



April -22

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Ms. Sripriya Ranganathan presently Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Korea.

NATIONAL

Uniform road tax structure

- ❖ The Group of Ministers (GoM) constituted by Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has proposed One Nation One Tax policy for seamless movement of commercial vehicles across the country.
- ❖ The 2-day meeting of GoM headed by Rajasthan transport minister Yoonus Khan was held in Guwahati, Assam.
- ❖ It will
 - Allow transfer of vehicles from one state to another without levying road tax.
 - Check on people registering their vehicles in low tax states and running them in other states.
- ❖ Centre has the powers to decide principles on which motor vehicles tax can be levied. The uniform tax should be based on invoice price of vehicles in three slabs.
- ❖ 8% tax on vehicles below 10 lakhs, 10% for vehicles costing between 10 -20 lakhs, and 12% for vehicles above 20 lakhs.
- ❖ Diesel vehicles may have to pay 2% extra taxes, while electric vehicles will be given 2% discount.

INTERNATIONAL

Law on equal wages for men, women

- ❖ The Cabinet of United Arab Emirates (UAE) has approved the issuance of law on Equal Wages and Salaries for men and women.
- ❖ The new law will ensure equal pay for men and women working in the country.



- ❖ The approval of the law comes in line with the government's objective to ensure the protection of women's rights and support their role in the national development process.
- ❖ Since past few years, the UAE Government has attempted to narrow the gender gap in the nation through consolidated efforts including the establishment of the UAE Council for Gender Balance in 2015.
- ❖ The government also launched the world's first Gender Balance Guide in September 2017.
- ❖ The guide was prepared by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in collaboration with the United Arab Emirates Gender Balance Council (2017).
- ❖ The guide lays down a road-map for UAE and its organizations to harness the untapped potential of women.

ECONOMY

World's sixth largest economy

- ❖ According to International Monetary Fund's (IMF) World Economic Outlook (WEO) for April 2018, India is now the world's sixth largest economy at \$2.6 trillion (in terms of GDP), replacing France.
- ❖ Then top five economies are United States, China, Japan, Germany and United Kingdom.
- ❖ According to IMF's India is expected to grow at 7.4% in 2018 and 7.8% in 2019, making it fastest growing economy in the world.

Uttarakhand's second Mega Food Park

- ❖ Uttarakhand's second Mega Food Park- Himalayan Mega Food Park Private Ltd inaugurated at Mahuakhera Ganj in Kashipur in Udham Singh Nagar district.
- ❖ The first Mega Food Park in the state is located at Haridwar and has already become operational.
- ❖ Projects under Mega Food Park Scheme are merged under comprehensive flagship scheme of 'Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana'.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

The Shorenstein Journalism Award

- ❖ Siddharth Varadarajan, the founding editor of The Wire, was awarded the Shorenstein Journalism Award for 2017 at Stanford University, America.





- ❖ He has been awarded for his courageous accounts of India's domestic and foreign policies.

About Shorenstein award

- ❖ The award, given annually by Stanford University's Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Centre.
- ❖ Shorenstein Journalism bestowed to honor the journalists who have "produced outstanding reporting on Asia and contributed significantly to the Western understanding of the region".
- ❖ Fifteen journalists have previously received the Shorenstein award instituted in 2002.
- ❖ Originally Shorenstein Journalism award designed to honor distinguished American journalists.
- ❖ But in 2011, changes were made in this award to bestow this award to honor the distinguished journalist from West and Asia.

SPORTS

Commonwealth Games 2018

- ❖ The 21st edition of Commonwealth Games has recently held in Gold Coast, Australia.
- ❖ More than 4,500 athletes from 71 nations competed for 275 gold medals at the Commonwealth Games.
- ❖ This is the first major multi-sport event which has the same number of men's and women's medal events.
- ❖ India has sent a 227-member strong contingent for the Games.
- ❖ The badminton player PV Sindhu was the flag-bearer for India at the opening ceremony of this commonwealth.
- ❖ In this edition, India secured third place in the medal tally by winning 46 medals totally including 26 gold, 20 silvers and 20 bronzes.
- ❖ Australia secured the first place in the medal tally by winning 198 medals totally including 80 gold, 59 silver, and 59 bronze.
- ❖ England secured second place in the medal tally by winning 136 medals totally including 45 gold, 45 silver and 46 bronzes.



CWG MEDALS TALLY 2018

POS	COUNTRY				TOTAL
1	Australia	80	59	59	198
2	England	45	45	46	136
3	India	26	20	20	66
4	Canada	15	40	27	82
5	New Zealand	15	16	15	46
6	South Africa	13	11	13	37
7	Wales	10	12	14	36
8	Scotland	9	13	22	44
9	Nigeria	9	9	6	24
10	Cyprus	8	1	5	14

Gold Winners & Events

- ❖ Saina Nehwal - women's singles badminton.
- ❖ Vikas Krishan - Boxing -75kg category.
- ❖ Manika - Table tennis women's singles-becoming the first Indian woman to do so.
- ❖ Vinesh Phogat - women's wrestling freestyle 50 kg Nordic event.
- ❖ Neeraj Chopra - javelin throw - first Indian javelin thrower to claim a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games
- ❖ Gaurav Solanki -Boxing -52kg category
- ❖ Sumit Malik - wrestling -men's freestyle 125 kg category.
- ❖ Sanjeev Rajput - shooting - 50m Rifle 3 Position shooting event.
- ❖ M.C. Mary Kom – boxing- 45-48 kg category event- claiming gold in her debut Commonwealth Games.
- ❖ Bajrang Punia - wrestling -freestyle 65kg category.
- ❖ Tejaswini Sawant - shooting - 50m rifle position event
- ❖ Anish Bhanwala - shooting - 25m rapid fire Pistol-Youngest Gold Medallist.
- ❖ Sushil Kumar - wrestling -men's freestyle 74 kg category -third straight Commonwealth gold medal.



- ❖ Rahul Aware - wrestling - Men's Freestyle 57 kg- category.
- ❖ Shreyasi Singh - shooting - double trap women shooting.
- ❖ Heena Sidhu - shooting – 25 m pistol shooting event
- ❖ Jitu Rai - shooting -10 m men's air pistol event
- ❖ Manu Bhaker-Shooting-10m women's air pistol event
- ❖ Punam Yadav – Weightlifting - women's 69 kg category
- ❖ Venkat Rahul Ragala – Weightlifting- men's 85 kg category.
- ❖ Satish Kumar Sivalingam – Weightlifting- men's 77 kg category
- ❖ Sanjita Chanu – Weightlifting- women's 53 kg category
- ❖ Mirabai Chanu – Weightlifting- women's 48 kg category
- ❖ Indian men's table tennis team – by beating Nigeria.
- ❖ In the women's table tennis event, the Indian team won its first ever Commonwealth gold medal.
- ❖ The Indian mixed team of a pair of Satwik Ranki Reddy and Ashwini Ponnappa in badminton claimed gold for the first time in the Games' history.

Silver Winners & Events

- ❖ P.V. Sindhu – badminton - women's singles - against Saina Nehwal.
- ❖ Kidambi Srikanth – badminton- men's singles.
- ❖ Dipika Pallikal Karthik and Joshna Chinappa -women's doubles squash.
- ❖ Dipika Pallikal and Saurav Ghosal - mixed doubles squash
- ❖ Manish Kaushik – Boxing - Men's 60 kg category.
- ❖ Amit Panghal -Boxing -Men's 46-49 kg category.
- ❖ Manika Batra and Mouma Das –Table tennis- women's doubles, the first-ever silver for India in Table Tennis in the Commonwealth Games.
- ❖ Anjum Moudgil –Shooting- women's 50 m rifle 3 positions event.
- ❖ Pooja Dhanda –Wrestling women's 57 kg category.
- ❖ Mausam Khatri- Wrestling- men's freestyle 97 kg category.
- ❖ Seema Punia - women's discus throws.
- ❖ Mehuli Ghosh - shooting - 10m women's air rifle event.
- ❖ Heena Sidhu- shooting -10m women's air pistol
- ❖ P. Gururaja - Weightlifting- men's 56kg category.



- ❖ Tejaswini Sawant – shooting- 50m Air pistol shooting.
- ❖ Babita Kumari - Wrestling - 53kg category.

Bronze Winners & Events

- ❖ Manika Batra and G. Sathiyam - mixed doubles in table tennis.
- ❖ Sharath Kamal - table tennis Men's Singles.
- ❖ Harmeet Desai and Sunil Shankar Shetty - men's doubles Table Tennis.
- ❖ Ashwini Ponnappa and Sikki Reddy - women's doubles badminton.
- ❖ Somveer –Wrestling- Men's Freestyle 86 kg.
- ❖ Sakshi Malik – wrestling- Women's Freestyle 62 kg Category.
- ❖ Naman Tanwar - boxing -Men's 91 kg Category.
- ❖ Manoj Kumar - boxing -Men's 69 kg Category.
- ❖ Hussamuddin Mohammed - boxing -Men's 56 kg Category.
- ❖ Divya Kakran –Wrestling- women's freestyle 68 kg Category.
- ❖ Navjeet Dhillon - women's discus throw.
- ❖ Kiran - wrestling- women's freestyle 76 kg Category.
- ❖ Ankur Mittal – shooting-men's double trap shooting event.
- ❖ Om Mitharval – shooting- 50 m men's pistol, 10 m men's air pistol event.
- ❖ Apurvi Chandel - Shooting- 10 m women's air rifle event.
- ❖ Vikas Thakur – weightlifting- men's 94 kg category.
- ❖ Sachin Chaudhary - men's heavyweight category in para powerlifting.
- ❖ Ravi Kumar - Shooting - men's 10 m air rifle event.
- ❖ Deepak Lather - men's 69 kg category-youngest Indian weightlifter to claim a Commonwealth Games medal

About Commonwealth Games

- ❖ Commonwealth Games is a multi-sport event where athletes from 53-member countries of Commonwealth nations make participation.
- ❖ The games were first held in 1930.
- ❖ Commonwealth Games are conducted once in every 4 years.
- ❖ Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) is nodal agency to oversee the games.
- ❖ India had hosted the 19th edition of Commonwealth Games in New Delhi from 3 to 14 October 2010.



- ❖ The South African city of Durban is selected to host the 2022 Commonwealth Games at the Federation's general assembly in Auckland, New Zealand.
