

June – 10

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Union Railway Minister Piyush Goyal flagged off Humsafar Jodhpur Bandra Express at Bhagat Ki Kothi Railway Station in Rajasthan's Jodhpur.

NATIONAL

National Disaster Risk Index

- ❖ The first ever National Disaster Risk Index, which gauges potential hazards and disasters across the 640 districts of India was released.
- ❖ It is currently in the form of a draft report prepared by the Union home ministry with support from the UNDP.

DISASTER-PRONE			Why Pune? On a scale of 10 it has scored 9.48 due to highest exposure to hazard and vulnerability, while its capacity to deal with risk is lower at 4.43 (out of 10). Pune is affected by drought (7.93 on 10), but lower than Nashik's at 8.35		Disaster Risk Index of States					
High-Risk Districts on Disaster					States	Rank				
District	State	Rank	North 24 Parganas scores 8.52 (out of 10) on exposure to hazard and vulnerability and 3.64 on capacity to deal with risk. On floods it scores 7.97 out of 10		Assam	7				
North 24 Parganas	West Bengal	1					South 24 Parganas scores 8.48 on risks and 3.64 for its capacity to deal with risks. Highest risk from cyclone, and scores 8.24		Maharashtra	1
Pune	Maharashtra	2							West Bengal	2
South 24 parganas	West Bengal	3							UP	3
Thane	Maharashtra	4							MP	4
Hoogly	West Bengal	5							Karnataka	6
Howrah	West Bengal	6							Assam	7
Bangalore	Karnataka	7							Andhra	8
Nashik	Maharashtra	8							Gujarat	9
Gulbarga	Karnataka	9							Bihar	10
Mumbai suburban	Maharashtra	10	Note: The All-India ranking of these states and districts has been assessed on six parameters: hazards; vulnerability; hazard-specific vulnerability; hazard & vulnerability exposure; capacity and risk							

Source: MHA

- ❖ Maharashtra is the most disaster vulnerable state followed by West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, and Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ Delhi is most at risk among Union territories (UTs).

Brahmaputra and Sutlej Data Sharing

- ❖ China has resumed sharing hydrological data on the Brahmaputra and Sutlej rivers with India after a year's gap.

- ❖ China stopped the exercise citing that the hydrological gathering sites were washed away due to floods. It also coincided with the 73-day Doklam stand-off that took place during the peak monsoon period.
- ❖ China has resumed sharing hydrological data after the two sides held talks over the issue in March.
- ❖ Data will be shared twice daily until October.
- ❖ Beijing has started providing data from three hydrological stations — Nugesha, Yangcun, and Nuxia, lying on the mainstream of the Brahmaputra, also known as Yarlung Zangbo in China
- ❖ Data is shared from the station at Tsada for the Sutlej, known as Langqen Zangbo

INTERNATIONAL

Annual Passport Index

- ❖ India has bagged the 76th position in a list of the world's most powerful passports, granting its holders visa-free access to 59 countries.
- ❖ The results are part of citizenship planning firm Henley and Partners' annual passport index.



- ❖ The Index ranks passports based on the number of countries a holder can go to without a visa or the number of countries a holder can go to where they can obtain a visa, visitor's permit, or electronic travel authority upon arrival.

- ❖ As per the annual passport index, Japan has been deemed the world's most powerful passport, with access to 189 countries.
- ❖ The list of 5 most powerful passports are,
 - Japan - 189 countries
 - Germany, Singapore - 188
 - Denmark, Finland, France, Italy, Sweden, Spain, South Korea - 187
 - Norway, U.K., Austria, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, U.S. - 186
 - Belgium, Switzerland, Ireland, Canada - 185

Dendrobium Narendra Modi

- ❖ The Indian Prime Minister paid a three-day visit to Singapore.
- ❖ An orchid was named after Prime Minister Narendra Modi to mark his visit to the National Orchid Garden of Singapore.
- ❖ The orchid is named Dendrobium Narendra Modi.



- ❖ The prime minister visited Singapore's oldest Hindu Temple Sri Mariamman.
- ❖ Built in 1827, the temple was constructed for worship by immigrants from the Nagapatnam and Cuddalore districts of South India.
- ❖ The temple is located in the heart of Chinatown.

Peace Mission 2018

- ❖ Member states of the SCO will participate in the joint military drill named 'Peace Mission 2018'.
- ❖ The exercises are biannual, multinational drills with the goal of enhancing counterterrorism coordination and cooperation among the eight member countries.



- ❖ Indian and Pakistani armies are taking part for the first time will help ease tensions between the two neighbours and promote positive interactions.
- ❖ The last exercise of the SCO was held in Kyrgyzstan in September 2016.
- ❖ The 2018 exercise will be the first for India and Pakistan since becoming full members of the SCO in 2017
- ❖ It also will be the first time India and Pakistan take part in a military exercise together since their independence, though their militaries have previously worked on United Nations peacekeeping missions

Security Council - Non-Permanent Members

- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly elected five new non-permanent Members of the Security Council.
- ❖ Each member serves two-year terms on the body that sets the UN's whole peace and security agenda.

- ❖ The elected member nations are Germany, Indonesia, South Africa, the Dominican Republic and Belgium.



UN Photo/Manuel Elias UN staff carry ballot boxes with votes cast during the election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council.

- ❖ They will fill the seats being vacated by Bolivia, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, the Netherlands, and Sweden.
- ❖ The other five non-permanent members who will remain on the Council are Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Kuwait, Peru, and Poland.
- ❖ This will be the Dominican Republic's first time on the Security Council with the other four countries having previously served on the body.

STATES

Zero Based Natural Farming

- ❖ The Andhra Pradesh government launched a Zero Based Natural Farming (ZBNF) scale-out scheme, aimed at benefitting around six million farmers by 2024.
- ❖ The state agriculture department also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in this regard, with the Sustainable India Finance Facility (SIFF).
- ❖ SIFF is an initiative with the partnership of the United Nations Environment Program, the World Agroforestry Center, and the BNP Paribas.
- ❖ The SIFF will extend financial and investment support to the farmers.

Paternity leave for government employees

- ❖ The Haryana government has announced a 15-day paternity leave to all male government employees.
- ❖ The move makes Haryana the first state to grant paternity leaves to its employees.
- ❖ In 2017, Congress MP Rajeev Satav had introduced the Paternity Benefit Bill, 2017 (a private member bill) in Parliament.
- ❖ As per the draft Paternity Benefits Bill, 2017, men will get a benefit of leave up to 30 days as paternity leave.
- ❖ At present, only the All India and Central Civil Services Rules allow Central government employees to get 15 days of paternity leave.

'Urban forest - Museum of Trees'

- ❖ Vadodara Municipal Corporation (VMC) has converted a garbage dumping ground into a "museum of trees".
- ❖ The VMC stopped dumping garbage at a landfill site at Vadasar, on the city's outskirts, in October 2016 and instead planted 12,663 tree saplings of 100 varieties spread over an area of 50,000 square meters.
- ❖ All the saplings have survived.
- ❖ This place has been named as 'Urban forest - museum of trees'

SPORTS

Women's Asia Cup T20

- ❖ Bangladesh defeated India in final of the Women's Asia Cup T20.
- ❖ Indian captain Harmanpreet Kaur was declared the Player of the Tournament for her consistency with batting.



Shakib Al Hasan

- ❖ Bangladesh veteran Shakib Al Hasan has become only the third all-rounder in the history of international cricket to complete the rare double of 10,000 runs and 500 wickets.

Player	Format	Runs	Wickets	Fifty-plus Scores	Five-wicket Hauls
Jacques Kallis	Tests	13,289	292	103	5
	ODIs	11,579	273	103	2
	T20Is	666	12	5	0
	Combined	25,534	577	211	7
Shahid Afridi	Tests	1716	48	13	1
	ODIs	8064	395	45	9
	T20Is	1416	98	4	0
	Combined	11,196	541	62	10
Shakib Al Hasan	Tests	3594	188	27	17
	ODIs	5243	235	44	1
	T20Is	1265	77	6	0
	Combined	10,102	500	87	18

- ❖ The 31-year old attained the milestone during the third T20I against Afghanistan at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium in Dehradun
