

April – 24

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ African Nation, Malawi will be undertaking large scale pilot tests for the world's most advanced experimental malaria vaccine under the trade name Mosquirix.
  - Four successive doses of the vaccines must be administered on a strict timetable for it to work.
- ❖ The Election Commission of Bangladesh plans to conduct local government elections in that country through high technology Electronic Voting Machine (EVM).
- ❖ Union Health Ministry has decided to replace the words 'chemist' and 'druggist' with the term 'pharmacy'.
  - This is in sync with the international practice of naming a medical shop selling medicines by the name 'pharmacy'.
- ❖ A 15-year-old Indian-origin boy Ranveer Singh Sandhu has been lauded as Britain's youngest accountant after setting up a successful accountancy firm while still at school.
- ❖ Peru's former President Alan Garcia shot himself on charges of corruption in Odebrecht scandal.

## TAMIL NADU

### Thanjavur Inscriptions

- ❖ Fake news has been spread that Tamil inscriptions in the Thanjavur Brihadeeswara temple are being replaced with Hindi inscriptions.
- ❖ In reality, the epigraphs were in Marathi, written in Devanagiri script which is common for Hindi.
- ❖ Please click the following link for more information
  - <https://www.tnpscthervupettagam.com/modi-script/>
- ❖ List of Epigraphs in Thanjavur Big temple

Emperor / Period	No of Inscriptions
Raja Raja Cholan	64
Rajendra Cholan	21

Rajajraja Cholan -II	1
Kulotunga Cholan - I	1
Kulotunga Cholan - III	1
Rajendra Cholan - III	1
Pandian Period	2
Vijayanagar Nayaks Period	4
Marati Rulers Period	4

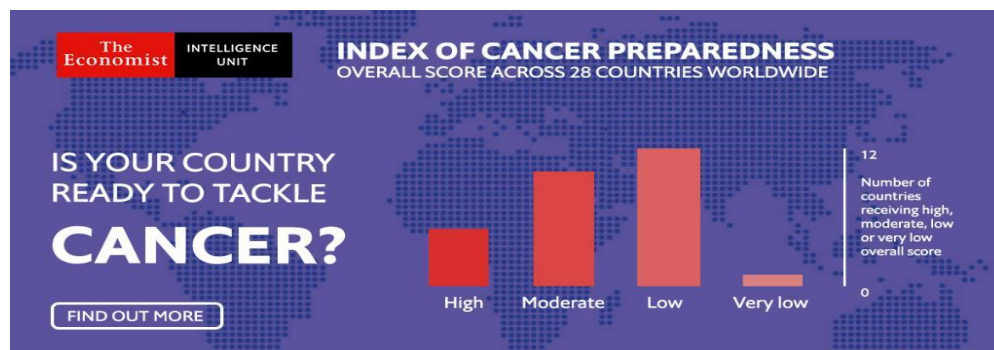
## NATIONAL

### 3100 Medical Kits

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has distributed over 3,100 Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits (SAECK) among the States and Union Territories.
- ❖ This is also known as 'Rape Investigation Kits'.
- ❖ Using these, police can collect blood samples, semen samples and other evidence to carry out an immediate medico-legal investigation.
- ❖ The SAECKs were procured with financial support under the central government's women welfare specific 'Nirbhaya Fund'.

### Cancer Preparedness

- ❖ India is ranked at 19 out of 28 countries in the Index of Cancer Preparedness (ICP) released by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU).



- ❖ ICP has been introduced as part of the report titled “Cancer preparedness around the world: National readiness for a global epidemic.”
- ❖ The ICP explores the issue of cancer preparedness through three broad domains
  - Policy and Planning
  - Care delivery
  - Health systems and Governance

### **Unique properties - Ganga**

- ❖ Union Water Resources Ministry commissioned a study to find unique properties of Ganga.
- ❖ The Nagpur based NEERI team assessed the water quality in the Bhagirathi and the Ganga at 20 sampling stations.
- ❖ It was done on “radiological, microbiological and biological” parameters.
- ❖ Ganga had three times more bacteriophages than bacterial isolates.
- ❖ Bacteriophages are a kind of virus that kill bacteria.
- ❖ They are typically harmless not only to the host organism but also to other beneficial bacteria.

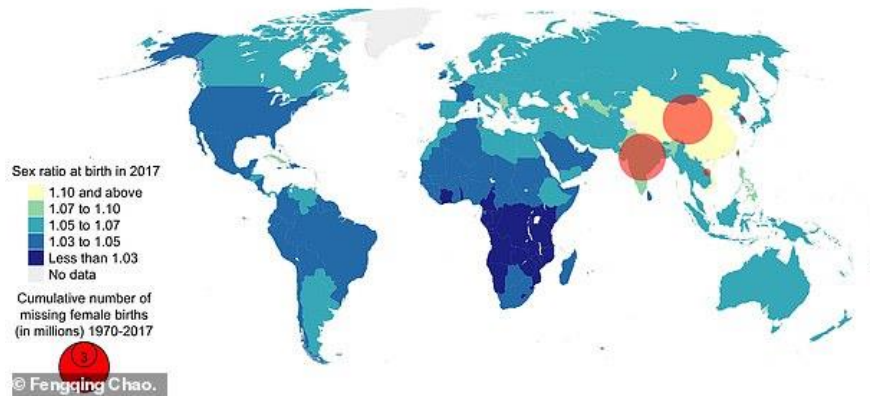
### **National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI)**

- ❖ It was set up in 1958 with a major focus on water supply, sewage disposal, communicable diseases.
- ❖ NEERI is a pioneer laboratory in the field of environmental science and engineering.

### **Female Infanticide**

- ❖ A study on the world population trends was conducted by a team of researchers in Singapore.
- ❖ The report was published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.
- ❖ It finds that the world could be missing at least 23 million girls because of sex-selective abortions.
- ❖ The majority of the missing girls are from China and India.
- ❖ Approximately 10.6 million of these so-called 'missing females' are in India and 11.9 million are from China.

- ❖ China's One Family One child policy and preference for male babies severely compounded the problem.



## INTERNATIONAL

### Joint border rapid reaction force

- ❖ Iran and Pakistan have agreed to set up a joint border rapid reaction force.
- ❖ These countries have witnessed increasing violence and attacks by militants in the volatile border.



- ❖ The major concern is around the Iranian Sistan province and Balochistan province of Pakistan.

## Iranian Oil

- ❖ The U.S. has decided that it will not renew exemptions from its sanctions for countries importing oil from Iran.
- ❖ The ending of sanction waiver is part of the US strategy to exert maximum pressure and isolate Iran.
- ❖ India, China, and U.S. allies Japan, South Korea and Turkey will be the most impacted.
- ❖ India is the second biggest buyer of Iranian oil after China.
- ❖ India should get a waiver from the U.S. for both
  - Oil Import
  - Development of Chabahar Port

## ENVIRONMENT

### New Bird spotted

- ❖ A recent study published in the journal Birding ASIA mentions the sighting of Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo bird.
- ❖ It was spotted on the Great Nicobar Island of the Andaman and Nicobar island chain.
- ❖ It is a native of Australia and New Guinea.



- ❖ The sighting was the first recorded instance of the bird in India.
- ❖ Andaman and Nicobar Islands, with just about 0.25 % the country's landmass, is home to about 350 species of exotic birds.

## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

### Global Skill Challenge

- ❖ India has brought home two silver and two bronze medals in Global Skill challenge 2019.
- ❖ The 2019 Global Skills Challenge was conducted in Australia.
- ❖ The competition was conducted by WorldSkills, which organizes the world championships of vocational skills.
- ❖ It is held every two years in different parts of the world.
- ❖ The first competition was held in Madrid, 1950.
- ❖ Worldskills aims to recognize skilled people, show how important skills are in achieving economic growth.

Contestant	Medal	Skill
Sumanth and Manjunatha Desurakara	Silver	Mechatronics
Sanjoy Pramanik	Bronze	Jewellery design
Saurabh Baghel	Bronze	Patisserie and Confectionery

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### Women's Political Empowerment Day – April 24

- ❖ April 24 is celebrated as Women's Political Empowerment Day every year in India.
- ❖ The idea is to bring to focus on the need for female representation in politics.



- ❖ The 73rd Constitutional Amendment, which became Part IX of the Constitution on 24 April 1993, provides for not less than one-third seats reserved for women in local bodies.
- ❖ The Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi has been celebrating April 24 as Women's Political Empowerment Day since 1994.
- ❖ The 25th Women's Political Empowerment Day Celebrations (2019) is on the theme: "Panchayats in Disaster Management".

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