

**Chakmas And Hajongs** 



- The Committee for Citizenship Rights of Chakmas and Hajongs of Arunachal Pradesh (CCRCHAP) has stated that Chakmas and Hajongs will not cooperate with any census being taken on them.
- Chakmas and Hajongs were originally residents of the Chittagong Hill Tracts of erstwhile East Pakistan (Bangladesh), who had to flee when their land was submerged by the Kaptai dam project in the 1960s.
- The Chakmas, who are Buddhist, and Hajongs, who are Hindus, also faced religious persecution in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh).
- Chakmas and Hajongs entered India through the then Lushai Hills district of Assam (now Mizoram).

- The Centre moved the majority of them to the North East Frontier Agency (NEFA), which is now Arunachal Pradesh.
- Mizoram, Assam and Tripura also have significant Chakma populations.
- Their numbers have gone up from about 5,000 in 1964-69 to one lakh. At present, they don't have citizenship and land rights but are provided basic amenities by the state government.
- In 2015, the Supreme Court directed the Centre to grant citizenship to Chakma and Hajongs who had migrated from Bangladesh in 1964-69.
- They did not directly come into the ambit of the Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019 (CAA) because Arunachal Pradesh is among the states exempted from the CAA since it has an Inner Line Permit to regulate entry of outsiders.
- Stiff opposition from the state government had stalled the implementation of SC directive.
- Since the 1980s, the All Arunachal Pradesh Students' Union (AAPSU) has spearheaded a mass movement against granting citizenship to Chakmas and Hajongs.
- The AAPSU fears that the refugees could soon outnumber the indigenous population and influence electoral outcomes.

## DRAFT NATIONAL AIR SPORTS POLICY (NASP 2022)



- Ministry of Civil Aviation has released draft National Air Sports Policy (NASP) for public feedback.
- NASP 2022 covers sports like aerobatics, aeromodelling, amateur-built and experimental aircraft, ballooning, drones, gliding, hang gliding and paragliding; microlighting and paramotoring; skydiving and vintage aircraft.
- The vision is to make India one of the top air sports nations by 2030. The mission is to provide a safe, affordable, accessible, enjoyable and sustainable air sports ecosystem in India.
- NASP 2022 seeks to leverage India's huge potential for air sports given its large geographical expanse, diverse topography and fair weather conditions.

- An Air Sports Federation of India (ASFI) will be established as the apex governing body. Associations for each air sport will handle day to day activities e.g. Paragliding Association of India or Skydiving Association of India etc.
- The air sports associations shall be accountable to ASFI with respect to the regulatory oversight and for providing safe, affordable, accessible, enjoyable and sustainable conduct of their respective air sport.
- ASFI shall represent India at FAI and other global platforms related to air sports. Greater participation and success of Indian sportspersons in global air sports events will be facilitated.
- Domestic design, development and manufacturing of air sports equipment will be promoted in line with the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.
- The Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI), headquartered in Lausanne, Switzerland is the world governing body for air sports. All competitions in India will be conducted as per the guidelines laid down by FAI.
- Air sports by their very nature involve a higher level of risk than flying a regular aircraft. NASP 2022 places strong focus on ensuring international best practices in safety.

## TRINCOMALEE OIL TANK FARM



- Last week, Sri Lanka's Energy Minister Udaya Gammanpila announced that the Indian Oil Subsidiary Lanka IOC would be given 49% stake in the joint development of the Trincomalee Oil Tank farm, with Ceylon Petroleum Corporation keeping 51%.
- The CPC has formed a special purpose company, Trinco Petroleum Terminals Ltd, and it is expected to get Cabinet approval this week.
- If it goes according to plan India and Sri Lanka would have finally achieved the implementation of an agreement contained in an exchange of letters between then Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Sri Lankan President J R Jayewarndene as part of the annexure to the India-Sri Lanka Accord of July 29, 1987 that the tank farm would be developed jointly.

- Why Trincomalee matters? The pre-WWII era oil storage facility has a capacity of nearly 1 million tonnes, which far outstrips the demand in Sri Lanka.
- Located inland from China Bay, the facility was meant to be serviced by the natural harbour at Trincomalee.



## 1st electric boat built for Kochi Water Metro Project



- In Kerala, the first battery-powered electric boat built for the Kochi Water Metro Project was handed over to the Kochi Metro Rail Limited.
- The fully air-conditioned boat is among the 23 boats being built by the Cochin Shipyard for the 747-crore rupee Kochi Water Metro project.
- Kochi Water Metro system will have 78 ferries, linking 38 terminals spread over 76 route kilometres.
- The battery-powered water metro boat can carry 100 passengers. KMRL said it was for the first time in the world a centrally controlled integrated water transport system with a large fleet is powered by the battery.

## World's longest Metro line opened in China



- Shanghai has opened two new metro lines, upholding its rank as the city with the largest Metro network in the world.
- With the new lines, the total length of Shanghai's metro network has extended to 831 km, continuing to be the longest in the world.
- China's Shanghai opened two new metro lines Line 14 and Phase One of Line 18.
- The opening of the two new lines will bring the total number of fully automatic metro lines in Shanghai to five, with an operating length of 167 km, ranking first in the world for the first time.
- The city will now enjoy 20 metro lines with 508 stations, 83 of which are transfer ones.