

**August - 01**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ The Union Minister for Culture Prahlad Singh Patel has announced the inclusion of Nepali and Santhali languages in the Scheme for grant of Senior/Junior Fellowships of Culture Ministry.
  - Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT), New Delhi is the Nodal institute for handling the Scheme of Sr. /Jr. Fellowship till selection process.
- ❖ Atish Dabholkar, a theoretical physicist from India, has been appointed as the new director of Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in Trieste, Italy.
  - Mr. Dabholkar will take up his duties as ICTP director with the rank of Assistant Director General of the UNESCO.
- ❖ Wing Commander Tarun Chaudhri became the first Indian Air Force (IAF) pilot to do a wingsuit jump from a Mi-17 helicopter from an altitude of 8500 feet.
  - He attempted the jump during Kargil Diwas celebrations in Jodhpur on July 21.
- ❖ Sri Lankan Government has exempted Indian tourists from Visa Fees for tourism purposes with effect from 1 August 2019.
- ❖ Infosys has launched its state-of-the-art Cyber Defence Center in Bucharest, Romania.
  - This Defence Center will provide Real-Time, End-To-End, 24×7 Cyber Security monitoring and protection services.

## **NATIONAL**

### **Atal Community Innovation Centre**

- ❖ Under NITI Aayog's flagship scheme Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), Atal Community Innovation Centres have been launched.
- ❖ They aim to encourage the spirit of innovation at the community level.
- ❖ The program will focus on the 484 backward districts where the innovation infrastructure is very weak.
- ❖ Unserved regions of Tier 1 / 2 / 3 cities, North-East, Jammu and Kashmir as well as the rural and tribal regions of India will be targeted under the program.



### **Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2019**

- ❖ Both houses of Parliament have passed the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill 2019.
- ❖ Lok Sabha passed the bill on 25-07-2019 and the Rajya Sabha passed the bill on 30-07-2019.
- ❖ The Bill would help in protecting the rights of married Muslim women and prevent divorce by practice of 'Talaq-e-biddat' by their husbands.
- ❖ It declares the practice of triple talaq, including in written or electronic form, as void and illegal.
- ❖ It makes this offence punishable with imprisonment up to three years and fine.
- ❖ The amount of any fine is at the discretion of the Magistrate hearing the case.
- ❖ It provides for payment of 'subsistence allowance' to married Muslim women and dependent children which is decided by the magistrate.
- ❖ The wife is entitled to seek custody of the minor children from the marriage.
- ❖ The offence is non-bailable. However, there is a provision that the magistrate hearing the case may grant bail to the accused.

### **Additional Charge - NSG**

- ❖ ITBP (Indo Tibetan Border Police) Director General S S Deswal was given additional charge of counter-terror force National Security Guard (NSG).
- ❖ He took over from NSG DG Sudeep Lakhtakia who is retired on 31st July 2019.
- ❖ The post NSG DG is occupied by an IPS officer S S Deswal is a 1984-batch IPS officer of Telangana cadre.

### **About**

- ❖ NSG was established in 1984, to protect states against internal disturbances and terrorism.
- ❖ It is under the administrative control of Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
- ❖ It deals with anti-terrorist activities in all its forms.

### **National Bal Bhawan**

- ❖ Union HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal opened a special IAF pavilion with a flight simulator at National Bal Bhawan, New Delhi

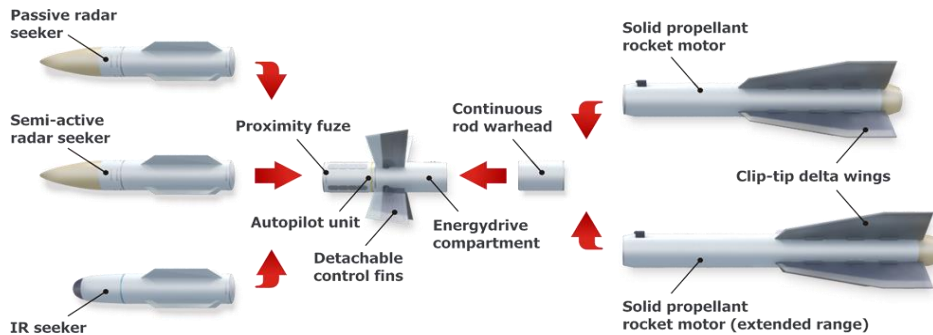
- ❖ It is aimed at inspiring young children to serve in the Indian Air Force (IAF).
- ❖ Air Chief Marshal B S Dhanoa also launched a new 3D mobile-based video game "Indian Air Force: A Cut Above" based on the missions of the force.

### About

- ❖ National Bal Bhawan is fully funded autonomous body under the Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD).
- ❖ It was started in 1956 by Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru as a nationwide mission for creative enhancement of children through playing and doing different activities in a child friendly environment.

### **R-27 Air to Air Russian Missiles**

- ❖ India has signed a deal to acquire R-27 air-to-air missiles from Russia.



- ❖ They will equip Su-30MKI combat aircraft fleet of the Indian Air Force and boost its capabilities in beyond visual range warfare.
- ❖ They are acquired under 10- I project which mandates all the 3-armed forces to maintain War Wastage Reserve (WWR).
- ❖ WWR implies maintaining critical weapon systems and spares for a specified minimum period.

### **ISRO Technical Liaison Unit at Moscow**

- ❖ Cabinet has approved the setting up of ISRO Technical Liaison Unit (ITLU) at Moscow in Russia.
- ❖ It will collaborate with Space agencies and industries in Russia and neighbouring countries for mutually synergetic outcomes.
- ❖ ITLU will support the ongoing "bilateral programmes" of cooperation in space technology.
- ❖ It will fully act on behalf of ISRO.

## INTERNATIONAL

### Shawala Teja Singh Temple in Pakistan

- ❖ Almost 1,000-year-old Shawala Teja Singh Temple located in Sialkot city of Pakistan has been re-opened for devotees for the 1st time since partition.
- ❖ It has been remaining sealed for the last 72 years since partition.
- ❖ It was built by Sardar Teja Singh and dedicated to Lord Siva.



## ECONOMY

### Easy External Commercial Borrowings

- ❖ Reserve Bank of India has relaxed External Commercial Borrowing (ECB) norms for corporates, non-banking lenders as a move towards easing liquidity.
- ❖ It has liberalised the “end-use” stipulations for ECB.
- ❖ ECB is an instrument used in India to facilitate Indian companies to raise money outside the country in Foreign currency.



## **The Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2019**

- ❖ The Parliament has passed Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2019.
- ❖ It amends the Companies Act, 2013.
- ❖ It is aimed at
  - Tightening Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) compliance
  - Ensuring stricter action for non-compliance of the company law regulations
  - Ensure greater accountability and better enforcement of the corporate governance norms.

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **TOI 270 Planetary System – TESS**

- ❖ NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) has discovered a dwarf star and the planetary system by the name of TOI 270.
- ❖ TOI 270 is about 73 light years away from Earth.
- ❖ TOI – 270 is the star around which – Three exoplanets TOI 270b, TOI 270c, and TOI 270d orbit.
- ❖ Exoplanets are planets outside the solar system.

## **STATES**

### **AMBIS Biometric Criminal Tracking System in Mumbai**

- ❖ A state-of-the-art tracking system for criminals arrested in Mumbai was launched.
- ❖ Named AMIBS (The Automated Multimodal Biometric Identification System) it is first of its kind to be used by a police force in India.
- ❖ AMBIS is connected to a central server and stores photographs, fingerprints and retinal scans of all criminals of record.
- ❖ It helps in identifying suspects at the click of a mouse and providing information about criminal elements to other police forces, be it within the country or abroad.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Tourism till 9 PM

- ❖ Union Culture and Tourism Minister of State (independent charge) Prahlad Patel announced that 10 centrally protected monuments across India will be open to public from sunrise till 9 p.m.
- ❖ Currently gates of most monuments are closed for visitors by 5:30-6 pm.
- ❖ The List of Monuments

Humayun's Tomb in Delhi	Rajarani Temple in Bhubaneswar
Safdarjung Tomb in Delhi	Dulhadev Temple in Khajuraho
Shekh Chilli Tomb in Kurukshetra	Group of Temples in Maharashtra (Markanda)
Man Mahal in Uttar Pradesh (Varanasi)	Rani ki Baav in Paatan, Gujarat.
Gol Gumbaj in Karnataka	Group of Monuments at Pattadakal in Karnataka

-----