



July- 12

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ India's first private sector unit for manufacturing unmanned air vehicles (UAV) and light bullet proof vehicles (LBPV) will be set up under 'Make in India' initiative of the union government by DCM Shriram Industries Group in Kota.

NATIONAL

1st Chairman of Rajya Sabha To Sign MOU With Rwanda

- ❖ The Rajya Sabha for the first time in 76 years since it came into being, entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Senate of Rwanda for promoting inter-parliamentary dialogue.
- ❖ Venkaiah Naidu became the first Chairman of Rajya Sabha to sign such MoU with the visiting President of the Senate of Rwanda Bernard Makuza.
- ❖ The three Senator delegation from Rwanda led by Bernard Makuza is the first such a delegation exclusively from the Upper House of any country to visit India.

INS Sumitra enters Indonesia's Sabang Port

- ❖ Indian naval ship, INS Sumitra became the first-ever warship to enter port of Sabang in Indonesia.
- ❖ Indian warship INS Sumitra, which was on a mission in Malacca Straits.
- ❖ INS Sumitra is commanded by Cdr Rajesh Rana and has a complement of 17 officers and 129 crew.

INTERNATIONAL

UNSC Resolution to protect children in armed conflict

- ❖ The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has adopted Resolution 2427 for protecting children in armed conflict.

THE SIX GRAVE VIOLATIONS AGAINST CHILDREN DURING ARMED CONFLICT:

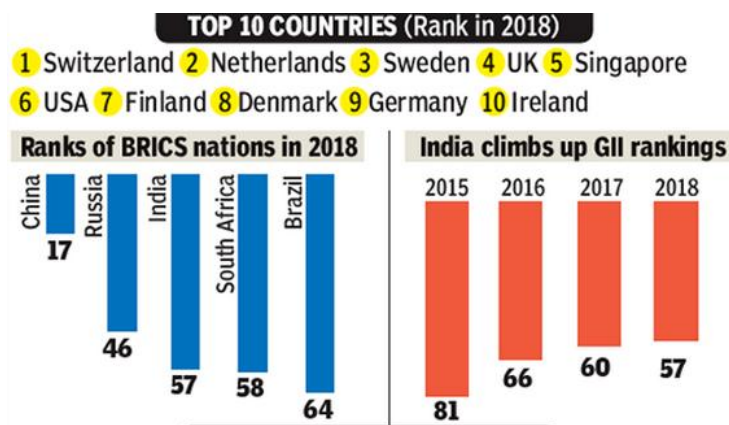
- > Recruitment and use of children by armed forces or armed groups
- > Killing and maiming of children
- > Sexual violence against children, especially girls
- > Attacks against schools and hospitals
- > Abduction of children
- > Denial of humanitarian access

51 non-State armed groups and eight State armed forces were identified in the UN Secretary-General's blacklist for grave violations against children, which was made public in April 2016.

- ❖ The Resolution 2427 aimed at providing legal framework for mainstreaming protection, rights, well-being and empowerment of children throughout the conflict cycle.
- ❖ The resolution has won unanimous approval of the 15 members of the council.

Global Innovation Index

- ❖ The Global Innovation Index (GII) has ranked India as the 57th most innovative nation in the world.

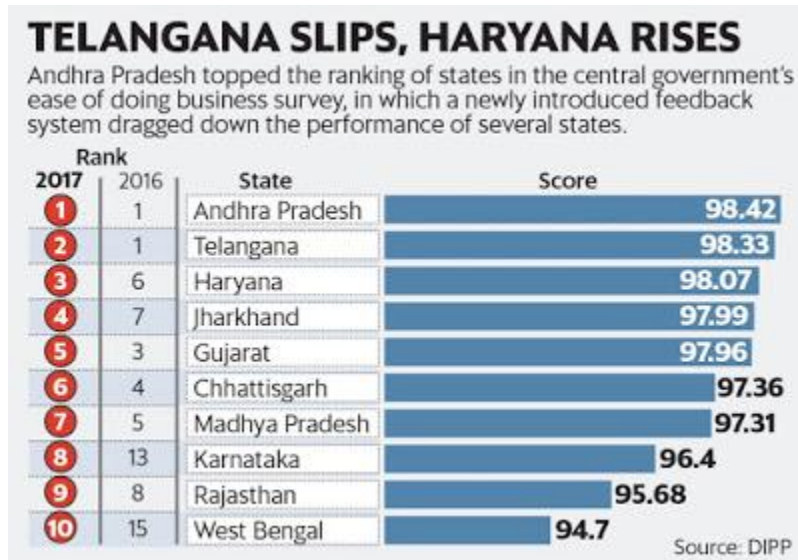


- ❖ The country has improved its ranking up to 3 places from its 60th position in 2017.
- ❖ It was 11th edition of GII and was jointly released by Cornell University, INSEAD and World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO).
- ❖ India has maintained its top place in central and south Asia region.
- ❖ India has been improving steadily since it was ranked 81st in 2015. Meanwhile, China improved its ranking from 22 in 2017 to 17 this year.
- ❖ The GII global ranking is published by World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) – a specialized agency of United Nations.

ECONOMY

Andhra tops ease of doing business ranking

- ❖ Andhra Pradesh emerged as the top ranked state in the Union government's latest ease of doing business index for states.
- ❖ The index is jointly prepared by the World Bank and the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Govt. of India.

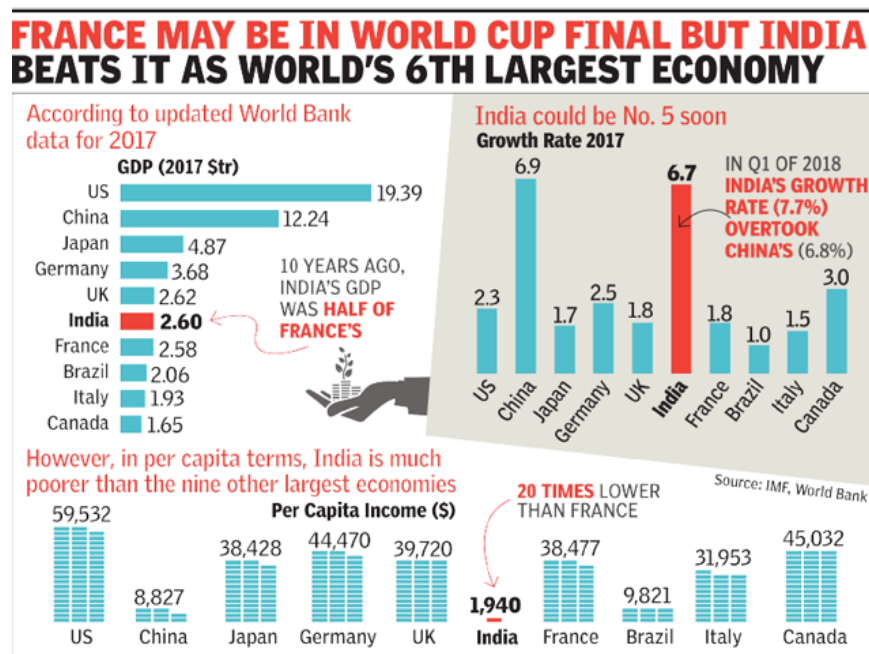


- ❖ Andhra Pradesh is followed by neighbouring Telangana, and Haryana is in third place.
- ❖ Jharkhand and Gujarat stood fourth and fifth, respectively.

- ❖ The aim of this exercise is to improve delivery of various Central government regulatory functions and services in an efficient, effective and transparent manner.
- ❖ This year's top five states figure ahead of the industrialised states such as Gujarat, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu
- ❖ Tamil Nadu was ranked 15th with a reform evidence score of 95.93 per cent and a feedback score of 43.90 per cent.
- ❖ In 2017, it was stated that Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Gujarat continued to be the three best-performing states.

India – 6th largest economy

- ❖ According to the report released by World Bank, India has surpassed France to become world's sixth-largest economy in terms of gross domestic product (GDP).
- ❖ India's gross domestic product (GDP) amounted to \$2.597 trillion at the end of 2017, against \$2.582 trillion for France.



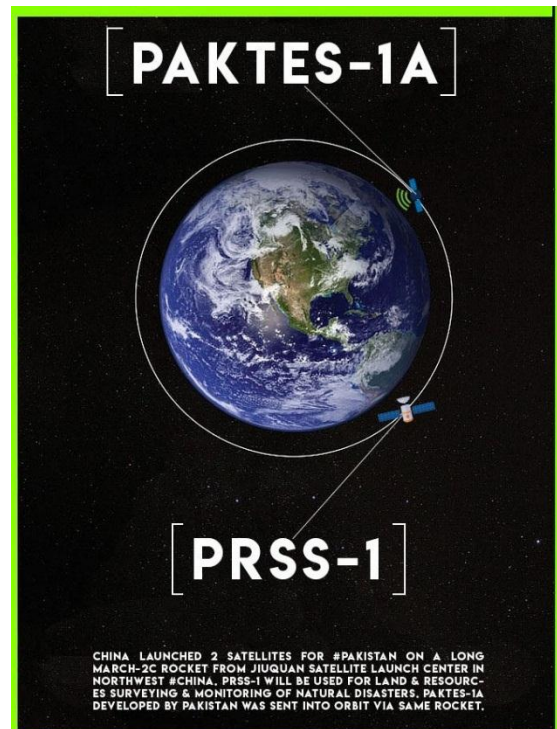
- ❖ The United States continues to be at the top of the list, followed by China, Japan and Germany.
- ❖ Even though India beat France in terms of the gross domestic product (GDP), it's per capita income remains significantly lower than France, which is 20 times that of India.

- ❖ India is projected to grow at the rate of 7.4% in 2018 and 7.8% in 2019, as per the International Monetary Fund.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

China launches two remote sensing satellites for Pakistan

- ❖ China successfully launched two remote sensing satellites PRSS-1 and PakTes-1A of Pakistan on board of Long March-2C rocket from Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre.
- ❖ It was
 - Overall 279th mission for the Long March rocket series (mainly used to send satellites into low Earth or Sun-synchronous orbits)
 - First international commercial launch in nearly two decades after it carried Motorola's Iridium satellites into orbit in 1999.
- ❖ PRSS-1 is China's first optical remote sensing satellite sold to Pakistan.
- ❖ It can carry out day and night monitoring. It also has viewing capacity even in clouded conditions.
- ❖ PakTES-1A is Pakistan's indigenously developed scientific experiment satellite developed by engineers from its space agency SUPARCO (Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission).
- ❖ The satellites will provide space remote sensing information services for strategic US\$ 50 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).



ENVIRONMENT

Western Ghats – 4th best tourist spot

- ❖ The Western Ghats, one of India's Hottest Biodiversity Hotspots and UNESCO World Heritage site, has been marked fourth in the Lonely Planet's top five '2018 Best in Asia' list.



- ❖ '2018 Best in Asia' list is a collection of 10 of the best destinations to visit in the continent for the year.
- ❖ One of the flowering plant species, Neelakurinji (*Strobilanthes kunthiana*) which blooms once every 12 years and has started to bloom in the famed hill station of Munnar, has been mentioned in the report.
 - Nagasaki - Japan.
 - Chiang Mai - Thailand,
 - Lumbini - Nepal,
 - Arugam Bay - Sri Lanka,

- Sichuan Province - China and
- Komodo National Park - Indonesia

are the destinations listed after Western Ghats.

STATES

Anna Canteens Launched

- ❖ The Andhra Pradesh CM N Chandrababu Naidu launched the much-awaited 'Anna Canteens' in various parts of the state.
- ❖ The project is taken up by the Akshaya Patra Foundation, which provides the meals, in collaboration with the Municipal Administration and Civil Supplies Departments.

'Seema Darshan' project

- ❖ Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani has given in-principle approval for the 39-crore rupees 'Seema Darshan' or border tourism project at Nadabet near Suigam in Banaskantha district.
- ❖ The main objective behind the move is to instil patriotism through a unique Gujarat initiative for border tourism.
- ❖ The project being developed on Wagah Border pattern entails an exhibition hall and a parade ground with an amphitheatre for 5,000 people.

'One farmer one transformer'

- ❖ In order to reduce electricity losses, the Maharashtra government will next month launch a new scheme allocating one transformer per farmer.
- ❖ The scheme, "one farmer one transformer", will be unveiled on August 15(Independence Day).
- ❖ Two lakh farmers will be given electricity connection for high voltage distribution line which will ensure uninterrupted power supply.



IMPORTANT DAYS

World Population Day - 11 July

- ❖ The World Population Day is observed across the world on July 11 to attention on the urgency and importance of population issue.
- ❖ The theme for the World Population Day 2018 is “Family Planning is a Human Right”
- ❖ The World Population Day was established by the then Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 1989.
- ❖ It was inspired by the public interest in Five Billion Day on July 11, 1987. On this date world’s approximate population had reached five billion people.

MISCELLANEOUS

Eat Right Movement

- ❖ The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has launched national campaign ‘The Eat Right Movement’ to improve public health and combat lifestyle diseases.
 - ❖ FSSAI also launched Eat Right tool kit and Safe and Nutritious Food at Workplace campaign.
 - ❖ It is voluntary and collaborative movement built on two broad pillars – “Eat Healthy and “Eat Safe”.
 - ❖ It is collective effort to encourage people towards making right food and dietary choices.
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