

**March-13**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ India-Russia diplomatic relations have completed 70 years of successful partnership. As part of the celebrations, International Federation of Indo-Russian Youth Clubs jointly with BRICS International Forum presented a programme - Vision for Future at the Pravasi Bhartiya Kendra, New Delhi.

## **NATIONAL**

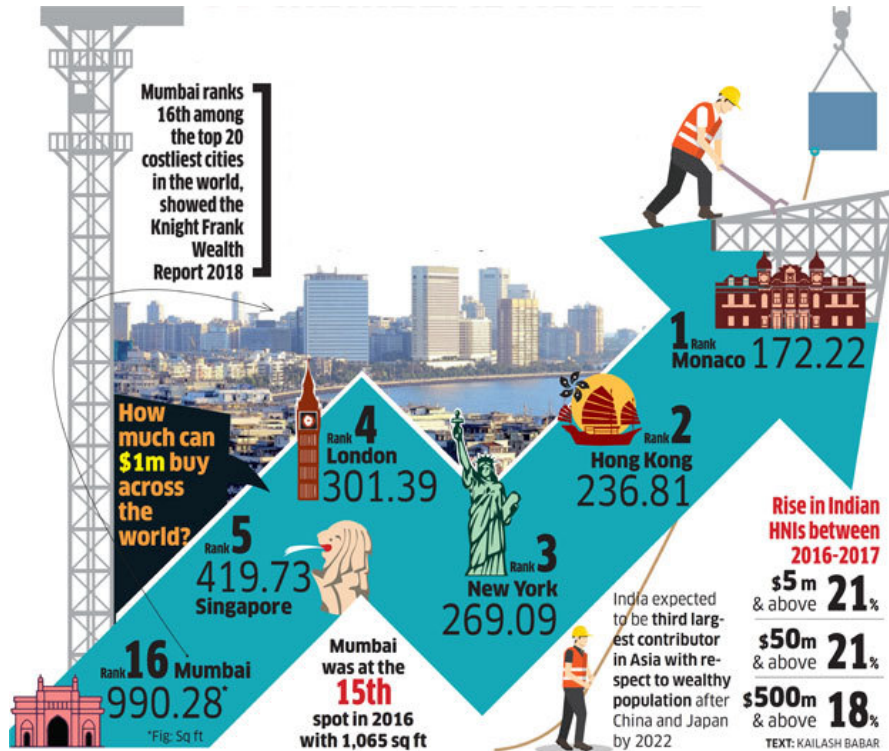
### **SUVIDHA**

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers has launched 'Suvidha', a 100% Oxo-biodegradable Sanitary Napkin, under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP).
- ❖ It will be physically available at all Janaushadhi Kendras in country by World Menstrual Hygiene Day (May 28, 2018).
- ❖ SUVIDHA napkin has special additive added in it, which makes it biodegradable when it reacts with oxygen after it is used and discarded.
- ❖ It was launched under government's vision of providing Affordable and Quality Healthcare for All. It will ensure 'Swachhta, Swasthya and Suvidha' for underprivileged women.
- ❖ Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana was launched by Dept. of Pharmaceuticals to provide quality medicines at affordable prices to masses through special kendra's known as PMBJP.

### **Mumbai - 16th most expensive city**

- ❖ According to the Knight Frank Wealth Report 2018, Mumbai ranks 16th among the top 20 costliest cities in the world. The city of Mumbai was at the 15th position during 2016.
- ❖ Monaco, the sovereign city-state in Western Europe ranks first among the top 20 costliest cities in the world, followed by Hong Kong which has secured the second position.
- ❖ The New York City secures the third position and London stands at the fourth position.

- ❖ The index is drawn from four major indicators: wealth, investments, lifestyle and future.
- ❖ Delhi, Chennai and Bengaluru feature among the top 100 cities in the list.



## INTERNATIONAL

### World ATM Congress

- ❖ The World ATM Congress (WATMC-2018) was held at Feria de Madrid in Spain from March 6 to 8.
- ❖ Entering its sixth year, it is the world's largest international air traffic management (ATM) exhibition and conference attracting thousands of delegates each year.
- ❖ In it, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) participated and showcased its achievements and initiatives.
- ❖ Conceived by the Civil Air Navigation Services Organization (CANSO) in partnership with the Air Traffic Control Association (ATCA), the

World ATM Congress brings together the world's leading product developers, experts, stakeholders in aviation to share the best practices in air traffic management.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Udyam Sakhi Portal

- ❖ On the occasion of International Women's Day (March 8), the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises has launched Udyam Sakhi Portal ([www.udyamsakhi.org](http://www.udyamsakhi.org)) for women entrepreneurs.
- ❖ The portal is a network for nurturing entrepreneurship and creating business models for low cost products and services in order to empower women and make them self-reliant and self-sufficient.

## STATES

### MSME International Trade Fair 2018

- ❖ The Odisha MSME International Trade Fair-2018 was held from March 5 to 10 on the IDCO Exhibition Ground, Bhubaneswar.
- ❖ The 5th edition of the six-day MSME trade fair organised by the MSME dept. of the Odisha government with focus on the promotion of food processing sector was inaugurated by CM Shri Naveen Patnaik.
- ❖ 350 stalls were set up in this trade fair and Theme Pavilion is devoted for the food processing sector.

### Swachh Shakti 2018

- ❖ The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation in association with Uttar Pradesh Government had organized Swachh Shakti 2018, a Women's Convention on occasion of International Women's Day (March 8) in Lucknow.
- ❖ This year, Uttar Pradesh had hosted Swachh Shakti 2018.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh, largest state in country (in terms of population) with massive rural populace.

### **Silver Jubilee of Losar festival**

- ❖ The Buddhist Community of Itanagar celebrated the silver jubilee of the Losar Festival at the Nyokum Lapang Ground in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ The three-day festival, organized by the Itanagar Buddhist Cultural Society (IBCS) was celebrated from March 2 to March 4.
- ❖ The Losar festival which is celebrated as the New Year by the Buddhist community has entered into 2145 Earth Dog year as per the Buddhist calendar.

## **PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS**

### **New Special Director**

- ❖ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Vivek R Wadekar (1991 IRS) as the new Special Director in the Enforcement Directorate (ED).
- ❖ He is appointed for five years as the new Special Director in the Enforcement Directorate (ED).
- ❖ The ED is the central investigative agency, under the Union finance ministry, that enforces the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) in the country.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Fourth India-Europe 29 Business Forum**

- ❖ The fourth India-Europe 29 Business Forum (IE29BF) took place in New Delhi from 5-6 March 2018.
- ❖ The theme of IE29BF 2018 was 'Synergising Economic Vision for Expanded Relations'. For IE29BF 2018, Czech Republic was the 'Focus Country'.
- ❖ The Forum was created for the first time in 2014 by Ministry of External Affairs and Federation of Indian Chambers and Commerce (FICCI)
- ❖ The Forum is primarily meant to promote Business-to-Business (B2B) meetings

- ❖ It aims to provide an institutionalized platform for promoting business exchanges between India and the twenty-nine countries of Central Europe region.

-----