

September - 12

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ El Salvador becomes world's first country to make Bitcoin an official currency or legal tender.
- ❖ Mumbai is the first South Asian city to work on climate action plan.
  - This has been done following Mumbai's commitment to C40 Cities climate leadership group.
- ❖ The Tamilnadu Chief Minister MK Stalin announced that the retiring age of cooks and cooking assistants of the nutritious meal centre would be increased to 60 from 58.
- ❖ 1200-year-old sculpture of Goddess Durga was recovered from river Jhelum at Pandrethan in Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ Uttarakhand Governor Baby Rani Maurya submitted her resignation to President Ram Nath Kovind.

## TAMIL NADU

### Pulamai Pithan



- ❖ The Lyricist and poet Pulamai pithan breathed his last at Chennai.
- ❖ He was born in Coimbatore in 1935
- ❖ Pulamaipithan served as the Deputy Chairman of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Council.

## NATIONAL

### Shikshak Parv - 2021

- ❖ The Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the Shikshak Parv - 2021.
- ❖ The theme is “Quality and Sustainable Schools: Learnings from Schools in India”.
- ❖ The event was organised by the Ministry of Education.
- ❖ The objective of the Shikshak Parv-2021 is to encourage innovative practices to ensure not only continuity of education at all levels but to improve quality, inclusive practices and sustainability in the schools across the country as well.



## INTERNATIONAL

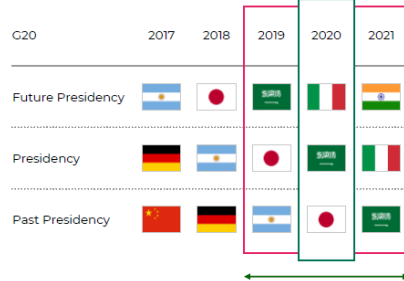
### India's Sherpa for G20

- ❖ Piyush Goyal, Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, and Textiles has been appointed as India's Sherpa for the G20.
- ❖ Piyush Goyal has replaced Suresh Prabhu as India's Sherpa.
- ❖ The next G20 Summit (2021) will be held in October under the Italian presidency.
- ❖ India will hold the G20 presidency from December 1, 2022, and convene the G20 Leaders' Summit in 2023 for the first time.
- ❖ India will be a part of the G20 Troika (preceding, current, and incoming G20 presidencies) from December 2021, till November 2024.
- ❖ In 2022, Indonesia and in 2024 Brazil will head the G20.

## G20 OVERVIEW | GROUPS AND TROIKA



The Troika is a three-member group of the past, present and future G20 Presidents that ensures agenda continuity



### Agreement between India and Portugal

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved the signing of an agreement between India and Portugal.
- ❖ It will open doors for Indian migrant workers in a European Union member nation Portugal.

### New Cabinet of Afghanistan

**TALIBAN'S NEW CABINET**

<b>MULLAH ABDUL SALAM HANFU</b> DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER	<b>MOHD HASSAN AKHUND</b> PRIME MINISTER	<b>MULLAH ABDUL GHANI BARADAR</b> DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER	
<b>MOHAMMAD YAQOOB</b> DEFENCE MINISTER	<b>SIRAJUDDIN HAQQANI</b> INTERIOR MINISTER	<b>AMIR KHAN MUTTAQI</b> FOREIGN MINISTER	<b>SHER MOHAMMAD ABBAS STANIKZAI</b> DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER
<b>MULLAH HIDAYAT BADRI</b> FINANCE MINISTER	<b>ABDUL HAKIM</b> MINISTER OF JUSTICE	<b>KHAIRULLAH KHAIRKHWWA</b> INFORMATION MINISTER	<b>ZABIHULLAH MUJAHID</b> DEPUTY INFORMATION MINISTER

- ❖ Taliban in Afghanistan has announced the formation of the new cabinet.
- ❖ It is an all-male cabinet.
- ❖ The government will be led by Mullah Hasan Akhund as the 'acting' Prime Minister.

## ECONOMY

### Digital Payment Scorecard

- ❖ The Bank of Baroda tops in the MeitY (Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology) Digital Payment Scorecard for the month of February and March 2021.
- ❖ The scorecard ranks 44 banks (Public Sector Banks, Private Banks, Foreign Banks, Payments Banks, Small Finance Banks) on various parameters on the digital business.



## ENVIRONMENT

### CII National Energy Leader

- ❖ GMR led Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) has won the prestigious awards of CII 'National Energy Leader' and 'Excellent Energy Efficient Unit'.
- ❖ GMR Hyderabad International Airport Limited (GHIAL) also clinched the CII 'National Energy Leader' and 'Excellent Energy Efficient Unit'.
- ❖ It was at the 22nd National Award ceremony for 'Excellence in Energy Management'.
- ❖ It was organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) - Green Business Centre (GBC) during the 22nd edition of 'Energy Efficiency Summit'.

- ❖ The objective of these awards is to recognize the companies engaged in energy-efficiency initiatives that adopt best practices and technological advancement in their daily operations.
- ❖ DIAL is Asia Pacific's first Level 4+ (transition) accredited airport under Airport Council International's Airport Carbon Accreditation (ACA) programme.
- ❖ Hyderabad International Airport is also a carbon neutral airport having Level 3 + "Neutrality" accreditation.



### **Latest Red List of Threatened Species**

- ❖ The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has released this report.
- ❖ Some 902 species are officially extinct according to the latest Red List
- ❖ The Red List also shows that 30 per cent of the species (38,543) that it assessed (138,374) face the threat of extinction.
- ❖ Some 80 species are extinct in the wild, 8,404 are critically endangered, 14,647 are endangered, 15,492 are vulnerable and 8,127 are near threatened.
- ❖ The Atlantic bluefin tuna moved from endangered to least concern.
- ❖ The Southern bluefin tuna moved from critically endangered to endangered.
- ❖ The world's largest living lizard, the Komodo dragon has been moved from vulnerable to endangered.
- ❖ The species is endemic to Indonesia and occurs only in the World Heritage-listed Komodo National Park.

## THE RED LIST CATEGORIES

Extinct



**Extinct (EX):** no reasonable doubt that the last individual has died

**Extinct in the Wild (EW):** known only to survive in captivity, cultivation or well outside its natural range

**Critically Endangered (CR):** facing extremely high risk of extinction in the wild

Threatened



**Endangered (EN):** facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild,

**Vulnerable (VU):** facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.

**Near Threatened (NT):** close to qualifying, or likely to qualify for a threatened category in the near future



Least Concern



**Least Concern (LC):** population is stable enough that it is unlikely to face extinction in the near future

**Data Deficient (DD):** not enough information on abundance or distribution to estimate its risk of extinction

### Pollen Calendar

- ❖ Chandigarh gets its first pollen calendar.
- ❖ Pollen calendars are graphical representations of the time dynamics of airborne pollen taxa in a certain geographic area.
- ❖ Pollens are considered major outdoor airborne allergens responsible for allergic rhinitis, asthma and atopic dermatitis in humans.

## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### Yamin Hazarika - Woman of Substance Award

- ❖ Writer Namita Gokhale has been chosen as the recipient of the seventh Yamin Hazarika Woman of Substance Award.
- ❖ She is a co-founder and co-director of the Jaipur Literature Festival.
- ❖ The award was organised by a collective of women professionals from the year 2015.
- ❖ The annual award honours Yamin Hazarika, the first woman from Northeast India to be selected for DANIPS.

- ❖ DANIPS is a federal police service that administered Delhi and the Union Territories in 1977.



## IMPORTANT DAYS

### **International Day for South-South Cooperation – September 12**

- ❖ The day celebrates the economic, social and political developments made in recent years by regions and countries in the south.
- ❖ The history of the South-South cooperation begins in 1949 with the establishment of the UN technical aid programme by the Economic and Social Council and the creation of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 1969.



### **International Programmers' Day – September 13**

- ❖ It celebrates the positive changes that programmers make to improve our everyday lives.
- ❖ It is celebrated on the 256th day of each year on September 13, or on September 12 in leap years.
- ❖ 256 is also the highest power of two (28) that is less than 365.

