

July - 17

## TNPSC BITS

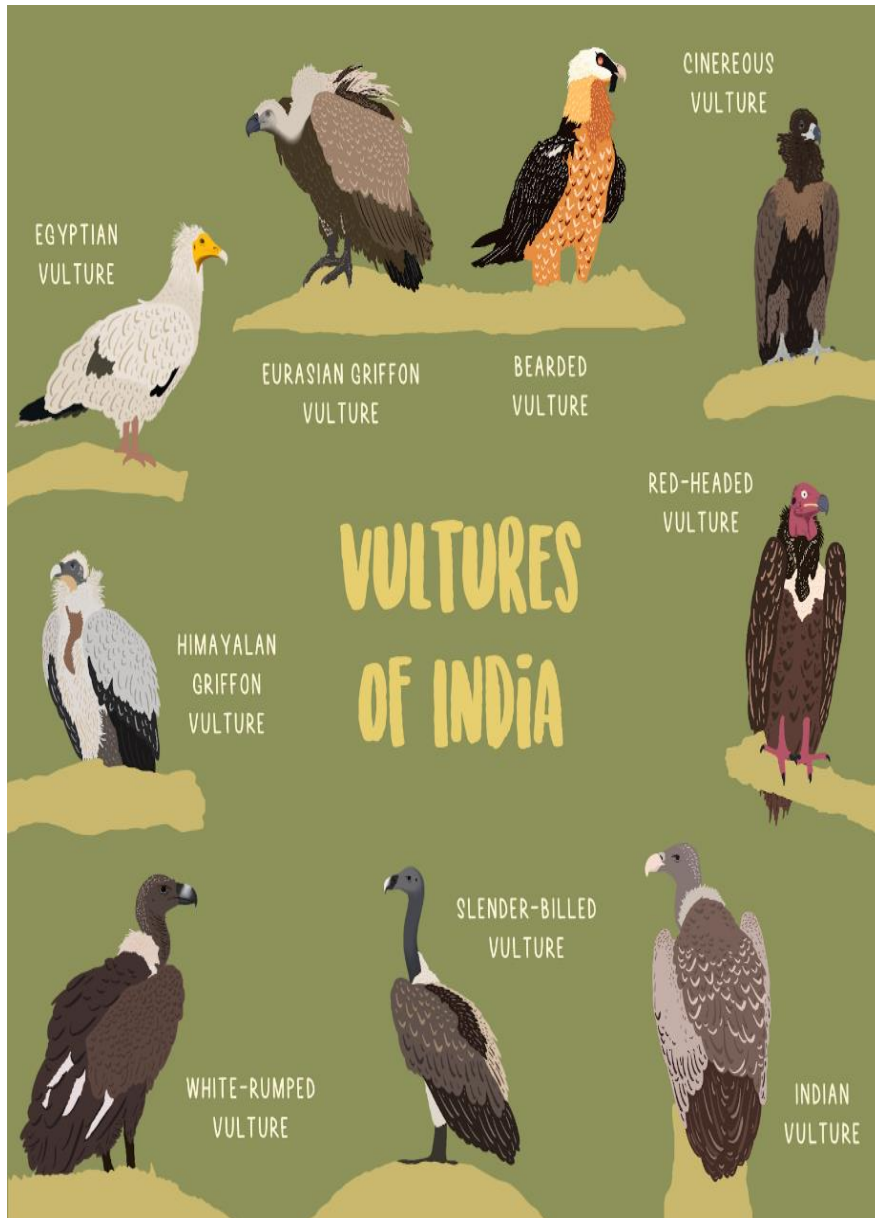
- ❖ The Union government has issued a 100 Rs commemorative coin on the occasion of the 100<sup>th</sup> Year birth centenary of former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Kalam Karunanidhi.
- ❖ Spain secured their fourth European Tennis Championship trophy on a victory over England at the Olympiastadion in Berlin of Germany.
- ❖ Argentina secured its second consecutive and its 16th Copa America Football championship title after beating Colombia in Florida of USA.
- ❖ The Andhra Pradesh Community Managed Natural Farming (APCNF) initiative, launched in 2016, has won the 2024 Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity.
- ❖ India Champions cricket team emerged victorious over Pakistan Champions in the 2024 World Championship of Legends final in Birmingham, England.
- ❖ Union government has announced that June 25, the day the Emergency was proclaimed back in 1975, will hereafter be observed as Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas.
- ❖ The leader of Nepal's largest communist party KP Sharma Oli was appointed Nepal's Prime Minister for the fourth time.
- ❖ RBI has allowed resident individuals to open Foreign Currency Account (FCA) in International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs) at GIFT City in Gujarat under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS).

## TAMIL NADU

### Vulture Study in Tamil Nadu 2024

- ❖ A study on the awareness of vulture conservation across the species' key habitats in Mudumalai (MTR) and Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserves (STR) conducted recently.
- ❖ The communities living in the region have yet to fully realise "vulture-safe" practices in raising livestock and the importance of the birds to the region.
- ❖ Three of the four species – the white-rumped vulture, the long-billed vulture and the Asian king vulture, are resident to the landscape and are known to nest and breed within the two reserves.
- ❖ The Egyptian vulture is believed to be a migratory species.
- ❖ The availability of Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs) are harmful to vultures.

- ❖ Other NSAIDs harmful to the vultures such as Ketoprofen, Aceclofenac and Nimesulide were still available in these veterinary pharmacies.



### **Warning about the term 'Chandala'**

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu State Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has issued an advisory to the State government to avoid employing the term 'Chandala'.
- ❖ The Commission is issuing a warning against using the word 'Chandala' either to insult others or as a joke or on the political stage.

- ❖ It has recommended that those who use it be booked under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.
- ❖ 'Chandala' is listed in Code No. 48 in the List of Scheduled Castes in Tamil Nadu.



## NATIONAL

### Agri SURE fund

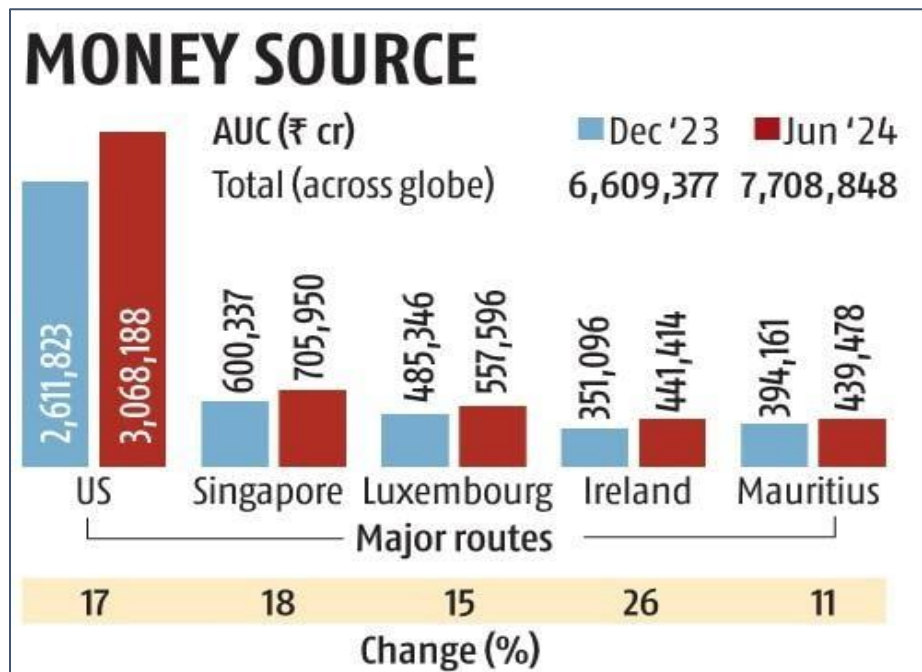


- ❖ NABARD has announced an Agri fund for Start-Ups & Rural Enterprises (Agri-SURE), with initial corpus of ₹750 crore.

- ❖ NABARD and the Ministry of Agriculture are contributing ₹250 crore each, the rest ₹250 crore is from other institutions.
- ❖ The fund is structured to support about 85 agri start-ups with investment sizes of up to ₹25 crore each by the end of its term.
- ❖ The fund will provide support through investments in sector-specific, sector-agnostic, and debt alternative investment funds (AIFs), as well as direct equity support to start-ups.
- ❖ NABARD has also launched the AgriSURE Greenathon 2024.
- ❖ This hackathon will address the issues like the high cost of advanced agriculture technologies, transforming agricultural waste into profitable ventures, and making regenerative agriculture economically viable.

## INTERNATIONAL

### Preferred FPI Destinations for India



- ❖ Mauritius has now slipped to the fifth position, behind Ireland, in terms of assets under custody.
- ❖ Mauritius is one among the leading destinations for foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) routing funds into India.
- ❖ Ireland has registered a 26 per cent surge in AUC for FPIs in the first half of the calendar year.





- ❖ Overall, more than 780 FPIs are registered in Ireland compared to 595 in Mauritius.
- ❖ In March, the governments of Mauritius and India signed a deal to amend the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA).

## ECONOMY

### Liberalized Remittance Scheme - RBI

**RESERVE BANK OF INDIA ('RBI') WIDENS SCOPE OF REMITTANCES TO INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES CENTRES (IFSCs) UNDER THE LIBERALISED REMITTANCE SCHEME (LRS)**

RBI vide a circular dated July 10, 2024 has allowed remittances to IFSCs under the LRS for all permissible transactions including:

- Financial services or financial products as per the International Financial Services Centres Authority Act, 2019 within IFSCs; and
- All current or capital account transactions, in any other foreign jurisdiction (other than IFSCs) through an FCA held in IFSCs

Earlier, the remittance under LRS to IFSC was allowed for limited transactions such as investments in IFSCs in securities and Payment of fees for education to foreign universities or foreign institutions in IFSCs

Accordingly, **the resident individuals can now open a Foreign Currency Account (FCA) in IFSCs** for all permissible transactions.

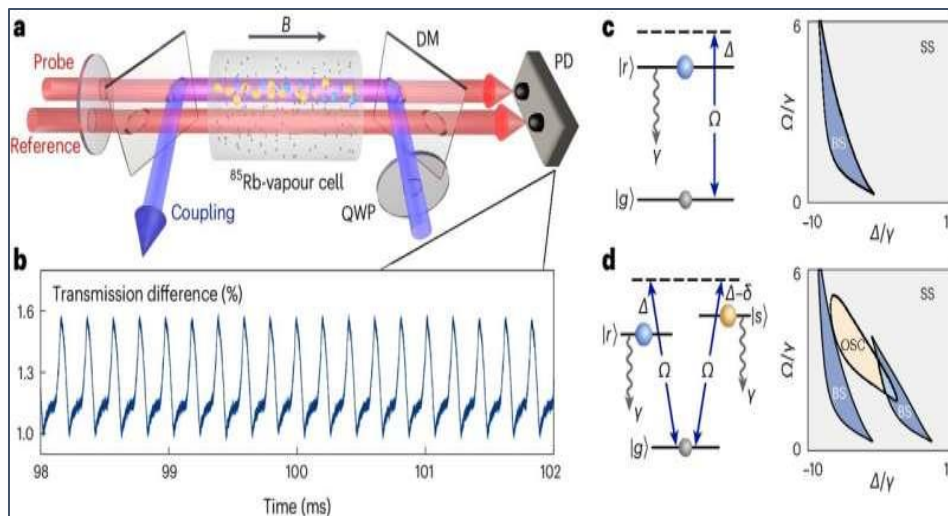
- ❖ To curb large foreign exchange outflows, the Union Budget may bring overseas credit card spending above Rs 7 lakh under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS).
- ❖ The credit card spend thus is likely to be brought under 20 percent tax collected at source (TCS).
- ❖ Under the RBI's LRS scheme, an Indian resident can transfer funds of up to USD 250,000 in a financial year outside India.
- ❖ The objective is to discourage excessive remittances under the LRS.
- ❖ Currently, the expenditures using debit cards, forex cards, or other payment methods incur a 20 percent TCS once they surpass the Rs 7 lakh per person per financial year threshold.

- ❖ In contrast the credit card transactions have been exempted from TCS under LRS rules.
- ❖ Outward remittances under LRS reached \$31.73 billion in 2023-24.
- ❖ It is a 16.91 percent rise from \$27.14 billion in the previous year.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### New type of “Time Crystal”

- ❖ Physicists have blown up atoms to hundreds of times their usual size to create a spectacular version of exotic matter.
- ❖ The strange matter phase, known as a time crystal, was created by firing lasers at rubidium atoms until they ballooned into an excited form.
- ❖ Now, researchers created a mysterious crystal, which cycle periodically between two states seemingly without end, moving forever and never losing any energy.



## ENVIRONMENT

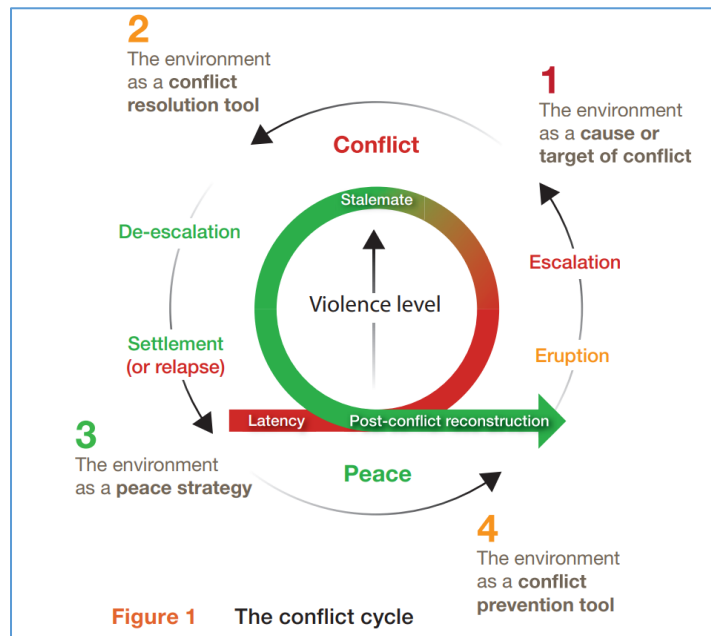
### Mackenzie River - Historic low water

- ❖ Canada's longest river, the Mackenzie River, is experiencing historically low water levels.
- ❖ From the Great Slave Lake to the Beaufort Sea, the Mackenzie River is 1,738 kilometres long.
- ❖ Its watershed covers parts of five provinces and territories.

- ❖ The Mackenzie and its tributaries together drain an area of about 1.8 million sq.km, which represents about 20% of Canada's total land area.
- ❖ The Lake Athabasca, Great Slave Lake, and Great Bear Lake, forms notable parts of the Mackenzie River system.



### Planet on the Move: Reimagining Conservation report



- ❖ The IUCN's analysis has recently released a report titled 'Planet on the move: Reimagining conservation' at the intersection of migration, environmental change, and conflict.

- ❖ The reports estimate 50-700 million people will be displaced by land degradation, including climate change by 2050.
- ❖ Environmental changes force humans and other species to migrate which may result in conflict.
- ❖ Migration policies often treat human and wildlife migration separately, despite the planet being a shared space.

## SPORTS

### Wimbledon Tennis 2024



- ❖ The Wimbledon 2024 final match was held in London, England.
- ❖ Carlos Alcaraz (Spain) defended his Wimbledon men's singles title by beating Novak Djokovic (Serbia).
- ❖ In women's category, Barbora Krejčíková of Czech Republic won the title by defeating Jasmine Paolini (Italy).
- ❖ Other winners:
  - Women's Doubles - Taylor Townsend & Katerina Siniakova.
  - Men's Doubles - Patten & Heliovaara.
  - Mixed Doubles - Hsieh Su-Wei & Jan Zielinski.

