Delhi-Meerut corridor is 82 kilometres which will be covered in an hour.
- ❖ The RapidX train will look similar to metro trains, but according to a document shared by the NCRTC, the RRTS is completely different from Metro rail.
- ❖ The RRTS trains are designed to run at a speed of 180km/h, which makes it the quickest urban transit system in India.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Former CEC- MS Gill



- ❖ Former chief election commissioner Manohar Singh Gill passed away recently.
- ❖ He retired as the Chief Election Commissioner of India, a position he held from 1996 to 2001.
- ❖ It was during his tenure as CEC that the Election Commission introduced Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs).
- ❖ After his retirement, he joined the Indian National Congress and represented Punjab in the Rajya Sabha from 2004 to 2016, marking two successful terms as MP.
- ❖ He is perhaps the first former CEC to have joined politics.
- ❖ During this period, he held portfolios of Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports and Minister of Statistics and Programme Implementation.



- ❖ Gill was awarded the Padma Vibhushan for his contribution as the chief election commissioner and the 'Nishan-e-Khalsa' on the 300th anniversary of the Khalsa Panth.

