

August - 19

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Rajya Sabha MP Bhim Singh authored a book titled '75 Great Revolutionaries of India'.
- ❖ The largest floating solar project in central and north India generating 90 MW energy has been commissioned at Omkareshwar in Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ Shah Rukh Khan became the first Indian to be honoured with a lifetime achievement award, also called Pardo alla Carriera/ Career Leopard, at the 77th edition of the Locarno Film Festival, Switzerland.
- ❖ The Chhattisgarh announced that it would establish a new tiger reserve, making it the fourth such reserve in the forest-rich State.
  - Currently, Chhattisgarh has three tiger reserves — Indravati in Bijapur district, Udanti-Sitanadi in Gariaband and Achanakmar in Mungeli.

## TAMIL NADU

### Tamil Nadu Government awards 2024



- ❖ Tamil Nadu government announced the recipients of Good Governance Awards, Chief Minister's Police Medal for Excellence in Investigation and Chief Minister's Police Medal for Excellence in Public Service for 2024.
- ❖ It also announced recipients for certificates for innovative initiatives.
- ❖ Six officers will receive Good Governance Awards.
  - They are: J. Innocent Divya, S. Divyadharshini, V.P. Jeyaseelan, K. Elam bahavath, N. Gopalakrishnan and D. Vanitha.
- ❖ 10 police officers would receive the Chief Minister's Police Medal for Excellence in Investigation.

- They are: Deputy Superintendents of Police N. Suresh, S. Sowmiya and S. Pugazhenthir Ganesh; Inspectors K. Punitha, T. Vinothkumar, I. Sornavalli, N. Parvathi, P. Radha, R. Dheivarani and A. Anbarasi.
- ❖ IGP T.S. Anbu, SP E. Karthik, DSP C.R. Boopathirajan, Inspector K. Srinivasan and SI P.V. Mubaidullah would receive the Chief Minister's Police Medal for Excellence in Public Service.
- ❖ Three officers - IAS officers D. Jagannathan and P. Madhusudhan and retired IAS officer R. Sudhan Reddy would receive certificates for innovative initiatives for this year.

### **Autonomy to University of Madras**



- ❖ The University Grants Commission has announced formally that the University of Madras is now a category-1 institution.
- ❖ Last year the University received A++ grade from the National Assessment and Accreditation Council.
- ❖ The UGC in its 582<sup>nd</sup> meeting on July 24 decided to grade University of Madras as a category-1 university.
- ❖ This means the university has complete autonomy and is eligible for all benefits stipulated in clause 4 Dimension of Autonomy for category -1 universities as per the regulations.

## **NATIONAL**

### **QCI Surajya Recognition & Ranking Framework**

- ❖ The Quality Council of India (QCI) is introducing the QCI Surajya Recognition & Ranking Framework.

- ❖ This framework is categorized under four pillars: Shiksha (Education), Swasthya (Health), Samriddhi (Prosperity), and Sushasan (Governance).
- ❖ The Surajya Recognition acknowledges the outstanding performance and the commitment to quality by states and organisations in these vital areas.
- ❖ In the Shiksha Rankings, Uttar Pradesh leads with the highest number of accreditations, assessments, and ratings.
- ❖ Delhi, as a union territory, also ranks prominently.
- ❖ In the Swasthya category, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan, Mizoram and Manipur stand out with complete certification in the Ayushman Arogya Yojana (NABH).
- ❖ Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra lead in the Medical Entry Level Testing Labs (MELT) rankings (NABL).



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Neutron Stars/strange dead stars

- ❖ Astronomers have uncovered ten mysterious neutron stars near the Milky Way's core.
- ❖ All are spinning rapidly and classified as pulsars.

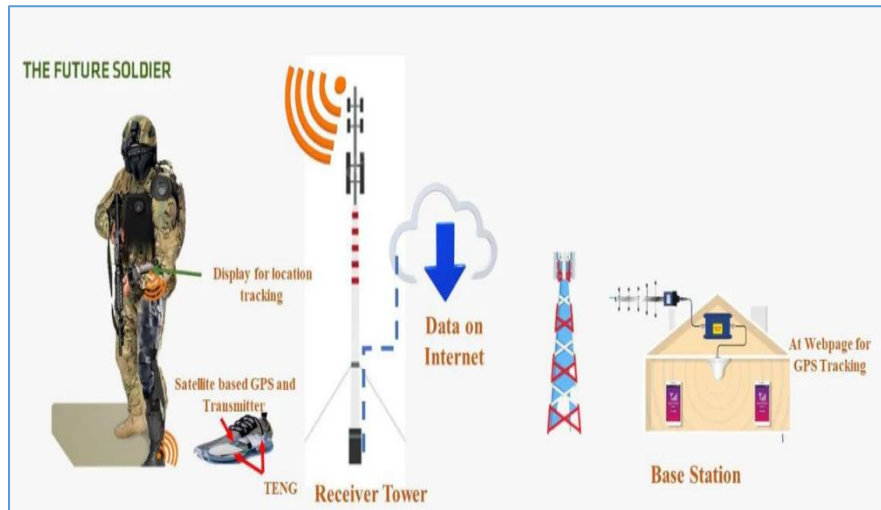
- ❖ These enigmatic stars are nestled in a dense globular cluster 18,000 light-years away.
- ❖ They could possess bizarre and twisted forms due to their unique environment.
- ❖ These pulsars have been uncovered in the globular cluster Terzan 5.
- ❖ Hundreds of thousands of different stars that are 12 billion to 4.5 billion years old can be found there.
- ❖ Terzan 5 is one of the most crowded regions in the Milky Way, with at least 39 known pulsars already swarming it.
- ❖ Three new rare spider pulsars have also been seen in the region.
- ❖ They are Classified as "Redbacks" or "Black Widows," they cast a high-energy radiation "web" on stars that come too close.
- ❖ Redback spider pulsars are those that prey on companion stars with masses between 10 per cent and 50 per cent of the Sun's mass.
- ❖ Black Widow spider pulsars are those that prey on smaller stars with less than five per cent of the Sun's mass.



### **TENG technology**

- ❖ IIT Indore has delivered ten pairs of Tribo-Electric Nanogenerator (TENG) based shoe sole energy harvesting units to DRDO.
- ❖ These shoes are designed to harness energy from human motion, providing a sustainable power source for electronic devices.
- ❖ These shoes utilize advanced tribo-pairs to generate power with each step.

- ❖ The shoes are also equipped with sophisticated tracking technology, including RFID and a satellite-based GPS module for live location tracking.




## ENVIRONMENT

### New Ramsar sites 2024 - India

**3** New wetlands added to the Ramsar Sites:

- > Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary, Tamil Nadu
- > Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary, Tamil Nadu
- > Tawa Reservoir, Madhya Pradesh

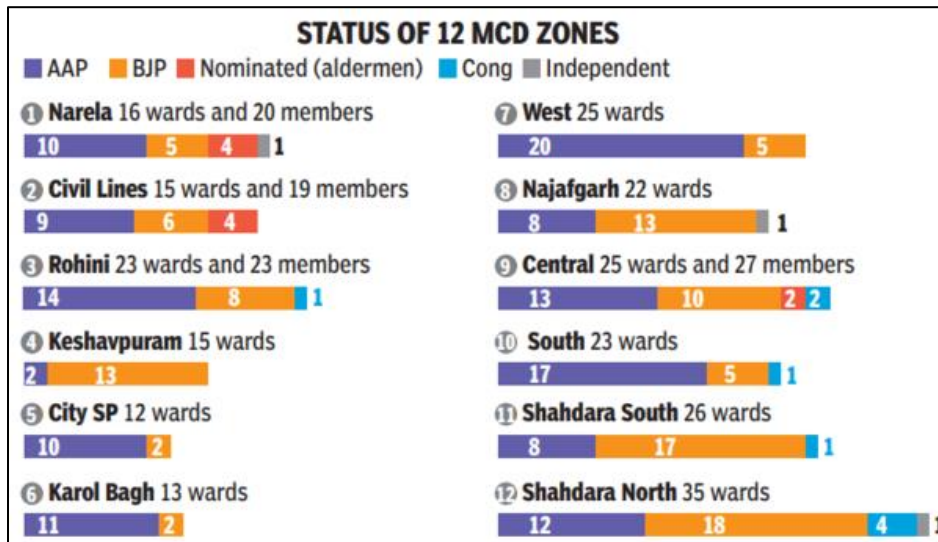


- ❖ Nanjarayan bird sanctuary in Tirupur and Kazhuveli bird sanctuary in Villupuram had recently received international recognition.
- ❖ With this new addition, the number of Ramsar sites in Tamil Nadu has increased to 18, highest among the states.
- ❖ Tawa Reservoir in Madhya Pradesh is also included in the Ramsar list.
- ❖ This takes our tally to 85 Ramsar sites, covering an area of 13,58,068 hectare in India.

- ❖ From 1982 to 2013, a total of 26 sites were added to the list of Ramsar sites in the country.
- ❖ From 2014 to 2024, the country has added 59 new wetlands to the list of Ramsar sites.
- ❖ Currently, Tamil Nadu harbours the maximum number of Ramsar sites (18 sites), followed by Uttar Pradesh (10 sites).
- ❖ The United Kingdom (175) and Mexico (142) have the maximum Ramsar sites.
- ❖ Bolivia spans the largest area, with the 148,000 sq. km. under the Convention’s protection.

## STATES

### Nomination of MCD Aldermen



- ❖ The Supreme Court held that the Delhi Lieutenant Governor (L-G) has the power to nominate ‘aldermen’ to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) without the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers from the Delhi Government.
- ❖ Under the DMC Act, Delhi is divided into 12 zones.
- ❖ The Act also creates a ‘Wards Committee’ for each zone comprising elected representatives and the aldermen within that territory.
- ❖ The Delhi L-G under Section 3 the DMC Act is empowered to nominate 10 aldermen who must be above 25 years of age and “have special knowledge or experience in municipal administration”.
- ❖ The aldermen do not have the right to vote in the MCD meetings.

- ❖ Each of the 12 Wards Committees must elect a member to be a part of the MCD Standing Committee in their first meeting.
- ❖ Aldermen can vote in these elections and stand as candidates for being elected as a member of the Standing Committee.
- ❖ The mayor is the nominal head of the MCD, the Standing Committee effectively manages the functions of the corporation.
- ❖ The Committee cannot be constituted without the alderman participating in the voting process.

### Wainganga-Nalganga River linking project 2024

- ❖ The Maharashtra cabinet recently cleared the ambitious Nalganga-Wainganga River linking project.
- ❖ It is dubbed among the biggest in the country.
- ❖ The project entails lifting water from the Gosikhurd dam on Wainganga River in Bhandara.
- ❖ Then channels it into the Nalganga river in Buldhana through a 427-kilometre-long network of canals, pipelines, and lift irrigation.

