

**September – 17**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ State Bank of India has appointed Prashant Kumar as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the Bank. Prior to this, Kumar was designated as Deputy Managing Director (HR) & Corporate Development Officer of SBI.
  - He replaces Anshula Kant, who has been promoted as Managing Director of SBI.
- ❖ Russia, on September 17, concluded the 2018 edition of the massive Vostok exercise series that included Chinese forces for the first time.
- ❖ Indian-American Bimal Patel has been nominated as an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Financial Institutions by the American President, Donald Trump.
- ❖ Girish Radhakrishnan and Tajinder Mukherjee have been appointed chairmen-cum-managing directors of the United India Insurance Company and the National Insurance Company Limited respectively.

## **TAMIL NADU**

### **Pakistan Dental Association's Humanitarian Award**

- ❖ Chennai based cranio maxillofacial surgeon, Dr S M Balaji has been awarded the Pakistan Dental Association's 'Humanitarian Award'.



- ❖ Prof. Balaji is the first Indian to receive such an honour from the Pakistan Dental Association.

- ❖ The award was conferred on the side-lines of the 40th Asia Pacific Dental Federation 2018 meeting in Manila, Philippines.

## **NATIONAL**

### **Website for 15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas**

- ❖ External Affairs Minister (EAM) along with Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister has inaugurated the website for the 15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2019, [www.pbdindia.gov.in](http://www.pbdindia.gov.in).
- ❖ The 15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention will be held at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh from 21 to 23 January 2019.
- ❖ The theme of PBD 2019 is "Role of Indian Diaspora in building a New India."
- ❖ The inauguration of the Youth Pravasi Bharatiya Divas will be held in partnership with Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- ❖ Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention is the flagship event of the Government and provides an important platform to engage and connect with the overseas Diaspora.

### **India's 1st 'Smart Fence' Pilot Project**

- ❖ India's first 'smart fence' pilot project was inaugurated by Union Home Minister along the Indo-Pak border at the BSF Headquarters in Ploora, Jammu.
- ❖ The technology is being implemented by the Border Security Force which provides for round-the-clock surveillance on the border.
- ❖ The initiative is part of the comprehensive integrated border management system (CIBMS).
- ❖ The pilot project entails deploying laser-activated fences and technology-enabled barriers to plug vulnerable gaps along frontiers.

### **Gold label distinction - Marathon**

- ❖ Mumbai Marathon got the Gold label distinction from the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF).
- ❖ The 16th edition of the race, to be held on Jan 20, 2019, became the only gold label marathon in the country and joined the elite list of marathons in Asia.

## **Indian Green Building Council Certification**

- ❖ Chennai Central Railway Station has received the 'Indian Green Building Council Certification' for adopting Green building features and concepts in the Station.
- ❖ With this, the railway station becomes the first station in Southern Railway to be awarded Green Building Certification.
- ❖ The Central Railway station has several green building projects like
  - 100% LED lighting fixtures,
  - Installation of 5-star rated fans,
  - Solar energy, solar water heaters and
  - Segregation of waste at source along with waste recycling.
- ❖ The Indian Green Building Council (IGBC), instituted by the CII, awarded the certificate during the Railway Swachhta programme at the Chennai Central railway station on 15th September, 2018.

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **Cyber Security Conference 'COCON XI'**

- ❖ Kerala Police is going to host a 2-day International Cyber Security Conference 'COCON XI' in Kochi on October 5th and 6th, 2018.
- ❖ COCON, an annual event, is conducted as part of the International Information Security Day.
- ❖ Kerala Police will partner with
  - British Columbia-Canada based POLCYB (Society for the Policing of Cyberspace) and
  - ISRA (Information Security Research Association), a registered non-profit organizationfor organizing the event.

## Successful launch of PSLV C 42

- ❖ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on September 16, 2018 successfully launched its polar satellite launch vehicle (PSLV) C42 carrying 2 earth observation satellites for the United Kingdom.
- ❖ The launch vehicle- PSLV-C42 lifted off at 10.08 PM (Night Launch) from the first launch pad of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.



- ❖ The two earth observing satellites - NovaSAR and S1-4 of Surrey Satellite Technology Limited, UK were put into sun synchronous orbit.
  - NovaSAR is an S-Band synthetic aperture radar satellite
  - S1-4 is a high-resolution optical Earth observation satellite
- ❖ This was the 44<sup>th</sup> launch of PSLV and the launch marks PSLV-C42's first fully commercial trip of the year.
- ❖ The mission was a commercial arrangement between the British company and Antrix Corporation Limited, which is the commercial wing of ISRO.

## Man Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM)

- ❖ Indigenously developed weapon system Man Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM), was successfully flight tested for the second time from the Ahmednagar range, Maharashtra.
- ❖ MPATGM is third-generation anti-tank guided missile (ATGM) indigenously developed by DRDO.

- ❖ It works on fire and forget principle and It is expected to replace
  - Second generation French origin anti-tank guided missile Milan and
  - Soviet semi-automatic wire-guided missile Konkurwhich are in service with Indian Army.
- ❖ At present, India Army has indigenously developed third generation anti-tank guided missile (ATGM) Nag in its arsenal but it is not portable to meet its demand.

## **PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS**

### **Pacific Asia Travel Association gold awards**

- ❖ Kerala Tourism has won two prestigious gold awards of Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) for its innovative marketing campaigns.
- ❖ These awards were won by Kerala Tourism's Yalla Kerala print campaign and Live Inspired Posters under PATA's Travel Advertisement Print and Travel Poster categories respectively.
  - 'Yalla Kerala' - print media travel advertisement campaign launched in Gulf countries.
  - Live Inspired Posters - Developed for 3rd edition of Kochi-Muziris Biennale (KMB)
- ❖ Both campaign and posters were developed and designed by Stark Communications which is advertising agency of Kerala Tourism.

## **SPORTS**

### **2018 South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Cup**

- ❖ Maldives defeated the defending champions India 2-1 in the final and lifted the 2018 South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Cup at the Bangabandhu Stadium in Dhaka.
  - ❖ The win for Maldives comes 10 years after their first SAFF Cup title in 2008.
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