

**June - 13**

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Arvind Saxena has been appointed to serve as the acting Chairman of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). Saxena, a UPSC member, would be succeeding incumbent Vinay Mittal who completes his term on June 19.
- ❖ K.V. Chowdary, the retired Chairman of Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has been appointed as the Chief Vigilance Commissioner (CVC), New Delhi.
- ❖ T.M. Bhasin, Chairman & Managing Director, Indian Bank, has been appointed as the Vigilance Commissioner in the CVC, New Delhi.
- ❖ The above appointments have been made for a term of four years from the date(s) on which they enter upon their office(s) or till they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.

## NATIONAL

### Mumbai Employees - Workers of longest hours

- ❖ Mumbai, the financial capital of India tops the list of cities with the longest annual working hours, in a report by the Swiss Bank UBS.
- ❖ The report says the average Mumbaikar works 3,314.7 hours a year. New Delhi is ranked 4th and Bogota 5th on the list.

BUT YET CAN'T AFFORD 'MUST-HAVES'			
City	Work in hours*	City	Work in hours*
Mumbai	3,314.7	Istanbul	2,318.6
Hanoi	2,691.4	Seoul	2,307.2
Mexico City	2,622.1	Manila	2,288.8
New Delhi	2,511.4	Paris	1,662
Bogotá	2,357.8	Rome	1,581
Dubai	2,323		
*per year; Source: UBS			

- ❖ Employees in Hanoi (2,691.4) and Mexico City (2,622.1) are placed second and third respectively in the list of earning levels with respect to annual working hours among the 77 cities surveyed.

- ❖ European cities such as Paris (ranked 75) and Rome (76) have almost half the annual working hours of the first 3 cities!
- ❖ According to the report, Zurich is the most expensive place to live in, while Cairo is the cheapest.
- ❖ Gross earnings in Geneva are the highest, whereas New Delhi, Mumbai, Cairo are the 3 lowest.
- ❖ Purchasing Power of the people in Los Angeles is the most, with Lagos being the last.

### **BIMSTEC military exercise**

- ❖ India will host first military exercise of the BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) Countries in September 2018 in Pune, Maharashtra.



- ❖ The theme of the exercise includes counter-terrorism in semi-urban terrain and cordon and search.
- ❖ The main aim of this military exercise is to promote strategic alignment among the member-states and to share best practices in the area of counter-terrorism.
- ❖ BIMSTEC countries had held disaster management exercise in 2017 in New Delhi, but this will be first military exercise of the grouping.


## INTERNATIONAL

### G7 Summit

- ❖ The 44th summit of the Group of Seven (G7) was held in La Malbaie, Quebec, Canada.
- ❖ It ended in complete disarray with US President Donald Trump blasting off host Canada and abruptly retracting his support for a joint statement, signed by every nation in the group.
- ❖ The summit was overshadowed by differences over trade tariff disputes and calls to readmit Russia.
- ❖ With Trump's isolation from other allies, the G7 has been billed as a 'G6 plus one' with the US on the out for the first-ever time.
- ❖ The five themes for this year's summit included,
  - Inclusive economic growth
  - Gender equality and women's empowerment
  - World security
  - Jobs of the future
  - Climate change and oceans
- ❖ The current presidency of the G7 is held by Canada, which is also the host of the 2018 G7 summit.

**HISTORY**

- ❖ 1973 oil crisis and subsequent global recession.
- ❖ 1974 Japan is invited to the meeting.
- ❖ 1975 France president invited the head of government from west Germany, Italy, Japan, The United Kingdom and United States to summit – Group of six (G6)
- ❖ 1976 Canada joined the group of behest of U.S.- Group of seven (G7)
- ❖ 1997 Russia formally joined the group, resulting the Group of Eight (G8)
- ❖ 2014 Russia suspended from G8 & make again G7 (G7/8)



- ❖ The 2019 summit will be held in Biarritz, Nouvelle-Aquitaine, France. The presidency will also automatically shift to France in the year.

- ❖ Last year's G7 summit was hosted by Italy.
- ❖ The G7 includes a group of seven most industrialized, developed and advanced economies of the world.
- ❖ It includes US, UK, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, and Japan. The countries meet annually and discuss global issues.

### **Asia-Pacific Regional Conference**

- ❖ The Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on Early Childhood Development (ECD) and Third Asia- Pacific Regional Policy Forum on Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) is being held at Kathmandu, Nepal.
- ❖ The 3-day event is hosted by the Government of Nepal (Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology).

## **ECONOMY**

### **SEZ policy**

- ❖ The Centre has constituted a group of eminent persons headed by Bharat Forge's Baba Kalyani to study the Special Economic Zones (SEZ) policy of the country.
- ❖ It would suggest measures to make it more relevant for exporters and compatible with World Trade Organisation (WTO) norms.
- ❖ The SEZ Act, 2005, supported by SEZ Rules, came into effect on 10th February, 2006.
- ❖ There are 223 operational SEZs in the country and the total investments made in the zones so far is ₹18,878 crore.

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **India's first indigenous Lithium-Ion Battery project**

- ❖ Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) lab has signed Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with RAASI Solar Power Pvt Ltd for transfer of technology for India's first Lithium Ion (Li-ion) Battery project.

- ❖ The agreement was signed by CSIR's Central Electro Chemical Research Institute (CECRI), Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ CSIR-CECRI has developed the indigenous technology of Lithium-ion cells in partnership with other sister CSIR labs. It has secured globally recognized patent for this technology.
- ❖ Under the signed MoA, Raasi Group will set up a Lithium-ion cells manufacturing facility in Krishnagiri district of Tamil Nadu close to Bangalore.

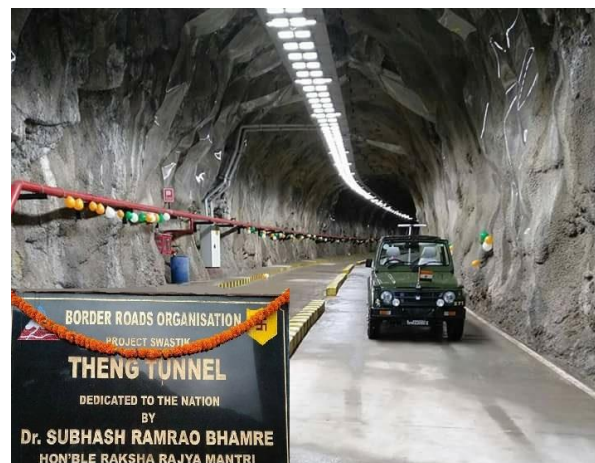
### **World first EPR nuclear reactor**

- ❖ A third-generation European Pressurised Reactor (EPR) in Taishan, southern China carried out its first nuclear chain reaction.
- ❖ Unit 1 of the Taishan nuclear power plant has attained a sustained chain reaction for the first time, becoming the first EPR reactor to reach the commissioning milestone.
- ❖ With EPRs in Finland and France facing setbacks, the Taishan 1 reactor is the first of its kind.
- ❖ Taishan 1 and 2 are the first two reactors based on the EPR design to be built in China.

## **STATES**

### **Sikkim's longest tunnel**

- ❖ Minister of State for Defence Subhash Ramrao Bhamre inaugurated 578-metre-long Theng Tunnel, the longest in Sikkim.



- ❖ It is Constructed on the Gangtok-Chungthang State Highway by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO).
- ❖ The double-lane tunnel bypasses a treacherous stretch of road between Sikkim's capital Gangtok and Chungthang.
- ❖ The tunnel would provide all-weather connectivity.

### **Hyderabad – 3rd in Most Sound Polluted Cities**

- ❖ Telangana's Hyderabad ranks number 3 in the list of sound polluted metropolitan cities.
- ❖ Earlier, The 'city of Nawabs', which houses a major tech industry, was listed on the top 10 most air-polluted metropolitan cities.
- ❖ According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), in 2017 Chennai had the maximum night sound levels followed by Lucknow, Kolkata, and Mumbai.

## **SPORTS**

### **Asian Junior Athletics**

- ❖ Indian track and field athletes clinched four medals, including a gold, as they got off their campaign at the 2018 Asian Junior Championships held at Japan.
- ❖ On the opening day, Indian athlete Ashish Jakhar has set Junior national record (76.86m) en route to winning a gold medal in the men's hammer throw event.
- ❖ Damneet Singh clinched the silver medal in the men's hammer throw event.
- ❖ Priyadarshini Suresh and Poonam Sonune won bronze medals in women's triple jump and women's 5000m race respectively.

## **PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS**

### **World Economic Forum - Managing Board**

- ❖ Sarita Nayyar has been appointed to the Managing Board of the World Economic Forum.

- ❖ Nayar, who is the Chief Operating Officer of World Economic Forum, will help lead the international expansion of the Forum's Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Network.
- ❖ She will also lead the Forum's international expansion with new centres opening in India, Japan and China.
- ❖ Nayar joined WEF in 2007, where she has held various directorships including responsibility for engagement with the consumer industries, MD and COO of WEF and Deputy Head of Industries.

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **World Brain Tumour Day – 08 June**

- ❖ World Brain Tumour Day is celebrated annually on June 8 across the world to raise awareness about brain tumor to the public by educating them on the condition, including its signs and symptoms, management, and treatment.
- ❖ This day first observed by German Brain Tumour Association. This is a non-profit organization which raises public awareness and educates people about brain tumor.

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