

Target

TNPSC

WEEKLY

CURRENT AFFAIRS
(ENGLISH)

For TNPSC Group I, II/IIA,
IV & VAO Exams

February Week - 3, 2022



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Tamil Nadu News

Keeladi Archaeological Excavations

1. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Friday virtually inaugurated, the eighth phase of the Keeladi archaeological excavations.



Perumbalai (Dharmapuri district)	Banks of Palar	Search for the roots of Iron Age culture on the river banks
Vembakkottai, Virudhunagar	Banks of Vaiparu in Sivakasi	For collecting a large number of fine tools.
Tulukkarpati, Tirunelveli	Bank of Nambi River	To trace the roots of Iron Age culture
Sivagalai	Banks of the river Porunai (Thamirabarani).	Scientific evaluation of the dehusked paddy grains

Keeladi:

It would focus on finding evidence of trade connections that Keeladi had with different parts of India and other nations and also more evidence of the urban civilization which flourished on the banks of Vaigai river.

It has been proven that the people who lived there were literate as early as in the 6th century BCE.

During the 8th phase of excavations, moss beads and ivory rectangular dice were discovered for the first time.



Source: Dinamani

Tamil Peeda Viruthu :

- **Erode TAMILANBAN** has been chosen for 2021 Ulaga Tamil Peeda Viruthu by Federation of Tamil Sangams of North America - FeTNA
- The award is accompanied by Rs 12 lakh in cash.

Erode TAMILANBAN

- He is a prolific writer of all genres, including classical poetry, novels, plays, novels, and children's literature. Author of more than 50 poems.
- He was a former Professor, Package Television Newsreader, Painter, Songwriter, Director.
- He has already received several awards from the Government of Tamil Nadu, including the 'Kalaimamani' Award and the 'Sahitya Akademi' Award from the Central Government.
- Recently, He received the Karunanidhi Classical Tamil Award presented by the Central Institute of Classical Tamil Studies
- The University of Toronto Scarborough has announced a Tamil literary award in the name of late AIADMK leader and former Minister V.R. Nedunchezhiyan popularly known as 'Navalar' for Erode TAMILANBAN.

Kalingar Ezhuthukol Award:

- It is given for an outstanding journalist who has contributed to the betterment of the community and the marginalized people.
- It will be presented with a cash prize of Rs. 5 lakhs and Certificate of Appreciation.
- The selection committee for Best Journalist is headed by Professor Arunan.

Source: Thinamani

TN Tops in Microfinance Credit:

- Tamil Nadu topped in borrowings from microfinance institutions in the country between September 2020 – 2021, followed by West Bengal, Bihar, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh.
- It is pointing to resurgence in business activity and a possible lack of access to relatively cheaper bank loans.
- It is revealed by the 11th edition of "Microfinance Pulse", a quarterly publication by Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and EquifaxIndia.

Thisaithoaram Dravidam:

Under this scheme various books on the identity of Tamil will be translated into English and other Dravidian languages, from Tamil, the oldest of the Dravidian languages.

They initially published 6 books:

- Silappathikaram,
- Collection of short stories by some of the best Dalit writers in Tamil,
- Short stories by Toppil Mohammad Meeran,
- Introduces 50 Tamil short story writers,
- Kathavilasam by S. Ramakrishnan
- Putham Veedu' by Tamil novelist Epsiba Jesudasan

Muthamizharinjar Translation Project:

- The Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation will jointly publish the bestselling books in English in the fields of literature, physics, medicine, economics, engineering, chemistry and agriculture.
- It can be used for students in higher education, by translating them into Tamil.
- Under this scheme B.R. Subramaniam translated Robert Caldwell's 'Dravidian Languages' or 'Analogy Book' of South Indian Languages.

TN Anti-Harassment Rules:

- It has made an amendment to the police officers' conduct rules to prevent harassment against members of the LGBTQIA (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual) + Community and the people working for the welfare of the community.
- It adds Rule 24C below rule 24B of the Conduct Rules that No police officer shall indulge in any act of harassment of any person belonging to the LGBTQIA.
- It doesn't include the right of police to make an inquiry as per the procedure established by the law.
- Tamil Nadu the first state in India that banned 'conversion therapy,' which are widely available therapy programmes in Indian hospitals as well as many religious institutions to "change" the sexual orientation of LGBT people.

Anjalai Ammal Memorial Day:

- She was born in 1890 in Cuddalore.
- She took an active part in the struggle led by Somayajil to remove Neelan Statute. He also made his nine-year-old daughter, Ammakannu, join the struggle.
- she asked for a month's parole for childbirth
- Gandhi praised Jhansi as the queen of the south.
- In 1931, she presided over The All India Women Congress Meet. In 1932, she took part in another struggle for which she was sent to Vellore prison.
- After India's independence, she was elected as the member of the Tamil Nadu legislative assembly thrice.
- She died on 20th February 1961.

U.V. Swaminatha Iyer:

- His 168th Birth anniversary.
- He was a Tamil scholar and researcher who was instrumental in bringing many long-forgotten works of classical Tamil literature to light.
- He was born on 19 February 1855 in the village of Suriyamoolai near Kumbakonam
- He published the Cilappatikaram, Pattupattu and Ettuthokai
- He is affectionately called Tamil Thatha (literally, "Tamil grandfather").

TN Ramsar site

- Tamil Nadu wants Centre to notify 13 wetlands as Ramsar site.
- A Ramsar site is a wetland designated to be of international importance under the Ramsar Convention established by UNESCO India is also a signatory to the convention.
- The proposal has been made as part of the 'Tamil Nadu wetlands Mission' with a sole purpose of promoting the wise use of wetlands for creating more livelihood opportunities for the local communities.
- Point Calimere Wildlife and Bird Sanctuary is the only wetland that has been designated as a Ramsar protected site in Tamil Nadu.

Ramsar Convention:

- The Convention on Wetlands is the intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.
- It was adopted in the Iranian city of Ramsar in 1971 and came into force in 1975.

GREEN ZONES

The wetlands which the state govt wants Centre to notify as Ramsar sites

Pallikaranai Marsh



Koonthakulam Bird Sanctuary	Tirunelveli
Chitrangudi Bird Sanctuary	Ramanathapuram
Vembanur	Kanyakumari
Suchuindram – Theroor wetland complex	Kanyakumari
Vaduvur Bird Sanctuary	Tiruvarur
Udayamarthandapuram Bird Sanctuary	Tiruvarur
Vellode Bird Sanctuary	Erode
Pallikaranai Marsh	Chennai
Gulf of Mannar Marine Biosphere Reserve	Ramanathapuram
Kanjirankulam Bird Sanctuary	Ramanathapuram
Pichavaram Mangrove	Cuddalore
Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary	Chengalpattu
Karikili Bird Sanctuary	Chengalpattu

Source: TOI

Rural Technology Centres

- Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IIT-M) Pravartak Technologies Foundation has partnered with Asha for Education to launch rural technology centres in Tamil Nadu to take computer science literacy to remote, rural government school students in Tamil Nadu.
- Under the partnership, two Asha-IIT Madras Pravartak Rural Technology Centres were inaugurated in Kanakamma Chatham and Seethanjeri villages in Tiruvallur district

- The Centres would spread the knowledge of technology and its benefits to rural areas of Tamil Nadu and would train class 9 to 12 students.

Source: The Print

National

LIC -IPO:

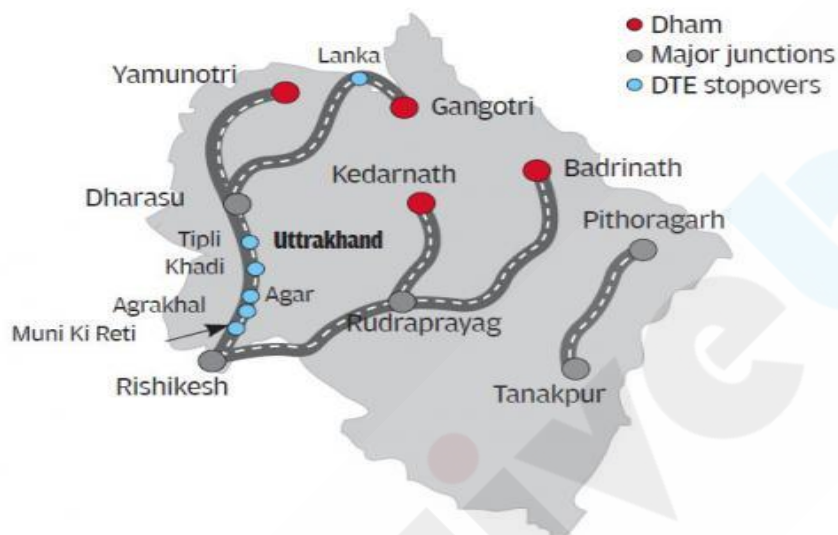
- The government, which owns 100% of LIC, is selling 316 million shares, representing 5% of its equity stake through the IPO.
- The issue is a 100% offer-for-sale, meaning LIC will not receive any proceeds from it.

Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC):

- LIC is India's biggest life insurer with 286 million policies, 115,000 employees, 1.34 million individual agents and more than 2000 branches.
- It has a 64.1% market share in terms of premium and a 66.2% market share in terms of new business premium.

Char Dham Project:

Proposed Char Dham highway



- A flagship initiative of the Centre, the Rs 12,000-crore highway expansion project was envisaged in 2016 to widen 889 km of hill roads to provide all-weather connectivity in the Char Dham circuit.
- It will cover Uttarakhand's four major shrines — Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri and Yamunotri — in the upper Himalayas.
- The project will refurbish 900 km of the damaged highways with two lanes, 12 bypass roads, 15 big flyovers, 101 small bridges, 3,596 culverts and two tunnels.
- The roads will be widened at least 10 metres, and will be strong enough to withstand the harsh climate of the region.
- The improved highway circuit aims to ease traffic during the Char Dham Yatra, the backbone of Uttarakhand's tourism and economy.

JIVA programme:

- It is an agroecology-based programme, an amalgamation of several projects under the watershed programme of NABARD.
- It will be implemented in 11 states covering five agroecological zones, which are in ecologically fragile and rain-fed areas.

• **NABARD Formation: July 12, 1982**

• **NABAR Headquarters: Mumbai**

J&K and NSWS:

- Jammu & Kashmir became the first Union Territory to be onboarded the National Single Window System (NSWS).
- This marks a major leap in Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) in the Union Territory.

- NSWS is a digital platform that provides support to the investors in getting government approvals for projects.
- The portal provides a single platform to enable investors to identify and obtain approvals and clearances needed by investors, entrepreneurs, and businesses in India.

SAMRIDH initiative:

- This is a new partnership under Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
- It will improve access to quality and affordable healthcare for vulnerable populations across tier-2 and tier-3 cities, as well as rural and tribal regions.
- It will blend finance facility in 2020, for combining philanthropic and public funds with commercial capital, in a bid to create and rapidly scale market-based health solutions.

NITI Aayog:

- National Institution for Transforming India, better known as NITI Aayog, was formed via a resolution of the Union Cabinet on 1 January 2015.
- It is the premier policy think tank of the Government of India, providing directional and policy inputs.
- It also provides relevant technical advice to the Centre, States, and Union Territories.
- The Governing Council of NITI Aayog is chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister and comprises Chief Ministers of all the States and Union Territories with legislatures and Lt Governors of other Union Territories.
- The Governing Council was reconstituted vide a notification dated 19 February 2021 by the Cabinet Secretariat.

SMILE:

- Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise' in the presence of Ministers of States.
- It is a Central Sector Scheme launched by Ministry for Social Justice and Empowerment.
- The scheme has two sub schemes - 'Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation for Welfare of Transgender Persons' and 'Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation of Engaged in the Act of Begging'.
- The scheme strengthens and expands the reach of the rights that provide the targeted group with necessary legal protection and a promise to a secured life.
- It also focus on the aspect of social security by emphasizing on providing medical care, education, occupational opportunities and shelter.
- The scheme will provide welfare measures to the Transgender community and people engaged in the act of begging.
- It also focus on the aspect of social security by emphasizing on providing medical care, education, occupational opportunities and shelter.

Comprehensive Rehabilitation for Welfare of Transgender person scheme:

- It will provide scholarships to the transgender students.
- It will set up Transgender Protection Cell to ensure timely registration, investigation and prosecution of offenses.

Comprehensive Rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of Begging:

- It will survey and identification of beneficiaries will be carried out by the implementing agencies

New India Literacy Programme:

- The Ministry of Education (MoE) has announced the 'New India Literacy Programme' for the next five years, to cover all aspects of adult education.
- The estimated total outlay of the scheme is Rs.1037.90 crore which includes Central share of Rs. 700 crore and State share of Rs. 337.90 crore respectively for the FYs 2022 -27.

- This scheme's objectives are to teach not only foundational numeracy and literacy, but also critical life skills such as digital literacy, financial literacy, awareness and health care, commercial skills, education and child care, and family welfare.
- Vocational skills development will also be focused upon so that obtaining local employment becomes easier and basic education including preparatory, middle, and secondary education.
- It targets for Foundational Literacy and Numeracy for FY 2022-27 is five crore learners using the Online Teaching, Learning, and Assessment System (OTLAS)
- The scheme will be implemented through volunteerism through online mode.

SEED:

- It is Scheme for Economic Empowerment of DNTs (SEED)" for the welfare of De-notified, Nomadic and Semi Nomadic Communities - launched by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- It is an umbrella scheme for empowerment of these communities and accordingly, the Scheme for Economic Empowerment of DNTs, SNTs & NTs (SEED) has been formulated with four components that affect their livelihood.
- The four component of the SEED scheme are:
 - Educational empowerment- Free coaching to students from these communities for Civil Services, entry to professional courses like medicine, engineering, MBA, etc.
 - Health Insurance through PMJAY of National Health Authority.
 - Livelihoods to support income generation, and
 - Housing (through PMAY/IAY)
- It has online portal that will ensure seamless registration and will also act as a repository of the data on these communities.
- It will provide real time status of the application to the applicant. The payment to the beneficiaries will be made directly in to their accounts.

Source: PIB

Asia's largest bio-CNG Plant:

- It is located in Indore district of Madhya Pradesh.
- The plant has been set up by the Indore Municipal Corporation (IMC) on public private partnership (PPP) model as per the Centre's 'wealth-to- waste' initiative at an initial investment of Rs 550 crore.
- It is likely to generate 19,000 kg bio-CNG gas.

Source: PIB

Translocation of Cheetahs

- It is a five-member team of experts - left for Namibia to finalise modalities for the translocation of 8 to 10 cheetahs to the Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh
- The team consists of representatives from National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), environment ministry, Wildlife Institute of India, and the Madhya Pradesh government.
- The team, being led by NTCA's Amit Mallick

Cheetah:

- The cheetah was declared extinct from India in 1952.
- Currently there are no cheetahs in any National Park or Wildlife Sanctuary in India.
- It is the only large carnivore to have become extinct in independent India.

Unified Logistics Interface Platform:

- The Centre will roll out the Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP) to drastically reduce logistics costs and make Indian goods competitive.
- The Platform aims to integrate about 24 logistics systems across 6 ministries and departments to provide real time data to all stakeholders and ensure efficient movement of goods through different modes.
- It will also serve as a nationwide single-window logistics platform for end-to-end visibility for efficient movement of goods.

Green Hydrogen/ Green Ammonia Policy:

- The policy grants open access or permission to power plants to procure electricity within 15 days.
- It also allows ammonia manufacturers to conserve their unconsumed renewable power for up to 30 days.
- Plants will get access to procure electricity from renewable sources within 15 days
- Ammonia manufacturers can conserve their unconsumed renewable power for up to 30 days
- Waiver of inter-state transmission charges for projects commissioned before June, 2025

National Hydrogen Mission:

- It is launched on 15th August, 2021).
- The Mission aims to aid the government in meeting its climate targets and making India a green hydrogen hub.
- This will help in meeting the target of production of 5 million tonnes of Green hydrogen by 2030 and the related development of renewable energy capacity.

India's first Water taxi

- It is launched between Navi Mumbai to mainland Mumbai in Maharashtra.

Nepal deployed UPI

- Nepal to become first country to deploy India's UPI platform
- This partnership will enable creation of real-time payments system in Nepal, leveraging NPCI's best in class technology to democratize payments and displace cash
- Gateway Payment Service Pvt Ltd (GPS) shall run and manage UPI in Nepal as the Nepal Rastra Bank Authorized Payment System Operators
- Manam Infotech Pvt Ltd shall provide the UPI Technology and Operations Support working closely with GPS in Nepal

Medaram Jathara:

- It is the largest tribal congregation in the country that is held in Telangana.
- It is conducted in honour of the mother-daughter duo Sammakka and Saralamma, who fought the reigning rulers against an unjust law during the Kakatiya reign in the 12th Century
- It is celebrated once in two years in the month of "Magha" (February) on the full moon day

GoI Banned Import of Drones:

- Central Government banned import of foreign drones except those used for R&D, defence and security purposes, as part of efforts to promote domestic manufacturing of drones and security concerns
- Import of drones by government entities, educational institutions recognised by central or state government, government recognised R&D entities and drone manufacturers for R&D purpose will be allowed.
- The new rules will allow import up to five drones at maximum for prototyping, testing, technology transfer with allied countries for an R&D body, or a government certified institution, or a drone manufacturing company.

1st biomass-based hydrogen plant:

- The country's first commercial-scale biomass-based hydrogen plant is coming up in the Khandwa district of Madhya Pradesh.
- The plant will produce a tonne of hydrogen per day, from 30 tonnes of biomass feedstock. It will also produce biochar and methane.
- The plant is being put up by a joint venture of Watomo Energies Ltd and Biezel Green Energy with an investment of ₹24 crore.

International

ASEAN-India RE Summit:

- Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and Ministry of External Affairs - jointly hosted the ASEAN-India High-Level Conference on Renewable Energy (RE).
 - It was organized in association with The Energy and Resource Institute, India and the ASEAN Centre for Energy
- The theme of "Experience and Innovations for Integrated Renewables Market".

ASEAN:

- The Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, was established on 8 August 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand, with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration (Bangkok Declaration) by the Founding Fathers of ASEAN: Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.
- It is a political and economic union of 10 member states in Southeast Asia, which promotes intergovernmental cooperation and facilitates economic, political, security, military, educational, and sociocultural integration between its members and other countries in Asia.
- It is Headquartered in Jakarta, Indonesia.

4th QUAD Foreign Ministers:

- India participated in the 4th QUAD Foreign Ministers' meet in Melbourne, Australia alongside his US, Japanese, and Australian counterparts.
- They have renewed commitment to the "flagship" Quad Vaccine initiative to deliver at least one billion vaccines produced in India by the end of 2022 to Indo-Pacific countries, and to a pledge to donate 1.3 billion vaccine doses globally.

QUAD:

- It is a strategic security dialogue between the United States, India, Japan and Australia that is maintained by talks between member countries.
- The dialogue was initiated in 2007 by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

21st World sustainable development summit:

- It is launched by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), the World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS)
- It will be focus on the umbrella theme: Towards a Resilient Planet: Ensuring a Sustainable and Equitable Future.

One Ocean Summit:

- It aims to mobilize the international community and take concrete action to reduce adverse effects on the ocean, raising its level of ambition on maritime issues.
- It will focus in particular on the protection of marine ecosystems and sustainable fisheries, the fight against pollution (especially plastic), climate change, and ocean governance.
- It is organised by France in cooperation with UN and World Bank.
- India pledged its commitment towards reducing single-use plastic consumption and reducing our plastic waste
- India informed the global leaders that 100 Indian Navy ships will be cleaning plastic waste from the sea this year.

United Nations has designated the decade between 2021 and 2030 as the 'Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development',

1st Global Summit on 'Reimagining Museums in India:

- It is hosted by Ministry of Culture in Hyderabad.
- The summit will witness virtual participation from countries such as India, Australia, France, Italy, Singapore, United Arab Emirates, and the United Kingdom.
- It will facilitate discussions and engagements by leading luminaries, domain experts, and practitioners in the field of museum development and management from India and around the world.

- The themes were Architecture and Functional Needs; Management; Collections (including Curation & Conservation practices); and, Education and Audience Engagement.

Unitary Digital Identity framework:

- India - has agreed to provide a grant to Sri Lanka to implement a 'Unitary Digital Identity framework', which is similar to the Aadhaar card.
- The personal identity verification program is a digital tool that can represent the identities of individuals in cyberspace, and the identification of individual identities that can be accurately verified in digital and physical environments by combining the two devices.

India and the UAE:

- It is signed a comprehensive economic partnership agreement (CEPA) that seeks to strengthen the strategic partnership and take bilateral economic and commercial engagement to the next level. The CEPA seeks to reduce tariffs for 80% of goods and give zero duty access to 90% of India's exports to the UAE.
- The agreement is expected to boost annual bilateral trade to \$100 billion in the next 5 years, up from about \$60 billion currently.
- UAE is India's third-largest trade partner after China and the U.S. and hosts a large Indian community of around 3.5 million.

Science & Technology

Starlink Project

- Recently Starlink project – lost almost 40 satellites after they were damaged by a geomagnetic storm.

Starlink :

It is a satellite network developed by the private spaceflight company SpaceX to provide low-cost internet to remote locations.

SpaceX eventually hopes to have as many as 42,000 satellites in this so-called megaconstellation.

It provides high-speed, low-latency broadband internet across the globe.

NASA's Science Mission

1. It has selected two science missions – the Multi-slit Solar Explorer (MUSE) and HelioSwarm
2. It helps to improve our understanding of the dynamics of the Sun, the Sun-Earth connection, and the constantly changing space environment.
3. These missions will provide deeper insights into our universe and offer critical information to help protect astronauts, satellites, and communications signals such as GPS.

MUSE

1. It will help scientists understand the forces driving the heating of the Sun's corona and the eruptions in that outermost region that are at the foundation of space weather.
2. The mission will offer deeper insight into the physics of the solar atmosphere by using a powerful instrument known as a multi-slit spectrometer to observe the Sun's extreme ultraviolet radiation.
3. It obtain the highest resolution images ever captured of the solar transition region and the corona.
4. The mission will also provide complementary observations from heliophysics research such as the Extreme UltraViolet Spectroscopic Telescope and ground-based observatories.

Helio Swarm

1. It is a constellation or "swarm" of nine spacecraft that will capture the first multiscale in-space measurements of fluctuations in the magnetic field and motions of the solar wind known as solar wind turbulence.
2. The Sun's outermost atmospheric layer, the heliosphere, encompasses an enormous region of the solar system.
3. Solar winds spread through the heliosphere, and their interactions with planetary magnetospheres and disruptions such as coronal mass ejections affect their turbulence.
4. It consists of one hub spacecraft and eight co-orbiting small satellites that range in distance from each other and the hub spacecraft.
5. All radio contact between the swarm and Earth will be conducted through the hub spacecraft and the NASA Deep Space Network of spacecraft communication antennas.

Parker solar probe:

- NASA's Parker Solar Probe took its first visible light images of surface of Venus from space.
- It was launched in 2018 with the objective of making observations of outer corona of the Sun.

TriSb92 Molecule:

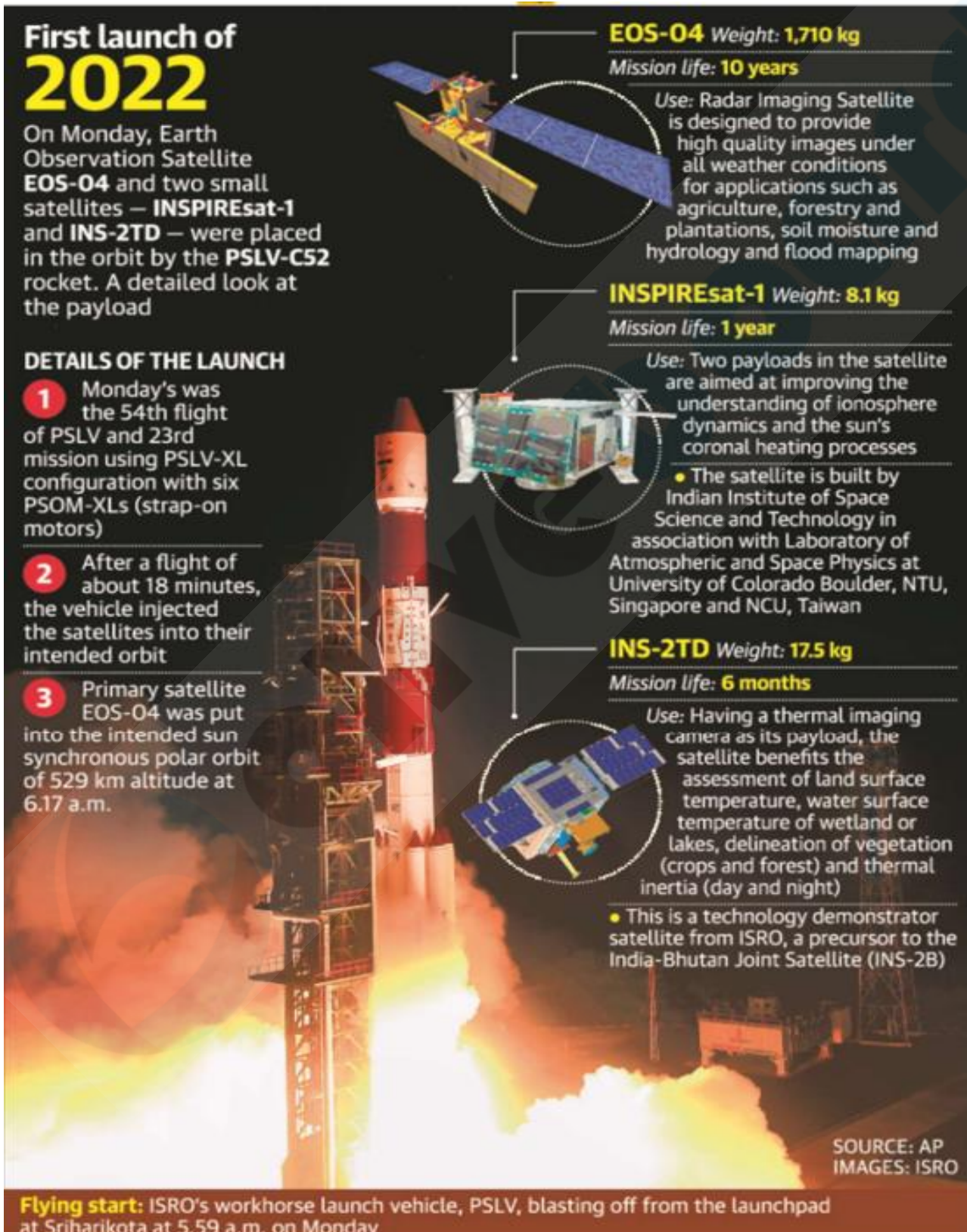
- It is a molecule, that can inactivate the coronavirus spike protein.
- It also offers effective short-term protection against the coronavirus.
- The TriSb92 molecule was developed by Researchers from University of Helsinki, Finland.

Hydrogen fuel:

- Grey hydrogen is the most common form and is generated from natural gas, or methane, through a process called "steam reforming"
- Black or brown hydrogen is the most environmentally damaging as both the CO₂ and carbon monoxide generated during the process are not recaptured.

- Blue hydrogen whenever the carbon generated from steam reforming is captured and stored underground through industrial carbon capture and storage (CSS).
- Green hydrogen – also referred to as “clean hydrogen” is produced by using clean energy from surplus renewable energy sources, such as solar or wind power, to split water into two hydrogen atoms and one oxygen atom through a process called electrolysis.

ISRO'S first mission launch in 2022:



First launch of 2022

On Monday, Earth Observation Satellite **EOS-04** and two small satellites – **INSPIRESat-1** and **INS-2TD** – were placed in the orbit by the **PSLV-C52** rocket. A detailed look at the payload

DETAILS OF THE LAUNCH

- 1 Monday's was the 54th flight of PSLV and 23rd mission using PSLV-XL configuration with six PSOM-XLs (strap-on motors)
- 2 After a flight of about 18 minutes, the vehicle injected the satellites into their intended orbit
- 3 Primary satellite EOS-04 was put into the intended sun synchronous polar orbit of 529 km altitude at 6.17 a.m.

EOS-04 Weight: 1,710 kg
Mission life: 10 years
Use: Radar Imaging Satellite is designed to provide high quality images under all weather conditions for applications such as agriculture, forestry and plantations, soil moisture and hydrology and flood mapping

INSPIRESat-1 Weight: 8.1 kg
Mission life: 1 year
Use: Two payloads in the satellite are aimed at improving the understanding of ionosphere dynamics and the sun's coronal heating processes

- The satellite is built by Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology in association with Laboratory of Atmospheric and Space Physics at University of Colorado Boulder, NTU, Singapore and NCU, Taiwan

INS-2TD Weight: 17.5 kg
Mission life: 6 months
Use: Having a thermal imaging camera as its payload, the satellite benefits the assessment of land surface temperature, water surface temperature of wetland or lakes, delineation of vegetation (crops and forest) and thermal inertia (day and night)

- This is a technology demonstrator satellite from ISRO, a precursor to the India-Bhutan Joint Satellite (INS-2B)

Flying start: ISRO's workhorse launch vehicle, PSLV, blasting off from the launchpad at Sriharikota at 5.59 a.m. on Monday

SOURCE: AP
IMAGES: ISRO

- It is launched by PSLV-C52 LAUNCH VEHICLE

- EOS-04, with a mission life of ten years, is a Radar Imaging Satellite designed to provide high quality images under all weather conditions for applications such as Agriculture, Forestry and Plantations, Soil Moisture and Hydrology and Flood mapping.
- INSPIRESat-1:
- It is developed by the Indian Institute of Space Science & Technology (IIST) in association with the Laboratory of Atmospheric & Space Physics at the University of Colorado, Boulder,
- The technology demonstrator satellite INS-2TD from ISRO is a precursor to India-Bhutan Joint Satellite INS-2B




EOS-04 & RIDESHARES




LAUNCH PROVIDER / CONTRACT

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)

MISSION TYPE

Earth Observation

PAYLOADS(3)

EOS-04 (Radar Imaging Satellite)
Payload Mass: ~ 1,710 kg | C-band synthetic-aperture radar (SAR)

INS-2TD (India-Bhutan Joint Satellite)
Payload Mass: ~ 175 kg

INSPIRESat-1
Payload Mass: ~ 81 kg

LAUNCH SPACEPORT

First Launch Pad, Satish Dhawan Space Centre, India

DESTINATION

Sun-Synchronous Orbit
Altitude: 529 km
Incl 97.5°



PSLV-XL

LAUNCH WINDOW

FEBRUARY 14
0029Z UTC
05:59 IST

2022

FEBRUARY 13
19:29 ET
16:29 PT

(INST/EXT WINDOW)

LAUNCH VEHICLE

PSLV-XL
PSLV-C52 (Extended)

Height 44.4 m
Width 4.8 m
LV mass 321 tons

ENGINE BLOCKS

STAGE/ENGINES	PROPELLANTS	TOTAL THRUST
4) PS4 2 x L2.5 (VACUUM)	MON-3 / MMH	14.6 kN
3) HP53 S-7 (SOLID)	HTPB	240 kN
2) PS2 (PL40) 1 x VIKAS 4B (VACUUM)	N2O4 / UH25	804.5 kN
1) PS1 S139 (SOLID)	HTPB	9,115 kN
BOOSTERS 6 x PSOM (SOLID)		

RECOVERY

LAUNCH VEHICLE IS EXPENDABLE

Lassa fever:

- Lassa fever is an animal-borne, or zoonotic, acute viral illness.
- It is endemic in parts of West Africa including Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea and Nigeria.
- The host of Lassa virus is a rodent of the genus *Mastomys*, commonly known as the "multimammate" rat.
- It first originated in northern Nigeria in 1969 has made a comeback after almost 13 years in the UK.
- It can spread only if one comes in contact with a contaminated rodent's urine or excrement.
- It can also infect a person if he or she is exposed to blood, urine, feces, or other bodily secretions of an infected person.

HIV : stem cell transplant

- US woman has become the third person worldwide and first woman, to be cured of HIV.
- She received a stem cell transplant from person with natural resistance to Aids-causing virus.

HIV:

- Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) is an infection that attacks the body's immune system, specifically the white blood cells called CD4 cell.
- HIV infection in humans came from a type of chimpanzee in Central Africa.
- HIV can be transmitted via the exchange of a variety of body fluids from infected people, such as blood, breast milk, semen and vaginal secretions.
- HIV can also be transmitted from a mother to her child during pregnancy and delivery.

Personalities & Places

Luc Montagnier:

- Nobel-winning virologist Luc Montagnier, who died in Paris.
- He won the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 2008 with fellow researcher Françoise Barré-Sinoussi for the discovery of the human immunodeficiency virus that causes AIDS.
- He also shared half of the Nobel with German scientist Harald zur Hausen for his discovery of human papilloma viruses that cause cervical cancer.

Kala Ramachandran:

- She is the first woman police commissioner of Gurgaon.
- Kala Ramachandran is originally from the Tamil Nadu cadre of IPS officers and
- she started her work with the Haryana cadre

A.S. Kumari:

A.S. Kumari has been named the Chairperson of the recently reconstituted Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women.

TAMIL NADU STATE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN:

- It is a statutory body was constituted in 1993 to deal with the cases related to crime against women.
- A chairperson and 9 members have been appointed.
- The Women Commission investigates specific problems of women and takes up studies related to women issues.
- The objectives of the Commission are:-
 - To provide protection and ensure welfare of women.
 - To address the gender issues.
 - To recommend to the Government on various issues related to women.
- The Chairperson and members of the Commission would hold office for a period of three years.

Gita Mittal:

- The Delhi High Court has appointed former Jammu and Kashmir High Court Chief Justice Gita Mittal as the chairperson of the Committee of Administrators.
- To discharge the functions of the Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI).

G Ashok Kumar:

- He is a Former Navy vice chief appointed as the first National Maritime Security Coordinator (NMSC) in the National Security Council Secretariat.
- The national maritime security coordinator is mandated to ensure cohesion among various key stakeholders with an overall objective to strengthen the country's maritime security.
- The NMSC is tasked to coordinate among the Indian Navy, the Coast Guard, security agencies involved in coastal and maritime security and 13 coastal states and Union Territories.

Important Days

World Pulses Day – February 10

- The day has been established by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations to recognize the importance of pulses as a global food.
- Theme 2022 - "Pulses to empower youth in achieving sustainable agrifood systems".

World Radio Day – February 13:

- The day was marked as an international day by the United Nations General Assembly in 2012.
- Theme for 2022 - "Radio and Trust"

World day of Social Justice- Feb 20:

- Social justice is an underlying principle for peaceful and prosperous coexistence within and among nations.
- Theme: Achieving Social Justice through Formal Employment.

Source:

PIB, Dinamani, Dinathanthi and Tamil HINDU

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