

June - 21

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Actress Alia Bhatt unveiled the first look of her debut children’s book, “Ed Finds a Home.”
- ❖ The renowned wildlife filmmaker Subbiah Nallamuthu has been conferred with the prestigious 18<sup>th</sup> V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award.
- ❖ India will host its first multinational air exercise called Tarang Shakti-2024 in August 2024, with the participation of 10 countries and some others as observers.
- ❖ International Picnic Day worldwide was celebrated on June 18.
- ❖ World Sauntering Day is observed on June 19 to encourage people to slow down and appreciate the world around them as well as to connect with nature.

## TAMIL NADU

### New Archaeological excavations 2024



- ❖ The Tamil Nadu state archaeology department inaugurated archaeological excavations in eight places across Tamil Nadu, including the tenth phase at Keeladi,



- ❖ Excavation work has begun in four new sites this year.
- ❖ They started the tenth phase in Keeladi and fifth phase in Konthagai, both in Sivagangai district.
- ❖ The other sites are, the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase in Vembakottai in Virudhunagar district, 2<sup>nd</sup> phase in Kilnamandi in Tiruvannamalai district, second phase in Porpanai Kottai in Pudukkottai district, and first phase of excavation in Thirumalpuram in Tenkasi district, Chennur in Krishnagiri district, Kongalnagaram in Tirupur district and Marungur in Cuddalore district.

### **Justice Chandru Committee guidelines**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Removal of caste prefixes from school names and must refer to them solely as government schools, followed by their place of location
- Periodic transfer of high school and higher secondary school teachers
- Seating arrangements of students in every classroom should be strictly based on alphabetical order
- Committee to monitor the curriculum relating to social issues and suggest appropriate modifications in a time-bound manner.
- Students should be prohibited from wearing any coloured wristbands, rings, or forehead marks

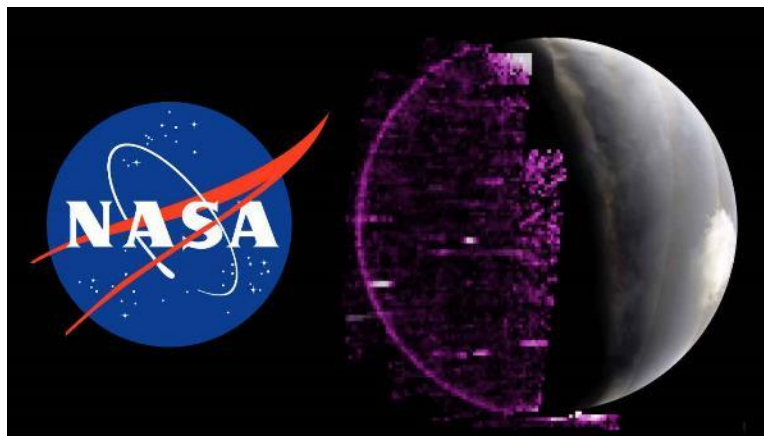
- ❖ The one-man committee headed by retired High Court judge K Chandru, to frame guidelines to avoid violence based on caste and community among college and school students, submitted its report.
- ❖ It recommended to prohibiting forehead markings, coloured wristbands and other caste markers used by the students, and forming the Social Justice Students Force (SJSF).
- ❖ The Caste prefixes should be removed from the names of schools, and the schools must be called 'government schools' along with their location.
- ❖ Further, any caste prefix or suffix associated with the government schools that indicate either the donor or their family should also be removed.
- ❖ The students' attendance register should not contain any column or details relating to their caste.
- ❖ The State government must also take steps to amend the existing Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975.

- ❖ The panel has also recommended enhancing local bodies' control over primary education.
- ❖ The attitude towards social justice issues must be ascertained and taken into account before the recruitment of teachers by the Teachers Recruitment Board (TRB).
- ❖ Guidelines must be issued concerning the non-posting of persons belonging to the dominant caste of that area in the head of institution post.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Purple Rain on Mars

- ❖ NASA recently shared video capturing aurora lights across Mars planet at night.
- ❖ The images showed how magical aurora lights covered the red planet with purple hue.
- ❖ These images were captured by NASA's MAVEN (Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution) orbiter.
- ❖ Auroras are colourful lights which are visible when energy particles emanating from solar storms travel down the magnetic field lines of a planet.
- ❖ Mars lost its internally generated magnetic field in the ancient past, so there's no protection from the barrage of energetic particles.
- ❖ When charged particles hit the Martian atmosphere, it results in auroras that engulf the entire planet.



### Meaty Rice for Sustainable Protein

- ❖ The South Korean scientists are developing a novel rice variety infused with protein cells.

- ❖ It is aiming to provide a more ethical source of protein.
- ❖ Named "meaty rice," this innovative type of rice has a slight buttery aroma, resembles regular rice but with a pink hue.
- ❖ The rice is embedded with beef muscle and fat cell culture.
- ❖ This "meaty" rice contains eight percent more protein and seven percent more fat than typical rice.
- ❖ Cultivated meat is available in markets like Singapore and the United States.
- ❖ However, Italy banned it in the previous year to safeguard its livestock sector.



## ENVIRONMENT

### **New species of snake eel**



- ❖ Scientists have discovered a new species of snake eel from different estuarine ecosystems of Odisha.



- ❖ The new species is named 'Ophichthus Suryai' to honour Surya Kumar Mohanty, former joint director of state fishery department.
- ❖ The new species has also distinction from its closely allied congeners Ophichthus alleni, Ophichthus zophistius, and Ophichthus altipennis.
- ❖ The species was found in the Chilika lagoon, Asia's biggest brackish water lagoon.

## REPORTS AND INDICES

### Mercer's most expensive city 2024

- ❖ Mumbai is now ranked as the 21st most expensive for expats in Asia while Delhi is at the 30th position.
- ❖ Globally, Mumbai climbed 11 places since last year to rank 136<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ The top 5 most expensive cities in the world are Hong Kong, Singapore, Zurich, Geneva, Bern.
- ❖ In the top 20 list, other Indian cities are New Delhi (ranked 164), Chennai (189) and Bengaluru (195).
- ❖ Hyderabad is at (202), Pune is at 205 and Kolkata is at 207.

MOST EXPENSIVE CITIES IN INDIA		
Cities	2024 Ranking	2023 Ranking
Mumbai	136	147
New Delhi	165	169
Chennai	189	184
Bengaluru	195	189
Hyderabad	202	202
Pune	205	213
Kolkata	207	211

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### International Day for Countering Hate Speech 2024 - June 18

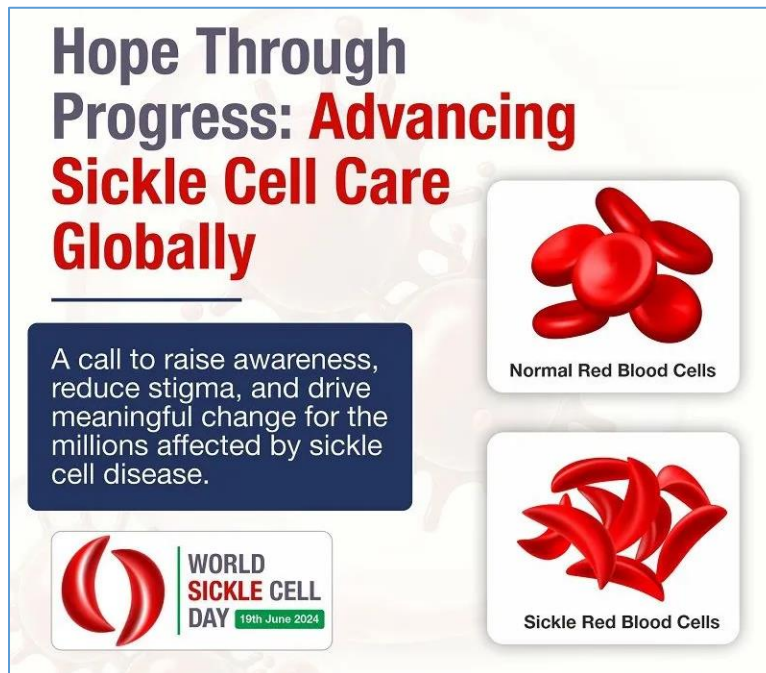
- ❖ It aims to address Hate Speech which has become a matter of utmost concern for the welfare of the society and especially for the minority communities.
- ❖ The UN Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech launched on 18 June 2019.



- ❖ The theme for this year is 'The Power of Youth for Countering and Addressing Hate Speech'.



### **World Sickle Cell Awareness Day - June 19**

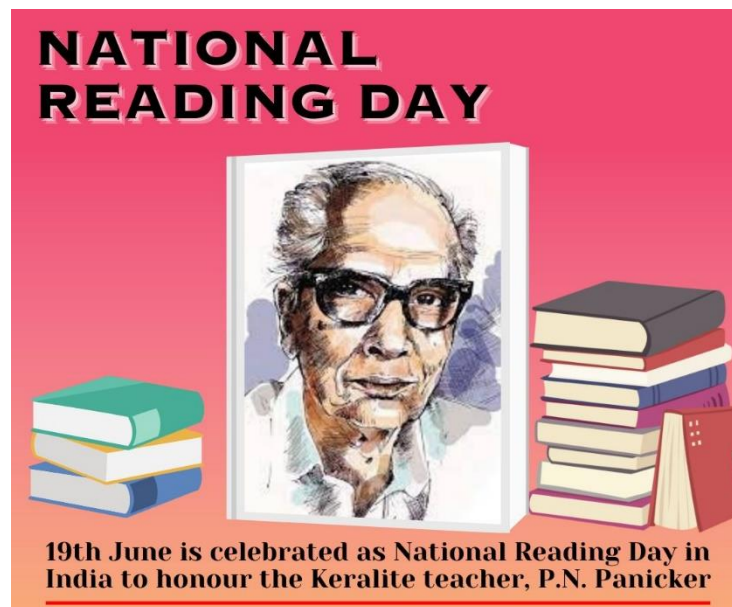


- ❖ It aims to enhance public knowledge and understanding of sickle cell disease, as well as the challenges faced by patients, their families.
- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly on December 22, 2008, recognised sickle cell disease as a public health problem.

- ❖ Sickle cell disease is a genetic blood disorder caused by a mutation in the hemoglobin gene, leading to the production of abnormal hemoglobin S.
- ❖ This results in rigid, crescent-shaped red blood cells that can obstruct blood flow.
- ❖ Theme for this year's is "Hope Through Progress: Advancing Sickle Cell Care Globally."

### **National Reading Day 2024 - June 19**

- ❖ Every year the nation observes the day to mark the death anniversary of PN Panicker.
- ❖ He is famously known as the 'Father of the Library Movement' in Kerala.
- ❖ Panicker was also the founding figure of the Kerala Association for Non-Formal Education and Development (KANFED).
- ❖ KANFED was involved in enhancing literacy rates and education awareness in rural areas.



## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Trial run on Chenab Bridge**

- ❖ Indian Railways conducts trial run on world's highest steel arch rail bridge- Chenab Bridge.
- ❖ This world's highest railway bridge spans the Chenab River at a height of 359 m (1,178 ft) above the river.

- ❖ It is 35 meters taller than Paris' Eiffel Tower.
- ❖ It is a part of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla new line project.
- ❖ This line is expected to connect Anantnag, Pulwama, Shopian, Badgam, Srinagar and Baramulla districts of Jammu & Kashmir.

