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TNPSC BITS

- Aravindan Selvaraj has been appointed as Chairman of the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) Tamil Nadu State Development Council for 2024-25.
- President Droupadi Murmu has appointed Bhartruhari Mahtab, seven-term MP from Cuttack of Odisha, as the pro tem Speaker of the 18th Lok Sabha.
- Prime Minister inaugurated the new campus of the Nalanda University near Rajgir, Bihar.
- The Delhi International Airport has launched the self-service mechanism which enables passengers to drop their luggage, collect tags, and complete the checkin process more efficiently and swiftly.
- The Indian Army has launched a first-of-its-kind skin bank facility to aid treatment of severe burn injuries and other skin-related conditions for service personnel and their families.
- Film-maker Vinod Ganatra has become the first Indian to be conferred the prestigious 'Nelson Mandela Lifetime Achievement Award' of South Africa for his contribution to films.
- Ukraine become the first country to create a new stand-alone branch of the military dedicated to drone systems, known as the Unmanned Systems Forces.
- Chip-maker Nvidia became the world's most valuable company after its share price climbed to an all-time high (\$3.34tn).
- Cricketer Virat Kohli reclaimed his position as India's most valued celebrity, boasting a brand value of USD 227.9 million.
- Thailand's Senate has passed the marriage equality bill to recognise same-sex marriage and becoming the first country in Southeast Asia to legalize allow samesex marriage.

TAMIL NADU

Adopted person's legal heirship

- The Madras High Court has ruled that, the biological relatives of a person who had got adopted, cannot be considered as his legal heirs in order to stake a claim over the properties that he had inherited from the adoptive family.
- Adoptions has been managed as per the Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act of 1956.





- All ties with the biological family would get severed on the day when a person gets adopted by another family.
- Therefore, his/her biological relatives could not seek legal heirship certificate after his/her death.



Eight endangered florae in TN



Tamil Nadu Government's mission to conserve endangered and rare flora having shortlisted the eight species of rare plants, which fall under the vulnerable, endangered and critically endangered category.





- These eight plants have been shortlisted from a list of 25 rare plants.
- The eight species have been categorised as 'prioritised species'.
- ✤ Vernonia shevaroyensis that occurs in Shevaroy hills in Salem is a critically endangered tree.
- There was one tree of Vernonia shevaroyensis at the Botanical Survey of India's botanical garden at Yercaud.
- *Phyllanthus anamalayanus* found in Anamalai hills and some locations of the Valparai plateau in Coimbatore district is a critically endangered species.
- Dipterocarpus bourdillonii found in the Anamalai Tiger Reserve, and Elaeocarpus blascoi found in Vattakanal shola forests of Palani hills in Kodaikanal are the other plants fall under the critically endangered category.

NATIONAL

Lithium assets in Argentina



- Coal India Ltd is exploring lithium blocks in Argentina along with a U.S. company to secure supplies of the battery material.
- India has been exploring ways to secure supplies of lithium, a critical raw material used to make electric vehicle batteries.





India had also proposed a critical minerals trade deal with U.S., which would prohibit the imposition of tariffs on both countries by each other.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

SN 2023adsy Supernova

- Using the James Webb Space Telescope, astronomers discovered SN 2023adsy, the most distant Type Ia supernova detected.
- Supernovae (SNe) are powerful and luminous stellar explosions.
- Supernovae are generally classified into two groups depending on their atomic spectra.
- Type I lack hydrogen in their spectra, and Type II displays hydrogen spectral lines.
- Type Ia supernovae (SN Ia) are found in binary systems in which one of the stars is a white dwarf.



Dhruva Space's Thybolt satellites

Dhruva Space's maiden satellite mission comprising Thybolt-1 and Thybolt-2 satellites have deorbited after a combined 15,000 orbits.





- The mission was launched on November 26, 2022 on the Hyderabad-based space start up's 10th anniversary.
- The mission engaged many ham radio operators across India as well.



ENVIRONMENT



Fires in Pantanal Wetland

Brazil's Pantanal, the largest tropical wetland on earth, is ablaze, with fires.





- This year is threatening to overtake 2020 as the Pantanal's worst year for wildfires on record.
- ✤ It is located in the upper Paraguay River basin.
- The Pantanal straddles Brazil's border with Bolivia and Paraguay.
- The UNESCO World Heritage Site, which covers an area more than twice the size of Portugal, is home to the world's largest jaguar species.
- ✤ Around 95% of the Pantanal is under private ownership.

STATES

First green state headquarters



- The Assam state Secretariat became the country's first green state government headquarters.
- ✤ It was inaugurated a 2.5 MW solar power project on its campus.
- The CM also, announced that Ministers and government officials will have to pay for their electricity consumption.
- ✤ This initiative aims to reduce electricity consumption.
- And it has already been implemented in 8,000 government offices, schools, and other institutions throughout the State.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict 2024 -June 19

• On 19 June 2015, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed this day.





- It aims to raise awareness of the need to put an end to conflict-related sexual violence, to honour the victims and survivors of sexual violence.
- The term "conflict-related sexual violence" refers to rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution, forced pregnancy, forced abortion, enforced sterilization, forced marriage that is directly or indirectly linked to a conflict.



MISCELLANEOUS

Hidden Chamber in Ghodbunder Fort



- ✤ A hidden chamber was recently discovered beneath the inner layers of Ghodbunder Fort during restoration work.
- Ghodbunder Fort, located in Thane, Maharashtra, on the Ulhas River, was built by the Portuguese and completed in 1730.





- Initially used for horse trading, it was later occupied by the Marathas and the British.
- The fort features a Portuguese church from the early 16th century and various historical structures.

Ancient Pearl City Tuam

- Excavations in the Umm Al Quwain area of the UAE have revealed 6th century ruins.
- That could be the lost city of Tu'am.
- ✤ The ruins are situated on Al Sinniyah Island, part of a collection.
- The earliest signs of occupation dating back to the 4th century AD and peaking in the 5th or 6th century.
- The site is the biggest town of that time ever found on the Gulf coast of the Emirates.



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