



August – 06

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Renowned industrialists Kumar Mangalam Birla and Y.C. Deveshwar were appointed as non-official independent directors in Air India.
 - It is for the first time that big industrialists have been named on the board of a public sector enterprise

TAMIL NADU

Tamil Nadu's first government-trained non-Brahmin priest

- ❖ For the first time in Tamil Nadu, a temple in Madurai has broken caste barriers and appointed a non-Brahmin priest.
- ❖ It was in 1970 that Karunanidhi had first passed an order to clear the way for members of all castes to become priests.
- ❖ But the order was stuck down by the Supreme Court.
- ❖ But in 2006, Karunanidhi once again passed the order, and this time (December 2015) the Supreme Court upheld the decision.
- ❖ Following the 2006 order, 206 men, including 24 belonging to SC/ST communities, underwent training in many temples owned by Tamil Nadu's Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment department and completed Junior Priest certification.
- ❖ On March 1 this year, a person named T.Marichamy, who was one among the 206 to undergo training, was appointed as a priest in Madurai's Thallakulam Aiyappan temple.
- ❖ He is also the first person who does not belong to a lineage of traditional priests to be appointed in a temple to perform puja after undergoing formal training as an archaka.
- ❖ The appointment was being made as per Agamas Shastra (the manual for worship, temple building and rituals) of the individual temple.
- ❖ In its judgment in December 2015, the apex court, while refusing to strike down the order, said that the appointments must be in accordance with the agama that govern the worship at respective temples.



- ❖ It was this judgment that enabled the Communist Party of India (Marxist)-led government in Kerala to appoint a Dalit as a priest in 2017.

NATIONAL

Three Women Judges – India

- ❖ With the elevation of Madras High Court Chief Justice Indira Banerjee as the Supreme Court judge, the apex court has created a new record in the Indian judicial history.
- ❖ For the first time, the top court will have three sitting woman judges namely,
 - Justice R Bhanumathi
 - Justice Indu Malhotra
 - Justice Indira Banerjee
- ❖ The President of India has recently appointed Justice Indira Banerjee, Orissa High Court Chief Justice Vineet Saran and Uttarakhand High Court Chief Justice K.M.Joseph as judges of the Supreme Court.
- ❖ Justice Banerjee would become the eighth woman judge in the history of the Supreme Court.
- ❖ She succeeds the likes of,
 - Fathima Beevi
 - Sujata V. Manohar
 - Ruma Pal
 - Gyan Sudha Misra
 - Ranjana Prakash Desai
- ❖ At present, the Supreme Court of India has 22 judges.
- ❖ Justice Geeta Mittal was appointed as the Chief Justice of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court, becoming the first woman judge in the history to head the Jammu and Kashmir HC.



- ❖ Sindhu Sharma has acquired the distinction of becoming the first woman judge of the same High Court.

Swachh Bharat Mission Gramin – WHO

- ❖ According to a WHO report it is estimated that the Swachh Bharat Mission Gramin (SBM-G) will result in preventing more than three lakh deaths due to diarrhoea and protein-energy malnutrition between 2014-October 2019.
- ❖ The progress report on potential health impact from increased sanitation coverage through the SBM-G was conducted by the WHO for the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation.
- ❖ The report notes that under the SBM-G, 19 States and Union Territories were declared Open Defecation Free (ODF).
- ❖ The report further estimated that 14 million Disability Adjusted Life Years (DALYs) can be avoided between 2014 and 2019.
- ❖ WHO estimation of health impacts is based on comparative risk assessment (CRA) methods.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

AIBD President

- ❖ The Asia-Pacific Institute of Broadcasting Development (AIBD) has elected Fayyaz Sheheryar, Director-General of All India Radio, as its new President.
- ❖ This is the first time India has been elected for the position of president of AIBD.

- ❖ India's presidency is for two years.

AIBD

- ❖ AIBD was established in 1977 under auspices of UNESCO.
- ❖ It is hosted by Malaysia and its secretariat is located in Kuala Lumpur
- ❖ AIBD is a regional inter-governmental organisation servicing country of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP) in the field of electronic media development.
- ❖ The elections were held at the 44th annual meeting of AIBD in Colombo.

SPORTS

Badminton World Championships

- ❖ Carolina Marin of Spain won the BWF World Championship held in Nanjing, China.
- ❖ With this victory Marin created history as the only woman to win three World titles



- ❖ This is Sindhu's second silver and fourth medal at the Worlds
- ❖ Sindhu lost her second consecutive World Championships final
- ❖ Kento Momota became the first Japanese man to win the badminton World Championships.

Virat Kohli – ICC Ranking

- ❖ Kohli's tally of 200 runs in the first Test against England took him to first place in ICC Test Rankings
- ❖ He pushed former Australia captain Steve Smith to second spot.



- ❖ Kohli scored his 22nd Test century with a knock of 149 in the first innings of the Edgbaston Test against England.
- ❖ He followed it up with 51 in the second innings.
- ❖ The achievement made Kohli the first Indian batsman to be No. 1 in Test cricket since Sachin Tendulkar in 2011.

Last Updated - 04 August 2018

Batting Rankings ▾

Pos	Player
1	Virat Kohli IND
2	Steve Smith AUS
3	Joe Root ENG
4	Kane Williamson NZ
5	David Warner AUS
6	Cheteshwar Pujara IND
7	Dimuth Karunaratne SL
8	Dinesh Chandimal SL
9	Dean Elgar SA
10	Aiden Markram SA

- ❖ Besides Tendulkar and Kohli, Gavaskar, Dilip Vengsarkar, Rahul Dravid, Virender Sehwag and Gautam Gambhir have been the other Indian batsmen to achieve the top spot in ICC Test Rankings.

Gay Games – Paris

- ❖ Gay Games aims to raise awareness about gay and transgender rights.
- ❖ The 10th Gay Games was held in Paris, France.
- ❖ Gay Games are held every four years since they debuted in 1982 in San Francisco.
- ❖ The Federation of Gay Games (FGG) has selected Hong Kong for the 11th edition of the event.

Women's Hockey World Cup 2018

- ❖ The Netherlands were crowned Women's Hockey World Cup winners for a record eighth time after their 6-0 victory over Ireland in 2018 Hockey Women's World Cup finals.



- ❖ This is the first time ever that an Irish team has reached the final of any hockey world cup and it was also the team's first appearance in 16 years at the tournament.
- ❖ Ireland team has ever reached a semi-final at the World Cup. But on August 3 they managed to book their place in the final four by beating India on shootouts.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Friendship Day – August 05

- ❖ The first International Friendship Day was proposed in 1958 in Paraguay.
- ❖ After the World Friendship Crusade proposed July 30, 1958 as the first Friendship Day, the General Assembly of the United Nations declared this date as the official day of celebrations.
- ❖ Following the success of the day in US, Nane Annan, the wife of UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, declared *Winnie the Pooh* as the global Ambassador of Friendship at the UN in 1998.



- ❖ Friendship day celebrations actually take place on different dates across different countries.
- ❖ But nowadays, it is celebrated on the first Sunday of August, including India and US.
- ❖ Friendship Day in India is celebrated on the first Sunday in the month of August.
- ❖ This year it falls on August 4.

National Handloom Day – August 07

- ❖ The National Handloom Day is being observed every year on 7 August to honour the handloom weavers in the country.



- ❖ This year it was third edition of the National Handloom Day.

Background

- ❖ The Union Government had declared 7 August as the National Handloom Day in July 2015.
- ❖ The date August 7 was chosen to commemorate the Swadeshi Movement which was launched on this date in 1905 in the Calcutta Town hall to protest against partition of Bengal by the British Government.
- ❖ The first National Handloom Day was inaugurated on 7 August 2015 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

MISCELLANEOUS

Digital Literacy Library

- ❖ Facebook announced the launch of a "Digital Literacy Library" to help young people build the skills they need to safely enjoy online technology.
- ❖ The interactive lessons and videos are developed at the Berkman Klein Centre for Internet and Society at Harvard University for educators of youth aged 11 to 18.
