



August – 13

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the reappointment of Ram Sewak Sharma as chairperson of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) for the further period beyond August 2018 up to September 2020, i.e. date on which he attains the age of 65 years.
- ❖ Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) has launched **a new digital platform 'MyDeal'** to simplify capital raising process through capital markets by providing real-time access to information such as investors' feedback, profiles, client orders and deal pricing.
- ❖ The Global Innovation Index 2018 was launched in New Delhi. The event was organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) – one of the founding partners of GII along with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), in collaboration with the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP).
 - GII improved from 60 in 2017 to 57 in 2018.
- ❖ The 3rd India-Nepal Coordination meeting was started in New Delhi aimed at enhancing mutual cooperation and coordination between the two Border Guarding Forces (BGF) of both countries.

NATIONAL

Post Matric Scholarship for OBC Students

- ❖ Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved continuation and revision of Post Matric Scholarship for Other Backward Classes Students for studying in India (PMS-OBC) till 2020.
- ❖ PMS-OBC is flagship scheme of Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, in operation since 1998-99.
- ❖ It fully centrally sponsored scheme.
- ❖ It aims to provide financial assistance to OBC students studying at post-matriculation or post-secondary stage to enable them to complete their education.



INTERNATIONAL

Palestine recognized as a sovereign state - Columbia

- ❖ Colombia recognized Palestine as a sovereign state in the days before new President Ivan Duque took office
- ❖ Colombia was the only South American nation that had not recognized Palestine as a sovereign state.
- ❖ Colombia would become the 137th nation to recognize Palestinian statehood.
- ❖ Palestine has been recognized as a sovereign state by the UN General Assembly, the International Criminal Court, and at least 136 other countries.
- ❖ It seeks to create a state in Gaza, the West Bank and East Jerusalem – lands Israel captured in the 1967 war.

STATES

‘One District One Product’ Summit

- ❖ President Ram Nath Kovind on August 10, 2018, inaugurated the ‘One District One Product’ Summit in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ The summit, which aims to give a boost to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME), is a consequence of the UP Investors Summit held in UP in February 2018.
- ❖ The summit was held with a tagline of 'Nayi Udaan, Nayi Pehchan'.
- ❖ The ‘One District One Product’ (ODOP) scheme aims to promote one traditional industry in every district such as lock industry in Aligarh, Banarasi silk-weaving in Varanasi and biscuit-making in Amethi.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

National Commission for Women (NCW)

- ❖ Rekha Sharma (54) was appointed as chairperson of the National Commission for Women (NCW).
- ❖ Prior to this appointment, she was a member of the Commission and was holding the additional charge of chairperson after Lalitha Kumaramangalam had demitted office in September 2017.



- ❖ NCW is a statutory body established under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990. It was established in January 1992.
- ❖ It is an apex national level organization of India the mandate of protecting and promoting the interests of women.
- ❖ It regularly publishes a monthly newsletter, Rashtra Mahila, in both Hindi and English.

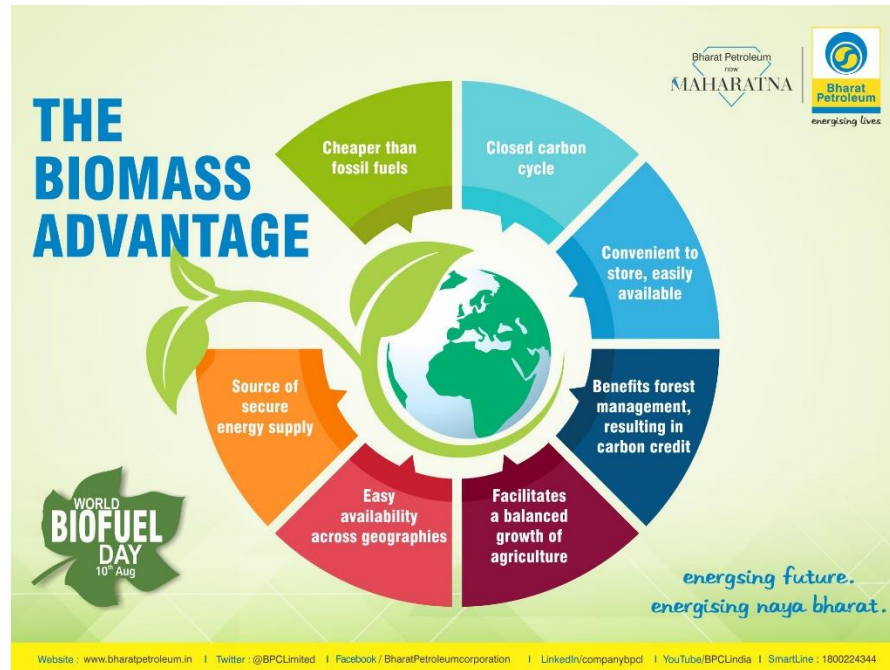
International Geography Bee World Championship

- ❖ Indian-American high school student Avi Goel has won the world championship at the International Geography Bee's junior varsity division which was held in Berlin, Germany.
- ❖ 14-year old Avi is a tenth grader at Silver Creek High School in Evergreen, San Jose, California.
- ❖ He topped the overall medal table with winning seven gold and 2 silver medals in the 10 medal events.
- ❖ The student also bagged the top spot in all the three events counting towards the world championship title.
- ❖ The three events are,
 - The International Geography Exam
 - The International Geography Bee
 - The International Geography Showdown
- ❖ Founded in the year 2016, The competition was held by International Academic Competitions and is overseen by the International History Bee and Bowl (IHBB).

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Biofuel Day - August 10

- ❖ World Bio-fuel Day (The International Biodiesel Day) is observed every year on August 10 to create awareness about the importance of non-fossil fuels.
- ❖ On this day in 1893, Sir Rudolph Diesel (inventor of the diesel engine) for the first time successfully ran the mechanical engine with Peanut Oil.
- ❖ In India, World Biofuel Day is being observed by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas.



- ❖ This year it had organized World Biofuel Day programme at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

76th anniversary of Quit India movement – 08 August

- ❖ 76th anniversary of Quit India movement was observed on August 8th, 2018.



- ❖ On this day in 1942, Mahatma Gandhi (father of the nation) had given the clarion call of Do or Die to all Indians to drive away Britishers from the country.



- ❖ Quit India Movement (Bharat Chhodo Andolan or August Movement or August Kranti) was an important milestone in the Indian freedom struggle.
 - ❖ It was civil disobedience movement launched at Bombay session of the All-India Congress Committee (AICC) by Mahatma Gandhi on 8 August 1942 demanding an end to British Rule of India.
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