

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – FEBRUARY 28, 2023

TAMIL NADU

- **Tamil Nadu finance minister Palanivel Thiaga Rajan - will present the budget for 2023-24 on March 20.**
- ✓ The presentation of DMK government's second fully-fledged budget will take place at 10 AM in the assembly hall in Fort St George
- ✓ Informing this, Speaker M Appavu said the finance minister would table the vote on account for the first few months of 2023-24 and final supplementary estimates for 2022-23 on March 28.
- ✓ After the budget presentation, the Business Advisory Committee of the House will meet to decide about the duration of the session, the date of presentation of the Agriculture budget for 2023-24, and the discussion on the demands for grants for various departments.
- ✓ This budget will have the announcement about when the disbursement of the monthly honorarium of Rs 1,000 for women heads of families would begin
- ✓ Chief Minister MK Stalin will chair the state cabinet meeting on March 9 and the budget proposals as well as new investment proposals are likely to be discussed

- **The by-election for the Erode East assembly constituency - recorded a 74.79% turnout of voters, the highest since the 2011 assembly elections.**
- ✓ Out of 2.27 lakh voters in the constituency, 82,138 men, 88,037 women and 17 transgenders cast their votes in the polling held on February 27.
- ✓ Congress candidate E V K S Elangovan, AIADMK candidate K S Thennarasu, NTK candidate Menaka Navaneethan and DMDK candidate S Anand were among the voters who exercised their franchise.
- ✓ A total of 77 candidates are in the fray.
- ✓ The seals of the strong rooms will be opened in front of the election agents of all the political parties on March 2 for vote counting.
- ✓ This is the first time the state witnessed a by-election since the DMK came to power following 2021 Assembly election

- ✓ The by-election was necessitated following the demise of the Congress MLA E. Thirumahan Everaa who was the great grandson of Dravidar Kazhagam founder 'Periyar' E.V. Ramasamy and the son of former Tamil Nadu Congress Committee (TNCC) president E.V.K.S. Elangovan
- ✓ The 46-year-old legislator died of cardiac arrest on January 4, 2023.
- ✓ The announcement of the by-election by the Election Commission of India came within two weeks, on January 18

STATES

- **On February 27, PM Narendra Modi – inaugurated the modern greenfield airport at Shivamogga in Karnataka**



- ✓ The airport has been built on 663 acres of land with an investment of Rs.449.22 crore under the Centre's UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik) scheme aimed at boosting the regional air connectivity
- ✓ This will be the first airport in Karnataka which will be maintained by the state government and operated by the Union civic aviation ministry.
- ✓ The foundation stone for the airport project was laid in June 2020 by former CM B S Yediyurappa.
 - ✓ Shivamogga is the home district of Yediyurappa, a four-time Chief Minister.
- ✓ The lotus-shaped passenger terminal building of the airport can handle 300 passengers per hour.
- ✓ This is the 9th domestic airport in Karnataka.
 - ✓ Currently the state's domestic airports are located at Bengaluru, Mysuru, Ballari, Bidar, Hubballi, Kalaburagi, Belagavi and Mangaluru.
 - ✓ Bengaluru and Mangaluru airports are the two international airports in the state.
- ✓ The airport has the longest runway of 3,200 metres after Kempe Gowda International airport, Bengaluru
- ✓ The airport is expected to boost tourism in Malnad districts of Shivamogga, Chikkamagaluru and Hassan.

- ✓ The PM also laid the foundation stones of two railway projects in Shivamogga -- Shivamogga-Shikaripura-Ranebennur new line and Koteganguru railway coaching depot
- ✓ He further visited Shivamogga and the Belagavi districts to inaugurate water supply projects worth more than Rs.2,500 crore under the Jal Jeevan Mission which will benefit more than 13 lakh people of the two districts
- **The Karnataka Government - will build the country's first Marina or a boat basin offering dockage, at Byndoor in Udupi district to promote coastal tourism in the state**



- ✓ This was announced by the Chief Minister of Karnataka, Basavaraj Bommai, while addressing a function “Seven Wonders of Karnataka” organized by the Tourism department
- ✓ According to the CM, the government proposed to build a corridor of ancient temples like Madhukeshwara in Banavasi and Dattatreya in Ganagapura and promote ‘Yatra tourism’
- ✓ After seeking permission from the Government of India for the relaxation of Coastal Regulation Zone rules, the Government has proposed to take up beach tourism in coastal areas and pilgrim tourism
- ✓ CM Bommai also promised to extend all the cooperation to the Seven Wonders of Karnataka program to give a new direction to tourism
- ✓ The beach in Byndoor is called Someshwara beach and the place has several tourist attractions such as Koosalli waterfalls, Kshitija Nesara Dharma, Sri Seneshwara Temple, butterfly camp, etc.

NATIONAL

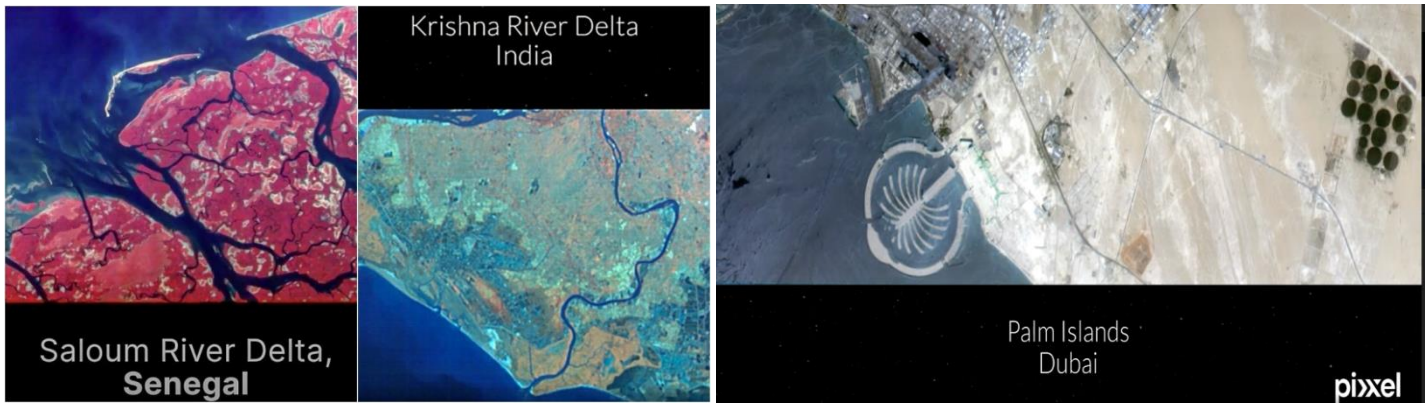
- **Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) – gets five days’ remand of Delhi deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia to question him about the alleged irregularities in the excise policy of 2021-22.**
- ✓ Special CBI judge, M K Nagpal allowed the probe agency to keep Sisodia in custody stating that the deputy CM had “failed to provide satisfactory answers”.



- ✓ On February 26, Manish Sisodia was arrested by the CBI after being questioned for over eight hours on alleged corruption in the formulation and implementation of the now-scrapped Delhi liquor policy for 2021-22.
- ✓ The AAP leader was arrested under sections 120 B (criminal conspiracy), 477 A (intent to defraud) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Section 7 of the Prevention of Corruption Act.
- ✓ He is the second Delhi minister to be arrested, after Satyendar Jain, who is currently in Delhi's Tihar Jail in a money laundering case.
- **On February 27, the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) - extended the deadline for members to sign up for higher pension under the Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS) till May 3**
- ✓ On November 4 last year, the Supreme Court had set a March 3, 2023, as the deadline for the government to ensure that EPFO subscribers contribute up to 8.33% of their actual basic salaries towards pension.
- ✓ This option will be applicable to who retired before September 1, 2014, and those who were still in service (on the day and after), and continued to be EPS members after September 1, 2014
- ✓ The unified portal for EPFO subscribers to register for higher pension is still under construction
- ✓ On February 20, EPFO had issued a circular explaining the procedure for opting for higher pension under the Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS)
- ✓ However, it has still not clarified the method of deposit and that of computation of pension.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

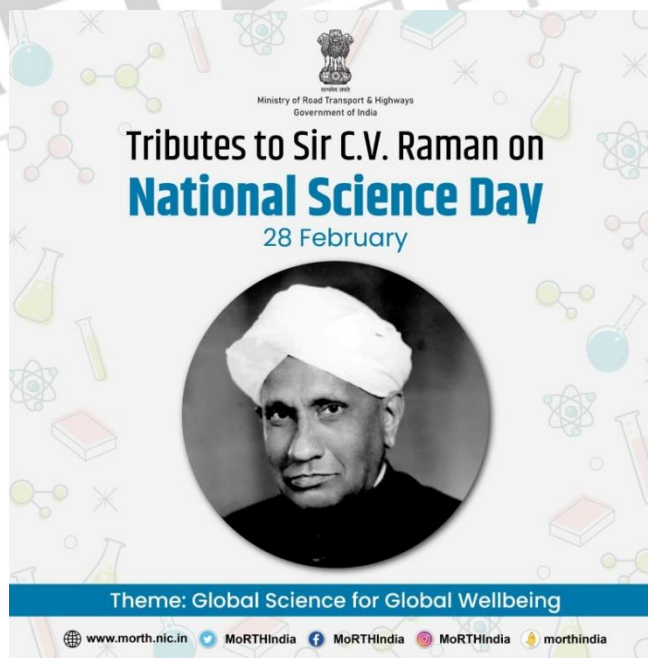
- **Bengaluru-based space data start-up Pixxel - unveiled the first-ever set of images from its hyper-spectral pathfinder satellites on February 27**
- ✓ The images, released as part of its First Light campaign, capture intricate details of the land and water features of regions such as Krishna River Delta (India), Palm Islands (Dubai), Super pit (Australia), Saloum River Delta (Senegal), Granny Smith Gold mine (Australia) and Brockman (Australia).



- ✓ These images highlight specific factors such as soil types, mountain ranges, bare lands, gold mines, reservoirs, agricultural farms, delta regions and urban settlements among others
- ✓ They are also capable of detection, identification, and quantification of surface materials as well as biological and chemical processes
- ✓ Pixxel has launched three pathfinder missions into orbit including Shakuntala and Anand.
- ✓ The images were released ahead of the company's upcoming constellation of 24 satellites, scheduled for launch in 2024-25

NATIONAL DAY

➤ National Science Day - February 28



- ✓ National Science Day is observed every year on February 28 to mark the discovery of a phenomenon known as the Raman Effect by eminent Indian scientist and physician, Sir C.V.Raman

- ✓ The Raman effect is a phenomenon in which a light beam passing through a transparent material is scattered in a way that reveals information about the material's molecular structure.
 - ✓ It refers to the phenomenon in which when a stream of light passes through a liquid, a fraction of the light scattered by the liquid is of a different colour.
 - ✓ This happens due to the change in the wavelength of light that occurs when a light beam is deflected by molecules
- ✓ The discovery has led to the creation of a new field in chemistry known as Raman spectroscopy
 - ✓ Raman spectroscopy is a basic analytical tool to conduct nondestructive chemical analysis for both organic and inorganic compounds.
- ✓ Raman's discovery, while working in the laboratory of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Kolkata, on February 28, 1928 helped him bag the prestigious Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930.
- ✓ Dr. C.V. Raman was born to a family of Sanskrit scholars in Trichy (present-day Tiruchirapalli) in the Madras Presidency on November 7, 1888.
- ✓ At the age of only 16, Raman received a BA degree from Presidency College in Madras, and was placed first in his class.
- ✓ While studying for his MA degree, at the age of 18, he got published in the Philosophical Magazine, which was the first research paper ever published by Presidency College.
- ✓ At the age of 29, he resigned from his civil services job and took up a professorship in Presidency College, Calcutta
- ✓ In 1986, the Government of India, under then Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, established National Science Day on February 28 on the request of the National Council for Science and Technology Communication (NCSTC).
- ✓ The first National Science Day event took place on February 28, 1987.
- ✓ This year's edition is being celebrated under the theme of "Global Science for Global Wellbeing", in light of India's G20 presidency.

