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Daily News Juice



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Russia's withdrawal from Kherson

Relevance: Prelims & GS Mains II; International Issues

Why in news?

- Ukraine's defence and intelligence unit has reported on the **withdrawal of Russian troops from Kherson** but predicts it to be a delusion for a retreat.
- Geographically, Kherson is a **strategic location** for Russia and Ukraine. Situated in the **northwest of the Dnipro River**, the province **shares borders with Donetsk, Crimea, and the Black Sea**.



Importance of Kherson

- With Moscow capturing **Crimea in 2014**, the **occupation of Kherson in March 2022** has benefited Russia in transferring its military from Crimea to counter Ukraine.
- It provides **access to Odesa and Black Sea ports** in the west and serves as the main route to **secure southern Ukraine**.
- **For Ukraine, regaining Kherson is significant to recapture Crimea**. Kherson is also an important region for its **agricultural produce, with irrigation channels**.

Why withdrawal by Russia?

- There are **three reasons** behind the move.
- First is the **mobilisation failure**. When Russia was advancing rapidly in capturing the southern and northern cities of Ukraine, its military personnel and weapon systems started to run thin.
- Secondly, the **inability of Russia to govern Kherson**. Despite imposing martial law, Russia could not effectively rule Kherson; the three-level security in the occupied areas could not enforce Russia's control on the ground.
- Third, As Moscow continued its onslaught, the **West upgraded its support with medium to high-range weapons systems** such as the Howitzers, HIMARS, air defence systems, battle tanks, and drone technologies.

Kempegowda bronze statue

Relevance: Prelims & GS Mains I; Social Issues

Nadaprabhu Kempegowda

- **Nadaprabhu Kempegowda**, a 16th century chieftain of the **Vijayanagara empire**, is credited as the **founder of Bengaluru**.
- It is said that he **conceived the idea of a new city while hunting with his minister**, and later marked its territory by **erecting towers in four corners** of the proposed city.
- Kempegowda is also known to have **developed around 1,000 lakes in the city to cater to drinking and agricultural needs**.
- He was from the dominant **agricultural Vokkaliga community** in south Karnataka.

Important inaugurations

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled a **108-feet tall bronze statue** of 'Nadaprabhu' Kempegowda.
- He also inaugurated **Terminal 2 of the Kempegowda International Airport**, which was built at a cost of around Rs 5,000 crore.
- He also **flagged off two trains, south India's first Vande Bharat Express**, and **Bharat Gaurav Kashi Darshan train**.

About Bronze statue

- The **108-ft bronze statue** is constructed in the airport premises.
- It has a **4,000 kg sword**.
- The statue has been installed at the city's international airport at the cost of **Rs 100 crore**.
- Also termed the "**Statue of Prosperity**", **CM of Karnataka Bommai claimed** that the structure has been termed the "**first and tallest bronze statue of a founder of a city**" by the **World Book of Records**.

Places after name

- His name is everywhere in the city – **the Kempegowda International Airport**, the **Kempegowda Bus Stand**, and even the **main metro station** in the city is called **Nadaprabhu Kempegowda metro station**.



Mother Tongue Survey of India

Relevance: Prelims & GS Mains I; Social Issues

About the survey

- According to the report, the Mother Tongue Survey of India (MTSI) is a project that “surveys the mother tongues, which are returned consistently across two and more Census decades”.
- It also documents the linguistic features of the selected languages.
- The report states that the NIC and the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) document the linguistic data of the surveyed mother tongues in audio-video files.
- Video-graphed speech data of Mother Tongues will also be uploaded on the NIC survey for archiving purposes.

Number of mother tongues

- As per an analysis of 2011 linguistic census data in 2018, more than 19,500 languages or dialects are spoken in India as mother tongues.
- The category “mother tongue” is a designation provided by the respondent, but it need not be identical with the actual linguistic medium. After subjecting the 19,569 returns to linguistic scrutiny, edit and rationalisation, they were grouped into 121 mother tongues, the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India.
- According to the 2011 linguistic census, Hindi is the most widely spoken mother tongue, with 52.8 crore people or 43.6 per cent of the population declaring it as the mother tongue. The next highest is Bengali, mother tongue for 9.7 crore individuals, and accounting for 8 per cent of the population.