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TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Online pharmacy Netmeds has appointed cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni as its brand ambassador.
- ❖ Guwahati railway station has become the India's first railway station run by solar power. The solar-powered station is aimed at reducing carbon-footprint as well as to cut down power costs.

NATIONAL

Cleanliness Survey

- ❖ Indore emerged as the cleanest city, followed by Bhopal and Chandigarh in the recent government's cleanliness survey.



- ❖ The government's cleanliness survey named Swachh Survekshan 2018, aims to estimate levels of cleanliness across cities in the country.
- ❖ Jharkhand was adjudged the best performing state in the survey followed by Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh.
- ❖ Indore topped the list last year as well but that the survey was conducted only for around 430 cities. This time it was conducted for around 4,200 cities.

'Eminent jurist'

- ❖ Former Attorney General of India Mukul Rohatgi has been appointed as 'eminent jurist' in the high-profile Lokpal selection committee led by the Prime Minister.



- ❖ The committee will shortlist candidates for appointment as the anti-corruption ombudsman.
- ❖ The filling of the slot of eminent jurist is a significant step in the appointment process of Lokpal as per the statute.
- ❖ Besides the Prime Minister, the selection committee is composed of the Chief Justice of India and the Lok Sabha Speaker, the leader of the largest opposition party of Lok shaba and an eminent jurist.
- ❖ Though passed in 2014, the Lokpal and Lokayukta Act of 2013 was not implemented all these years because there was no Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the 16th Lok Sabha.

INTERNATIONAL

Most populous city

- ❖ Delhi is projected to become the most populous city in the world around 2028, according to new United Nations estimates.

- ❖ The 2018 Revision of World Urbanisation Prospects produced by the Population Division of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) said that 68 % of the world population is projected to live in urban areas by 2050.
- ❖ Together, India, China and Nigeria will account for 35 % of the projected growth of the world's urban population between 2018 and 2050.
- ❖ By 2050, it is projected that India will have added 416 million urban dwellers, China 255 million and Nigeria 189 million.
- ❖ Tokyo is the world's largest city with 37 million inhabitants, followed by New Delhi with 29 million, Shanghai with 26 million.

Chongqing Liangjiang Star

- ❖ China launched its first privately developed rocket from a launch pad in North Western China.



- ❖ The name of the rocket is Chongqing Liang jiang Star.
- ❖ Chongqing Liang jiang Star rocket was developed by One Space Technology, a Beijing-based private firm.
- ❖ This private rocket launch marks the first time a non-state Chinese rocket has successfully entered orbit.
- ❖ The rocket is powered by a solid fuel engine and It is also known as the OS-XO.

STATES

Uttarakhand's 1st City Gas Distribution System

- ❖ Uttarakhand's first City Gas Distribution (CGD) network was inaugurated by the Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat at Rudrapur in Udham Singh Nagar district.
- ❖ It is India's eighth City Gas Distribution (CGD) system.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

'Shri Jayadev Rashtriya Yuva Pratibha Puraskar Award

- ❖ US-based Kathak dancer Anindita Anaam was honoured with the prestigious 'Shri Jayadev Rastriya Yuva Pratibha Puraskar 2018' for her outstanding contribution to the field of Kathak.



- ❖ The award was presented to the Kathak exponent during the 'Jayadev International Dance Festival' in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- ❖ The four-day festival has been organised in Bhubaneswar under the aegis of National Culture Mission by Odisha's culture department.

DRDO Awards – 2016 & 2017

- ❖ To commemorate the National Technology Day 2018, the Union Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman gave away the DRDO Awards- 2016 & 2017 to

various DRDO scientists to honour their outstanding contributions in research in development in defence sector.



- ❖ Dr V K Saraswat, the former Secretary Department of Defence R&D, Scientific Advisor to Raksha Mantri and Director General of DRDO, has been honoured with the DRDO Lifetime Achievement Award – 2017.
- ❖ Beside him, the DRDO Lifetime Achievement Award – 2016 has been conferred to Dr Vasudev Kalkunte Aatre, the former Secretary Department of Defence R&D, Scientific Advisor to Raksha Mantri and Director General of DRDO.
- ❖ Dr G Satheesh Reddy, the Scientific Advisor to Raksha Mantri, Distinguished Scientist & Director General of Missiles & Strategic Systems, won the DRDO Technology Leadership Award – 2016.

Balakumaran passes away

- ❖ Tamil novelist Balakumaran has passed away due to illness.
- ❖ The late author was famous for his novels like 'Mercury Pookal' and 'Trumbu Kuthiraigal' which earned him Ilakkiya Chinthanai award and Rajah Sir Annamalai Chettiar Award respectively.



- ❖ Balakumaran was a recipient of a number of awards, including the State government's 'Kalaimamani' honour
