



February – 25

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister launched the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) on February 24.
 - He handed over the first instalment of Rs 2,000 to a few farmers at Kalaivanar Arangam of Chennai to launch the scheme. During this function, Union Minister Piyush Goel was also there.
- ❖ PM inaugurated the scheme of giving Rs. 6,000 annual financial assistance to farmers which was announced in the interim budget on February 24 at Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ Justice Senthilkumar Ramamoorthy was sworn in as the additional judge of the Madras High Court on February 22.
 - With this appointment the strength of the high court stands at 60 judges against the sanctioned strength of 75.
- ❖ Central Information Commission has ruled that, an Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) also is a “information” under the Right to Information Act.
 - So now Election Commission has to respond to an RTI application seeking the EVM either by providing it or refusing it under exemption clauses in the Act.
- ❖ Professional services firm Deloitte will provide education and skills training to 10 million girls and women in India with an aim to equip them to find a meaningful work.
- ❖ Saurabh Chaudhary won gold in the ISSF Shooting World Cup in New Delhi, also shattering World Record to finish top of the 10m air rifle men’s event.
- ❖ GST Council decided to slash the levy on under-construction houses to 5% with a special rate of 1% introduced for affordable homes.
 - It withdraws the benefit of tax credit on inputs such as steel, cement and paint, arguing that builders were pocketing the gains.
- ❖ Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for Patna Metro Rail Project in Bihar's Barauni.
- ❖ 155 houses built by India under the Indian Housing Project in Sri Lanka, were handed over to the residents of the country's plantation area.
- ❖ 3 days 4th edition of Agri Leadership Summit held at the proposed International Fruit and Vegetable Terminus in Ganaur at district Sonapat, Haryana.



- ❖ Sunil Chhetri, 34-year-old Padma Shri holder, was conferred the first ever Football Ratna honour by Football Delhi, the association governing the sport in the city.
- ❖ Himachal Pradesh Assembly passed the Official Language (Amendment) Bill 2019 to make Sanskrit the second official language in the state.
- ❖ Telangana government announced the creation of two new districts - Narayanpet and Mulugu, taking the number of districts in the state to 33.
- ❖ Chennai Spartans defeated Calicut Heroes to win the inaugural edition of the Pro Volleyball League.
- ❖ Leg-spinner Rashid Khan of Afghanistan became the first bowler to bag four wickets off successive deliveries in Twenty20 Internationals.

TAMIL NADU

TN New tenancy Act

- ❖ Tamil Nadu government introduced the new tenancy Act, which is aimed at balancing the rights of the tenants and owners.
- ❖ It was modelled on the Centre's Tenancy Act.
- ❖ This Tamil Nadu Regulations of Rights and Responsibilities of Landlords and Tenants Act 2017 will replace the Tamil Nadu Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, 1960, which is popularly known as Rent Control Act.
- ❖ CM launched an exclusive portal www.tenancy.tn.gov.in, where people can create tenancy registration number under the tenancy act.

ECONOMY

3 working groups to facilitate exports, curb tax evasion

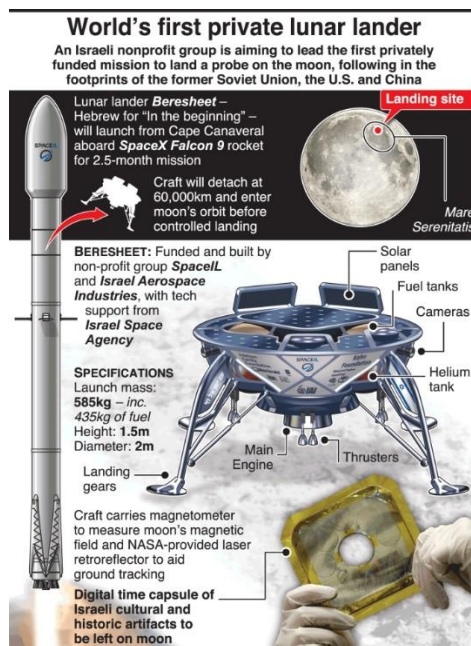
- ❖ Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has constituted three Working Groups to study and recommend measures to facilitate trade, promote exports and improve compliance.
- ❖ The working groups will focus on export promotion and facilitation with emphasis on boosting exports through
 - e-commerce,
 - Addressing the trade facilitation barriers faced in India's export market and

- Improving the quality of logistics services for exporters.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

World's first privately funded mission to moon

- ❖ An Israeli spacecraft aboard a SpaceX rocket has launched from Cape Canaveral in Florida of USA.
- ❖ It will travel two-month to land on the Moon.
- ❖ It is a washing machine sized robotic lander named Beresheet, the Hebrew word for Genesis.



- ❖ If successful then Israel will join the club of countries which includes Russia, the US and China who have made successful controlled landing on the surface of moon.

STATES

Monkey declared as vermin

- ❖ Monkeys have again been declared vermin for the next one year in 11 districts’ 91 tehsils and sub-tehsils of Himachal Pradesh.



- ❖ The Centre has issued a notification on February 14, 2019 and this notification would be applicable for a period of one year.
- ❖ Centre urges that it is necessary to declare monkeys as a vermin species as these animals have been adversely affecting crops and causing harm to humans.

Designation of Vermin

- ❖ Vermin refers to pests or nuisance animals which spread diseases or destroy crops or livestock.
- ❖ In India, Section 62 of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 empowers the states to send a list of wild animals to the Centre requesting it to declare them vermin for selective slaughter.
- ❖ Such wild animal shall be included in Schedule V of the law, depriving them of any protection under that law.

2nd Edition of water conservation scheme

- ❖ Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani launched the 2nd edition of the state government's water conservation drive called "Sujalam Sufalam Jal Sanchay Abhiyan".
- ❖ This scheme aims to deepen water bodies in the state before monsoon to increase storage of rainwater to be used during times of scarcity.
- ❖ 1st edition witnessed an increase in the water storage capacity of more than 11,000 lakh m³ rainwater through different sources like ponds, reservoirs, check dams and others.

Two silk projects in Assam

- ❖ Union Minister Smriti Irani inaugurated two projects under the ministry of textiles at Udalguri district in Assam.
- ❖ It is aimed at the economic uplift of the people below the poverty line by Eri silk farming.

Soil to Silk Project

- ❖ This project envisages new Eri plantation on 100 hectares and will facilitate post cocoon activities for an on-farm sector like plantation, spinning and reeling.

Eri Spun Silk Mill

- ❖ It will be implemented directly by the state government in co-coordination with the Central Silk Board.



- ❖ Eri Silk Development Project has been dedicated for sustainable livelihood for women of Bodoland Territorial Council through tapioca plantation at Kokrajhar.
- ❖ Objective of the project is to utilize tapioca plantation for dual purpose –
 - Tuber for food and the leaves for Eri silkworm to cover tribal families below poverty line.
 - Exploiting available natural resources to the best advantage of the Eri silkworm and rearing and weaving sector.

SPORTS

Olympic qualifying events

- ❖ International Olympic Committee (IOC) suspended all Indian applications to host future Olympic-related events until New Delhi guarantees in writing the entry of all participants.
- ❖ The IOC measure comes after two Pakistani shooters were denied visas to compete in the ISSF Shooting World Cup.
- ❖ It also urged all international sports federations not to hold events in India, or grant hosting rights to the country for future competitions.
