

February - 12

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Telangana government announced Telangana Mobility Valley (TMV) with four mega clusters in and around Hyderabad to further accelerate sustainable transportation systems in India.
 - It is India's first Mobility Valley (TMV).
- ❖ Recently, the Foundation stone was laid for India's fifth nano urea plant in Jharkhand.
- ❖ Kerala wins inaugural championship title of National Beach Soccer Championships.
- ❖ The government will become the single largest shareholder in Vi (Vodafone Idea) with its 33.44% shareholding.

TAMIL NADU

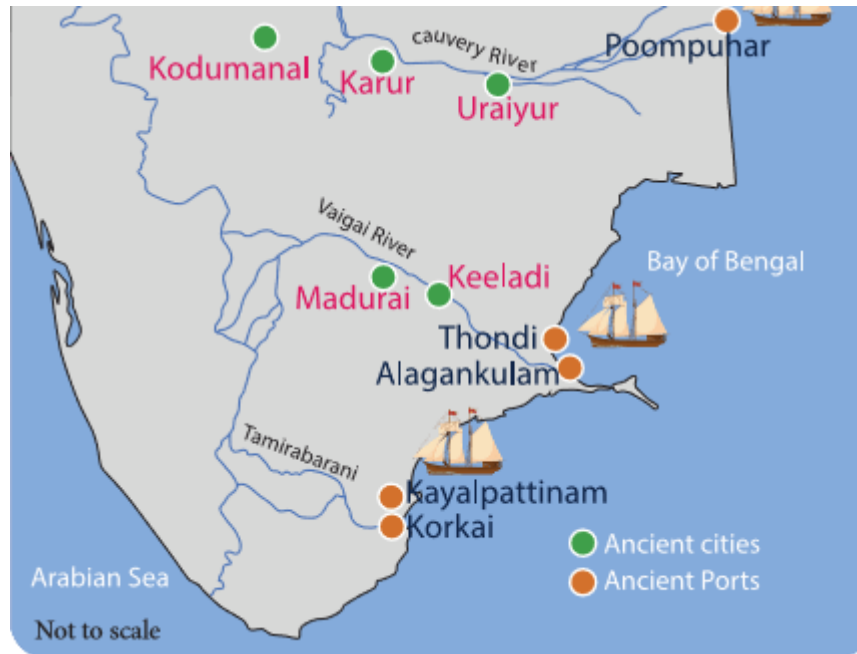
2nd phase of 'Pudhumai Penn'



- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin kick-started the second phase of Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Higher Education Assurance scheme.
- ❖ The scheme was named 'Pudhumai Penn'.
- ❖ It is implemented by the social welfare and women empowerment department.

- ❖ The scheme is aimed at providing financial assistance worth Rs 1,000 per month to girl students who had studied classes VI to XII at government schools.
- ❖ The CM kick-started the first phase of the scheme in September and it has been benefitting 1.16 lakh students.

Sangam Age as 800 BCE



- ❖ In the latest development, the Sangam age has been pushed to 800 BCE based on the archaeological findings.
- ❖ K. Amarnath Ramakrishna, who discovered the first two seasons of Keeladi excavations between 2014 and 2016, submitted his 982-page report to ASI Director General V. Vidyavathi recently.
- ❖ Based on the results of stratigraphy of the cultural deposits found in the first two phases, the period of the Sangam era archaeological site has been placed between 8th century BCE to 3rd century CE.
- ❖ Sangam age was believed to be between 300 BCE to 300 CE.
- ❖ The new report repositions the Sangam age between 800 BCE and 300 CE.
- ❖ Even this period of history has been classified into three periods.
 - The pre-early historic period between 800 BCE to 500 BCE,
 - Mature early history between 500 BCE to the end of 1st century BCE and
 - Post early history from 1st century BCE to 300 CE
- ❖ Keeladi is a hamlet located near Madurai city in Tamil Nadu.

- ❖ It is along the banks of River Vaigai.

NATIONAL

India's Milk production



- ❖ India is the highest milk producer in the world contributing twenty-four per cent of global milk production in the year 2021-22.
- ❖ This is according to production data of Food and Agriculture Organization Corporate Statistical Database (FAOSTAT).
- ❖ India has registered a fifty-one per cent increase during the last eight years-during the year 2014-15 and 2021-22.
- ❖ It is increased to twenty-two crore tonne in the year 2021-22.
- ❖ The National Programme for Dairy Development was launched in February 2014 by merging three existing schemes
 - Intensive Dairy Development Programme
 - Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production and
 - Assistance to Cooperatives.

Yuva Sangam Registration Portal

- ❖ The Yuva Sangam is an initiative to build close ties between the youth of the North East Region and rest of India.

- ❖ The portal was launched under the spirit of “Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat”.
- ❖ Under the initiative over 20 thousand youth will travel across the country and gain a unique opportunity of cross-cultural learning.



Significance of EBSB Yuva Sangam Student Exchange

How to apply

Eligibility and General Guidelines for delegates

Paired Institution (for the pilot tour)

Yuva Sangam (युवा संगम) under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat
Registration form

Degree / Qualification level (Select One)

- UG Student
- PG Student
- Off Campus Youth

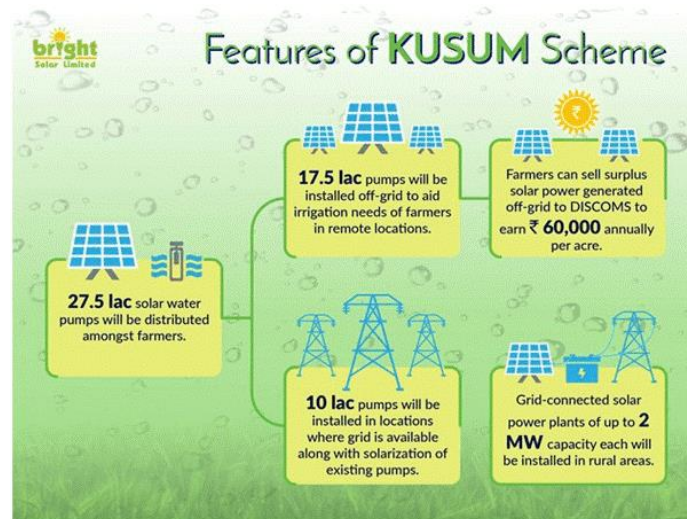
Digital Skills Program in India



- ❖ Reliance Jio and GSMA are proud to announce the national roll-out of their Digital Skills Program.
- ❖ It is a joint initiative under the broader GSMA Connected Women Commitment initiative.
- ❖ The program aims to provide need-based training to rural women and individuals from marginalized / low-income groups to help them make meaningful use of digital access.

- ❖ As per the GSMA's Mobile Gender Gap Report 2022, women in India are 41% less likely than men to use mobile internet.
- ❖ A total of 330 million women in India still do not use mobile internet, compared to 248 million men.

Rooftop Solar Programme



- ❖ The government has extended PM-KUSUM scheme till March 2026.
- ❖ Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) Launched in 2019.
- ❖ It aims to adding solar capacity of 30,800 MW by 2022.
- ❖ The scheme consists of three components:
 - Component A is for installation of 10,000 MW of solar capacity by installing small power plants of capacity up to 2 MW
 - Component B aims at installation of 20 lakh standalone solar-powered agriculture pumps and
 - Component C is for solarisation of 15 lakh grid-connected agriculture pumps.

ECONOMY

Cross-border UPI payments

- ❖ PhonePe launched support for 'UPI international' payments.
- ❖ The feature will allow Indian users travelling abroad to pay foreign merchants using UPI.

- ❖ The current launch supports international merchant outlets in UAE, Singapore, Mauritius, Nepal, and Bhutan that have local QR codes.
- ❖ PhonePe is the first fintech app to launch this feature in India.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

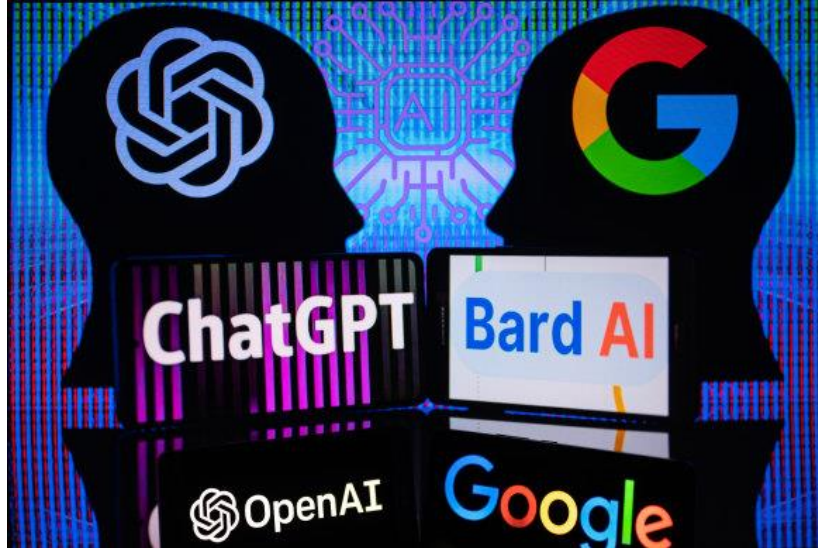
Baidu chatbot 'Ernie'



- ❖ Chinese tech-giant Baidu said it would finish internal testing of its own ChatGPT-style AI chatbot called 'Ernie Bot'.
- ❖ Ernie, meaning "Enhanced Representation through Knowledge Integration,"

- ❖ It is a large AI-powered language model introduced in 2019.

Google chatbot 'Bard'



- ❖ Google is all set to launch 'Bard', a new conversational AI chatbot.
- ❖ It aimed at challenging OpenAI's ChatGPT, backed by Microsoft.
- ❖ Two years ago, Google unveiled next-generation language and conversation capabilities powered by our 'Language Model for Dialogue Applications (LaMDA)'.

STATES

Crackdown of child marriage

WHAT LAW SAYS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 aims to eradicate child marriage > The centre enacted the Act by replacing the earlier legislation of Child Marriage Restraint Act 1929 	<p>PUNISHMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > If a person performs, conducts, directs or abets any child marriage, he shall be punishable with rigorous imprisonment for 2 years or with fine which may extend to Rs1lakh or both <p>WHEN MARRIAGE IS NULL AND VOID</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Where a minor is taken or enticed out of
	<p>the custody of legal guardian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > When a minor is compelled by any deceitful means to go from any place > If a minor is sold for purpose of marriage and go through a form of marriage > If a minor is married after which the minor is sold off or trafficked or used for immoral purpose

- ❖ Over the last few days, Assam has arrested over 2,000 men in a state-wide crackdown on child marriages.
- ❖ Those arrested have been booked under the provisions of the stringent POCSO Act and the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act.
- ❖ Cases under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 will be registered against those who have married girls in the age group of 14-18 years.

Sculpture Park

- ❖ Rajasthan Chief Secretary Usha Sharma inaugurated a Sculpture Park at Bikaner House, Delhi.
- ❖ The sculpture park has a glimpse of modern and contemporary art and culture.
- ❖ The first edition of the sculpture park, sculptures/idols of renowned sculptures from India and abroad along with emerging artists have been displayed.



SPORTS

5th Khelo India Youth Games

- ❖ In the fifth Khelo India Youth Games, Maharashtra ranks first in the medal table with 90 medals including 31 gold.



- ❖ Madhya Pradesh is second with 59 medals including 25 gold medals and Haryana is third with 23 gold medals.

MEDAL TALLY					
RANK	STATE	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	TOTAL
1	Maharashtra	31	31	28	90
2	Madhya Pradesh	25	13	21	59
3	Haryana	23	18	18	59
4	Rajasthan	12	7	11	30
5	Odisha	9	5	9	23
6	Tamil Nadu	8	10	10	28
7	West Bengal	8	7	10	25
8	Uttar Pradesh	6	10	10	26
9	Delhi	5	8	10	23
10	Punjab	5	4	7	16

