

September - 08

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Ikea, the Swedish multinational home furnishing retailer, opened its first India store in the IT hub of the Nizami city of Hyderabad.
- ❖ The 6th edition of the biennial Bengaluru Space Expo was inaugurated by ISRO Chairman Dr.K.Sivan in Bengaluru. This three-day event will showcase industry participation in Indian space programme.
- ❖ Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the continuation of the Centrally Sponsored Umbrella Scheme of Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats (CSS-IDWH) beyond the 12th Plan period from 2017-18 to 2019-20.
 - The Scheme consists of Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger (CSS-PT), Development of Wildlife Habitats (CSS-DWH) and Project Elephant (CSS-PE).
- ❖ National Green Tribunal has formed a monitoring committee headed by a former high court judge to prepare a time-bound action plan on groundwater recharge in the national capital.
- ❖ 31st Central Hindi Committee meeting was held in New Delhi under the chairmanship of Prime Minister.
- ❖ Union Government has appointed Reserve Bank of India's former governor Bimal Jalan as the head of the panel that has been tasked with selecting India's next chief economic advisor (CEA).
 - He appointed for this post after previous CEA Arvind Subramanian resigned from office.
- ❖ Google launched a new search engine called 'Dataset Search', which works in multiple languages, to help scientists, data journalists, and others find the data required for their work.
- ❖ India ranked 19th in the 'Theft Ranking' for countries with weapons-usable nuclear materials, according to the Nuclear Security Index.
 - Australia and Switzerland share the top spot among the 22 countries with weapons-usable nuclear materials.
- ❖ India and France signed an implementation agreement on 'Mobilise Your City' (MYC) in New Delhi to support three Indian cities (Nagpur, Kochi, and Ahmedabad) in their efforts to reduce Green House Gas (GHG) emissions.

- ❖ In order to improve the ease of doing business with Indian Railways, the national transporter has taken a significant step. Piyush Goyal-led Railway Ministry has launched the Aapoorti mobile app of Indian Railways e-procurement system (IREPS).
- ❖ Union Home Minister inaugurated 3-day Defence & Homeland Security Expo and Conference – 2018 in New Delhi.
 - It was jointly organized by PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry in association with Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).
- ❖ Union Railway Minister along with Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh launched the official website of Kumbh Mela (www.kumbh.gov.in), 2019 in Lucknow. They also launched a social media App related to the Mela.
 - It will provide all the necessary details to tourists and pilgrims regarding the location, trains, weather, accessibility, and accommodations
- ❖ Saurabh Chaudhary (16 years) broke his own 10m Air Pistol World record and become 'Junior World Champion' in ISSF Shooting World Championships, Changwon in South Korea.

NATIONAL

Book on Mahatma Gandhi's 'Nai Talim'

- ❖ A Book on experiential learning based on Mahatma Gandhi's 'Nai Talim' (basic education) was released by Union Minister for Human Resource & Development (HRD).
- ❖ It contains the basic principles of Gandhi's 'Nai Talim', along with the work and education curriculum for schools, D.Ed, B.Ed and faculty development programmes for teachers.
- ❖ It has been brought out simultaneously in 13 languages in consultation with the state councils of educational research and training.

Atal Pension Yojana Extension

- ❖ Union Cabinet has decided to indefinitely extend the Atal Pension Scheme, which lapsed in August 2018. It also has broadened its scope by keeping it open-ended.

- ❖ To further incentivize people's participation in the scheme, the age criterion for participation has been revised. Enrolment age has been relaxed further to 65 years from 60 years.
- ❖ Also, all accounts opened after August 2018 will have accident insurance limit of Rs 2 lakh, which is double than the earlier Rs 1 lakh limit.
- ❖ Overdraft facility of the scheme was also increased from Rs 5,000 to Rs 10,000.

First Global Mobility Summit 2018

- ❖ India's first-ever Global Mobility Summit 'MOVE' was inaugurated by Prime Minister in New Delhi on September 7, 2018.
- ❖ This two-day summit was organized by NITI Aayog.
- ❖ It will deliberate on five themes including electrification and alternative fuels, reinventing public transport, goods transport, and logistics, data analytics, mobility.

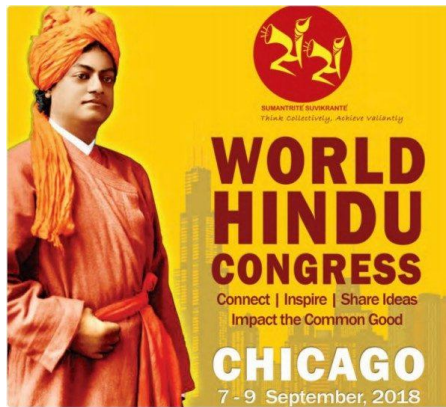
INTERNATIONAL

International Tradeshow

- ❖ India is the Partner Country in the 87th Izmir International tradeshow which begins in Izmir, Turkey.
- ❖ In this tradeshow, India will also be launching a mega business pavilion 'Source India' hosting 75 Indian companies with the aim of tie-ups to increase India's exports to Turkey.
- ❖ This is part of a series of 'Source India pavilions' that the Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI) is hosting in important tradeshows across the world for boosting India's exports.
- ❖ TPCI is the trade and investment promotion organization of the Department of Commerce, Union Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

World Hindu Congress (WHC)

- ❖ The second conference of the three-day World Hindu Congress was held in Chicago, USA.



- ❖ It was held on the occasion of 125th Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda's Historic Speech at the Parliament of the World's Religions in 1893.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Mini-UAV for high-altitude surveillance

- ❖ Indian Army has selected SpyLite mini-UAV for high-altitude aerial surveillance.
- ❖ The mini-UAV is built by Cyient Solutions & Systems (CSS), a joint venture between Cyient Ltd of India and BlueBird Aero Systems of Israel.
- ❖ SpyLite has an endurance of 4-5 hours and a maximum flight ceiling of 30,000 feet making it ideal for operations along the border with China as well as on the Siachen glacier.

STATES

Ayushman Bharat - Jan Arogya Yojana

- ❖ Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), which provides poor and vulnerable families coverage for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization was launched in Jammu on September 6, 2018.
- ❖ This Yojana aimed at providing portable coverage of Rs 5 lakh per family annually and a beneficiary covered under the scheme would be allowed to avail cashless benefits from any public and private impanelled hospitals across the country.
- ❖ This scheme will be launched across the country on September 25 by Prime Minister.

Panchayati Raj amendment bill

- ❖ Rajasthan state Assembly passed the Rajasthan Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Bill, 2018, which relaxes the ‘two-child’ rule for those aspiring to contest panchayat elections, if one of the children is differently abled.
- ❖ It also passed an amendment aimed at allowing people suffering from leprosy to contest panchayat elections. This bill aims at deleting a provision under the Act that if a person is suffering from Leprosy, he will be disqualified for contesting panchayat elections.
- ❖ As per the existing legislation, a person stood disqualified from contesting panchayat elections, if he or she has more than two children. This provision does not provide for any exception for a disabled child.
