

**March – 19**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ The National company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) gave a conditional approval to Arcelor Mittal to proceed with its 42,000-crore proposal to take over debt-ridden Essar Steel.
- ❖ Tropical Cyclone Idai has brought massive destruction across Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

## **TAMIL NADU**

### **Tamil Nadu Accident & Emergency Care Initiative (TAEI)**

- ❖ State Crime records bureau of 2017 indicated Tamilnadu accounted for 10.1% of the total road accident fatalities in the country.
- ❖ With the coordinated efforts of various stakeholders such as the police, health and transport officials, fatalities in road accidents in Tamilnadu have dropped by 24.39% in 2018.
- ❖ TAEI was created under the Health department to coordinate with various stakeholders and avoid casualties.
- ❖ TAEI has integrated government medical college hospitals, district headquarter hospitals and government hospitals working in various locations across the State.
- ❖ Every TAEI centre has a designated trauma nodal officer and nurse coordinators on duty at all times.
- ❖ The efforts were recognised by the Supreme Court-appointed committee on road safety, which recently suggested that other States emulate Tamil Nadu's initiatives.

## **NATIONAL**

### **Country-by-country reports**

- ❖ India and the US can now exchange country-by-country (CbC) reports filed by the parent corporations based in either of the countries.
- ❖ The Income-tax Act requires Indian subsidiaries of multinational companies to provide details of key financial statements from other jurisdictions where they operate.

- ❖ This provides the I-T Department with better operational view of such companies.
- ❖ The provision was a part of the Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) action plan.

## INTERNATIONAL

### **Katchatheevu Festival**

- ❖ The Anthony Church festival began in March 15<sup>th</sup> in 2019. The church festival runs for two-three days.
- ❖ For the first time in recent years, local traditional and country boat fishermen have been granted permission to sail in their 'vallams' (country boats) for the festival.

### About

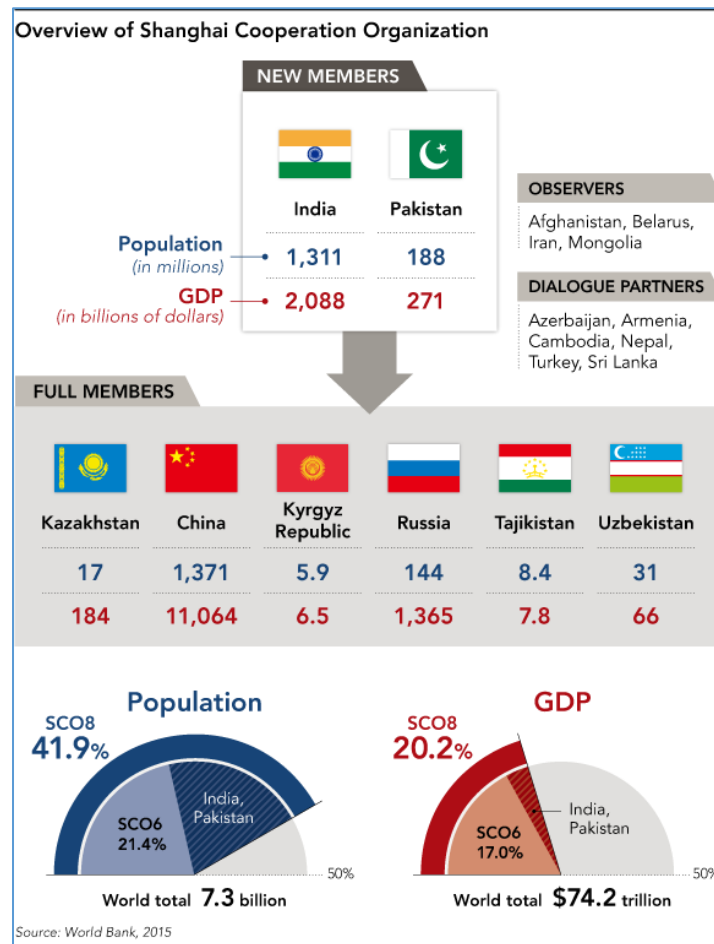
- ❖ St. Anthony's Shrine is a unique place of worship as it shares the maritime borders of two countries, India and Sri Lanka, and is a declared holy place by Sri Lanka.
- ❖ No one is required to possess an Indian passport or Sri Lankan visa for visiting Katchatheevu.
- ❖ St. Antony's Catholic Shrine holds 100+ year old traditions.
- ❖ It was dedicated in 1905 to Anthony of Padua, the patron saint of fishermen.
- ❖ It was built by an Indian Catholic (Tamilian) called Srinivasa Padaiyachi.
- ❖ Katchatheevu is a controversial uninhabited 285-acre (1.15 km) island situated on the Sri Lankan side of the maritime boundary.
- ❖ This island was with India till 1974 when it was ceded to Sri Lanka by then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

### **Joint Anti-terrorism Exercise**

- ❖ India, Pakistan and the other members states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) will take part in a joint anti-terrorism exercise to be held this year by the grouping.
- ❖ The decision to hold the joint exercise 'Sary-Arka-Antiterror 2019' was announced during the 34<sup>th</sup> meeting of the SCO's Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) council held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

### Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)

- ❖ Shanghai Cooperation Organisation is a Eurasian political, economic, and military organisation founded in 2001.
- ❖ Its objectives are cooperation between member nations on security-related concerns, military cooperation, intelligence sharing and counter-terrorism.
- ❖ India and Pakistan joined SCO as full members on 9 June 2017.
- ❖ SCO has 8 Full member states in total.



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### 1.3 PetaFlop Computer

- ❖ IIT Kharagpur has signed an MoU with the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) to setup India's first 1.3 PetaFlop High-Performance



Computing facility and data centre ecosystem under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).

- ❖ Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) is an autonomous Scientific Society of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Bomb Cyclone

- ❖ Strong winds, heavy snow, rain and historic flooding has followed in the wake of the “bomb cyclone” that hit into the central U.S.A.
- ❖ It has created the worst floods in half a century.

### Bomb Cyclone or Bombogenesis

- ❖ A winter storm that is called a bomb cyclone or “bombogenesis” by meteorologists.
- ❖ It is expected to rapidly intensify, dropping 24 millibars (or atmospheric pressure) over a 24-hour span.
- ❖ The difference in temperature between warmer seas (Atlantic Ocean) and colder land mass (American Midwest) is the reason for the creation of such strong winter storms in Mid latitude land masses.
- ❖ Such extreme climatological events are related to Global warming by prominent climatologists.

## STATES

### Goa Chief Minister

- ❖ Pramod Sawant (45) was sworn-in as 11th Chief Minister of Goa on March 19.
- ❖ He was given the oath of office and secrecy at Raj Bhavan by Goa Governor Mridula Sinha.



- ❖ Pramod Sawant was former Speaker of Goa legislative Assembly and MLA from Sankhelim in North Goa.

## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

### Business Line's Changemaker Award 2019

- ❖ The Business Line's Changemaker awards are given to recognise social entrepreneurs, who have achieved against immense odds.



- ❖ Changemaker of the Year Award
  - GST Council
  - Petitioners against Section 377 of the IPC
- ❖ Young Changemaker award

- Anju Verma - Award for using education as a tool to improve the social mobility of underprivileged children.
- Kush and Arjun Pandey - Started the ScoutMe platform to scout for football talent.
- ❖ Social Transformation award
  - Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences- Provides quality education in Maoist and Naxal-affected hinterlands.
- ❖ Digital Transformation award
  - eNAM (National Agriculture Market) - for enabling farmers to directly sell their produce in the market.

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **National Vaccination Day**

- ❖ In 2019, India observed National Vaccination Day or sometimes called as National Immunization Day (NID) on March 10th.
- ❖ The observance of National Vaccination Day is an attempt to enhance awareness for the eradication of polio from planet earth.
- ❖ Every year on this day, millions of children are immunized with the polio vaccine.

### **Background**

- ❖ Every year, India observes National Immunisation Day in January to mark the launch of pulse polio programme.
- ❖ Initially, India observed National Vaccination Day on 16th March every year.
- ❖ National Immunization Day was first observed on 16th March 1995 when first dose of Oral Polio Vaccine was given.
- ❖ In India, the last case of wild polio was reported on 13 January 2011.

### **Ordnance Factory Day**

- ❖ Ordnance Factories Day is observed on 18 March each year.
- ❖ Ordnance Factory Board is an industrial organisation, functioning under the Department of Defence Production of Ministry of Defence, Government of India.

- ❖ It is engaged in research, development, production, testing, marketing and logistics of a comprehensive product range in the areas of air, land and sea systems.
  - ❖ OFB is the world's largest government-operated production organisation, and the oldest organisation run by the Government of India.
  - ❖ It is often called the "Fourth Arm of Defence", and the "Force Behind the Armed Forces" of India.
  - ❖ The production of India's oldest Ordnance Factory, which is at Cossipore of Kolkata, was started in 18th of March, 1802.
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