

July – 20

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Puducherry Tourism has announced the first Pondicherry International Film Festival (PIFF), which will showcase over 100 films from more than 25 countries. The inaugural edition of PIFF will be held from September 26 to 30.
 - France is the partner country for the festival and there will be a special focus on French cinema, art and culture.
- ❖ Western Railway renamed Elphinstone Road suburban railway station in Mumbai, Maharashtra to Prabhadevi Station. The station code of Prabhadevi station will be PBHD. The station was initially named after Lord Elphinstone, who was Governor of Bombay Presidency from 1853 to 1860.
 - It has now been renamed in honour of local deity Prabhadevi.
- ❖ Repco Micro Finance Ltd, a non-banking finance company promoted by Repco Bank, received Nabard 2018 award for its service to self-help group (SHG) linkage in Tamil Nadu for the fiscal year 2017-18.
- ❖ The country's first transgender poets' meet, organised by Sahitya Akademi(SA) was held at Kolkata. The meet was chaired by India's first transgender principal Manabi Bandopadhyay.
- ❖ The Nelson Mandela Foundation is dedicating this year's Mandela Day (18th July) to Action Against Poverty, honouring Nelson Mandela's leadership and devotion to fighting poverty and promoting social justice for all.
- ❖ In order to promote the Sanskrit language, the Gujarat government has decided to form the Sanskrit Bhasha Vikas Board.
- ❖ As part of Indo-US Bilateral Defence Cooperation, the 7th Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI) meeting was held between India and the US delegation.
 - DTTI is an important forum leading to the 2+2 dialogue between the two countries.
- ❖ United States President Donald Trump and Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin held their first one-on-one meeting in the Finnish capital, Helsinki.
- ❖ The eighth session of India-Oman Joint Commission Meeting (JCM) was held in Muscat, Oman. The session was co-chaired by the Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu along with the Minister of Industry, Investment, Trade and Digital Economy of Oman, Dr. Ali bin Masoud Al Sunaidy.

TAMIL NADU

Upgradation of 7 monuments in Tamil Nadu

- ❖ The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has planned to upgrade infrastructural and tourist-friendly facilities at seven sites, which are **approved under Adarsh Smarak Scheme** for Conservation of Monuments, in Tamil Nadu.



- ❖ The Adarsh Monuments proposed to be upgraded by the Ministry of Culture include
 - Shore Temple, Mamallapuram
 - Gingee Fort
 - Kailasanathar Temple, Kanchipuram
 - Brihadeeswarar Temple, Thanjavur
 - Sithannavasal caves
 - Vellore Fort
 - Moovar Koil, Kodumbalur

NATIONAL


Assam Witch Hunting (Prohibition, Prevention and Protection) Bill, 2015

- ❖ President has given assent to Assam Witch Hunting (Prohibition, Prevention and Protection) Bill, 2015 passed by State Assembly in August 2015.

The Assam Witch Hunting
(Prohibition, Prevention and Protection) Bill, 2015

Key Features:

- Aims to eliminate superstitions from society by making such offences under the Act as non-bailable, non-compoundable and cognizable.
- Prohibits any person from calling, identifying and defaming any other person as witch by words, signs, conducts or indications.
- If anybody is found guilty, the Act imposes up to 7 years of jail and fine up to Rs 5 lakh. This provision will come as per Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).
- Proposes sentence of 3 years imprisonment if anybody blames a person for natural disasters in a particular locality such as floods, droughts, illness or death.
- The provision of the Bill is holistically intended to deter the wilful negligence and lack of seriousness on the part of public servants in registering cases of witch hunting.



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M777 Howitzer artillery gun

- ❖ Indian Army is going to resume trials of US-made M777 ultralight howitzer in the Pokhran firing range, Rajasthan.
- ❖ The trials will begin after they were suspended in September 2017 following a barrel burst caused by faulty ammunition during firing.
- ❖ These artillery guns are already being used by US, Canadian and Australian armies.
- ❖ M777s deal is the first contract for artillery guns in almost 30 years after Bofors artillery guns induction in late-1980s

INTERNATIONAL

Peru Declares State of Emergency on Colombian Border

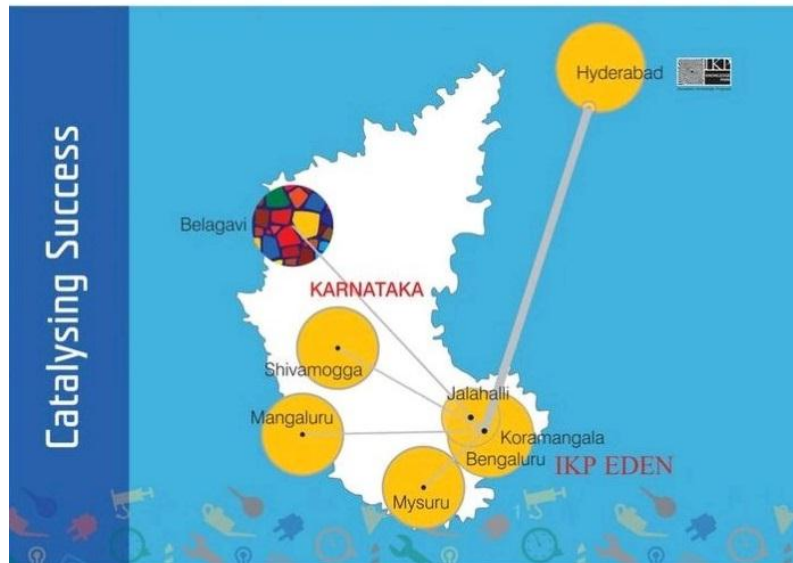
- ❖ Peru has declared a 60-day state of emergency on its border with Colombia in order to guarantee security in a region rife with drug trafficking.
- ❖ The region in which the state of emergency has been declared is the Amazon basin province of Putumayo, separated from Colombia by the river of the same name, a tributary of the Amazon.

STATES

'K-Tech Innovation Hub'

- ❖ Karnataka's first 'K-Tech Innovation Hub' (K-TI Hub) was inaugurated in Belagavi.
- ❖ The government intends to establish five such K-TI Hubs across the State.
- ❖ The K-Tech Innovation Hub is a "Product Start-up Incubator-cum-Common Instrumentation Facility"
- ❖ The Belagavi hub is based on the IKP EDEN (IKP Engineering, Design and Entrepreneurship Network) model set up in Bengaluru in September 2015.

K-Tech Innovation Hub A connected ecosystem





SPORTS

Athletics World Cup

- ❖ The USA won the first Athletics World Cup as Great Britain came third at the London Stadium.
- ❖ America took the crown by 57 points ahead of Poland and Great Britain, who finished on 155 points – seven behind second spot.

Sotteville Athletics meet

- ❖ India's star javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra won a gold medal in Sotteville Athletics meet in Sotteville, France.
- ❖ Adrian Mardare of Moldova won silver with a throw of (81.48 m)
- ❖ Edis Matusevicius of Lithuania settled for bronze (79.31m) in the tournament.
- ❖ Asian Games are slated to be held from August 18 to September 2 in Jakarta and Palembang, Indonesia.

Rg.	Dos.	Nom	Nat.	Perf.
1	6	CHOPRA Neeraj		85.17
2	4	MARDARE Andrian		81.48
3	1	MATUSEVICIUS Edis		79.31
4	5	NOVAC Alexandru		78.95
5	7	WALCOTT Keshorn		78.26
6	2	RIVASZ-TOTH Norbert		77.31
NC	8	FRYDRYCH Petr		0.00

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Justice Day – July 17

- ❖ Every year on July 17, World Day for International Justice is observed all around the world.
- ❖ The aim of this day is to unite everyone who wants to support justice as well as promote victims' rights.
- ❖ It is to help prevent serious crimes and those that put the peace, security and well-being of the world at risk.
