

June- 17

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ A Conference on Implementation of National Pension System (NPS) by the Central Autonomous Bodies (CABs) was organized by Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) in New Delhi.
- ❖ Gujarat will become the first Indian state to get completely covered under the piped gas distribution network. The western Indian state already has 84.31 percent of its area under the city gas distribution (CGD) network.
- ❖ American fighter Ronda Rousey will become the first female MMA (Mixed Martial Art) fighter to be inducted into the Ultimate Fighting Championship Hall of Fame.
- ❖ The Maharashtra government and Canada's Quebec province have signed a pact to increase the economic cooperation, especially in areas like information technology, biotechnology, artificial intelligence and welfare of the tribal community.
- ❖ In a significant move to boost India-Vietnam ties, union defense minister Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated the first representative office of the state-owned defense equipment manufacturer Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) in Hanoi.
- ❖ Twenty States have signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) for implementing Ayushman Bharat-National Health Protection Mission (AB-NHPM).
- ❖ The United States has approved the sale of six AH-64E Apache attack helicopters to India. The Apache choppers are one of the most advanced multi-role combat helicopters.
 - The prime contractors for the support sale will be Lockheed Martin, Longbow, Raytheon, General Electric, and Boeing.

TAMILNADU

NLC's Solar Power Projects

- ❖ Neyveli Lignite Corporation India Limited (NLCIL)'s three 100 MW Solar Power Projects for the commercial operation were inaugurated recently.
- ❖ These projects situated at Thoppalaakkarai and Sethupuram in Virudhunagar District and Sellaiya Sezhiyanallur in Tirunelveli District of Tamil Nadu.

NATIONAL

Niti Aayog's Composite Water Management Index

- ❖ Gujarat has topped the Niti Aayog's composite water management index (CWMI), while tribal state Jharkhand was adjudged as the worst performer.
- ❖ Gujarat is followed by Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra on the index.



- ❖ According to the report, titled 'Composite Water Management Index' released by Minister for Water Resources, Jharkhand, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are worst performing states in water management.
- ❖ In the north-eastern and Himalayan states, Tripura has been adjudged as the top state in 2016-17 followed by Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, and Assam.
- ❖ In terms of incremental change in the index (over 2015-16 level), Rajasthan holds number one position in general states and Tripura ranks at first position amongst North Eastern and Himalayan states
- ❖ First of its kind Index has been done through a water data collection exercise in partnership with
 - Ministry of Water Resources,
 - Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation and
 - All the states/ Union Territories

10th Smart City

- ❖ Prime Minister dedicated country's 10th Smart City Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) at Naya Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
- ❖ Under the ambitious Smart City Mission, ICCC in nine cities is operational in Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Surat, Pune, Nagpur, Rajkot, Visakhapatnam, Bhopal, and Kakinada.
- ❖ Naya Raipur is the upcoming capital city of Chhattisgarh and country's first smart greenfield city.
- ❖ It is one of the three Smart Cities of Chhattisgarh selected under Smart Cities Mission.
- ❖ Other two cities are Raipur and Bilaspur.

North Eastern Council

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal of Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) for the nomination of Union Home Minister as ex-officio Chairman of North Eastern Council (NEC).
- ❖ It also approved that Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of DoNER will serve as Vice Chairman of NEC.
- ❖ NEC is a statutory body with Governors and Chief Ministers of all eight North Eastern States.
- ❖ It is a statutory body established under North Eastern Council (NEC) Act, 1971 as an apex level body for securing balanced and coordinated development and facilitating coordination with states.
- ❖ It has been mandated to function as the regional planning body for NER.

Three Year Action Plan (2017-2020)

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of Three Year Action Plan (2017-2020) of the scheme for Agricultural Education Division and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Institutes.
- ❖ The plan aims at strengthening and developing higher agricultural education in India.

INTERNATIONAL

Trump for Nobel Peace Prize

- ❖ Anti-immigration Norwegian politicians have nominated Donald Trump for the Nobel Peace Prize after his historic meeting with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un to discuss nuclear disarmament.
- ❖ The nomination is past the deadline for the next Prize, so his name is submitted for the 2019 awards.
- ❖ A record 330 people were nominated for the 2018 award.
- ❖ Mr. Trump became the first sitting US president to meet with Mr. Kim or anybody in his family, which has ruled over North Korea for decades.
- ❖ Mr. Trump's nomination places him alongside other prominent nominees in the past, including Russian President Vladimir Putin, and former Cuban leader Fidel Castro.

ECONOMY

HDFC - 5th biggest consumer financial services company

- ❖ HDFC has been ranked as the 5th biggest public company globally in the 'consumer financial services category' on a list compiled by Forbes magazine.
- ❖ HDFC's rank has moved up from 7th place last year.
- ❖ American Express has topped this category, while Indiabulls Housing Finance is the only other Indian company (at 13th place) on the list.
- ❖ In the overall list, topped by China's banking behemoth ICBC, HDFC took 321st place, up from 404th a year ago.
- ❖ The 16th annual Forbes Global 2000 list includes publicly-traded companies from 60 countries.
- ❖ Forbes compiled the Global 2000 list using data from Fact Set Research systems.

New Group in WTO

- ❖ India is considering bringing together a group of 8-10 member countries of World Trade Organisation (WTO) to prepare agenda for the creation of conducive atmosphere to ensure smooth functioning of the global trade body.
- ❖ It would be an informal group within the World Trade Organisation (WTO), which may also include nations like Brazil, China, South Africa, Indonesia, and Columbia.

BACKGROUND

- ❖ The talks at WTO's 11th Ministerial Conference held in Argentina's Buenos Aires in December 2017 had collapsed after the US went back on its commitment to finding a permanent solution to public food stockholding issue, a key matter for India.
- ❖ Following the collapse, India had organized a mini-ministerial meeting of about 45 WTO members in March 2018 to revitalize multilateral trade body.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Wi-Fi Choupals

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeITY) launched 5000 Wi-Fi Choupals in villages in partnership with common service centers (CSCs).

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Aim - To transform rural Internet connectivity through BharatNet

- ❖ It was jointly inaugurated by Union Electronics and IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad and Railway Minister Piyush Goyal in New Delhi.
- ❖ The aim of Wi-Fi Choupals is to transform rural Internet connectivity through Bharat Net.

'Sanskar'

- ❖ The state government of Assam plans to introduce an awareness programme called 'Sanskar' in all its development blocks and panchayats.
- ❖ It comes in the wake of incidents triggered by superstition and ignorance including the lynching of two people in Karbi Anglong district.
- ❖ Assam Science Technology and Environment Council (ASTECC) would be the nodal agency of the programme.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Chief financial officer of General Motors

- ❖ America's largest automaker General Motors has named Indian-American Dhivya Suryadevara its next chief financial officer.



- ❖ Chennai-born Suryadevara, currently the vice president of corporate finance, will take over from current CFO Chuck Stevens.
- ❖ G Barra and Suryadevara are the first women in their respective positions in the auto industry, as no other major global automaker has a female CEO, nor a CEO and CFO who are both females.

SPORTS

India's Highest Football Scorer

- ❖ India's football team captain Sunil Chhetri (33) became joint second highest international goal scorer among active players along with Argentine superstar footballer Lionel Messi.



- ❖ He achieved this feat after he scored his 64th goal in a match between India and Kenya in Intercontinental Cup summit clash in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- ❖ In this match, Chhetri scored two goals.
- ❖ It was Chhetri's 102nd international match, making him only the second Indian to feature in 100 international matches after former skipper Bhaichung Bhutia.

- ❖ In terms of goals scored, he and Messi are behind Portuguese superstar Cristiano Ronaldo who has 81 goals on his name from 150 matches.
- ❖ Chhetri and Messi are currently in a joint 21st position in the all-time list of goal scorers.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Day against Child Labour – 12 June

- ❖ The World Day against Child Labour is observed every year across the world on June 12 with an aim to raise awareness against child labor.
- ❖ This year's theme is 'Generation Safe & Healthy'.



- ❖ The World Day Against Child Labour was launched by International Labour Organization (ILO) in 2002.

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day – 15 June

- ❖ World Elder Abuse Awareness Day has been observed every year on June 15.
- ❖ The day aims to focus global attention on the problem of physical, emotional, and financial abuse of elders.
- ❖ The first WEAAD was observed in 2012 and was marked by meetings and conferences at the UN headquarters in New York.



- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly has designated June 15 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.
