

August – 14

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu, who completed his first year in office on Saturday, visited 28 of 29 states in the country during his term in office, setting a record for Vice-Presidents of India.
- ❖ Fertiliser major IFFCO has entered into joint venture with Congelados De Navarra to set up food processing plant at Ludhiana in Punjab. With this joint venture, co-operative **IFFCO for first time** will foray into **food processing sector**.
- ❖ NITI Aayog, together with the Ministry of Home Affairs and the UT Administrations of Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep hosted an Investors' Conference on August 10, 2018 at Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra, New Delhi for the Holistic Development of Islands.
 - The Conference was inaugurated by Shri Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog.

TAMIL NADU

Chief Justice of Madras High Court

- ❖ Justice Vijaya Kamlesh Tahilramani was sworn-in as Chief Justice of the Madras High Court at a ceremony in Raj Bhavan in Chennai.





- ❖ Justice Tahiramani's appointment as CJ followed as the elevation of her predecessor Chief Justice Indira Banerjee to the Supreme Court.
- ❖ The TN Governor Banwarilal Purohit administered the oath of office to the new Chief Justice.

NATIONAL

New HIV hotspots

- ❖ According to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura have emerged as the new hotspots for HIV.
- ❖ In terms of PLHIV who are on ART,
 - Maharashtra has the highest number (with 2.03 lakh persons)
- ❖ It is followed by
 - Andhra Pradesh (1.78 lakh) and Karnataka (1.58 lakh persons).
- ❖ The HIV Sentinel Surveillance (HSS), a biennial study conducted by the National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO), is one of the largest regular studies in the world dealing with HIV in high risk groups of the population.

Amendment bill for speedy disposal of commercial disputes

- ❖ The Rajya Sabha on August 10, 2018 passed the Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts (Amendment) Bill, 2018.
- ❖ The Bill allows state governments
 - To establish Commercial courts at the district level, even in territories where high courts have ordinary original civil jurisdiction.
 - May establish Commercial appellate courts at the district level where high courts do not have original jurisdiction.
- ❖ The amendment reduces the pecuniary jurisdiction of commercial courts from Rs 1 crore to Rs 3 lakh.
- ❖ This would bring down the time taken (presently 1445 days) in resolution of commercial disputes of lesser value and thus further improve India's ranking in the Ease of Doing Business.



INTERNATIONAL

SCO Peace Mission Exercise 2018

- ❖ SCO Peace Mission Exercise 2018 will be conducted by Central Military Commission of Russia at Chebarkul, Chelyabinsk, Russia from 22nd August to 29th August 2018.
- ❖ SCO Peace Mission Exercise is conducted as part of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) initiatives.
- ❖ It is conducted biennially for SCO member states.
- ❖ India is participating for the first time in the exercise after becoming a full member of the SCO in June 2017.
- ❖ The exercise will involve tactical level operations in an international counter insurgency or counter terrorism environment under SCO Charter.

ECONOMY

First to introduce iris authentication - Axis Bank

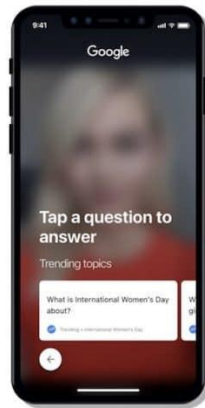
- ❖ Axis Bank became first bank in the country to introduce Iris Scan Authentication feature for Aadhaar-based transactions through its micro ATM tablets.
- ❖ These micro ATM tablets are Standardisation Testing and Quality Certification (STQC) certified and UIDAI compliant registered devices with completely integrated iris sensors.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Cameos

- ❖ Google has launched a new video-based Q&A app called 'Cameos' on the App Store.
- ❖ It allows people to answer questions about themselves, then share those answers directly on Google.

Choose from a variety of questions



Answer in your authentic voice



Post your answers right on Google



- ❖ The app is aimed at celebrities and other public figures, who are often the subject of people's Google searches.
- ❖ With the Cameos app, they can address fans' questions in their own voice, instead of leaving the answers up to other websites.

Science Technology and Innovation portal

- ❖ Vigyan Prasar a wing of Union science ministry has launched "India Science Technology and Innovation portal" to keep a track on information about the organisations carrying out research.
- ❖ The portal follows a launch of India Science (indiascience.in), an Internet-based science channel, to showcase the developments in science and technology in India.
- ❖ Vigyan Prasar (VP) is an autonomous organization under the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India.

STATES

Additional Advocates Generals - Karnataka

- ❖ The Karnataka government has appointed 4 Additional Advocates Generals (AAGs) to represent the government in the Principal Bench of the High Court of Karnataka.



- ❖ The AAGs are A.S. Ponnanna, N. Dinesh Rao, Sandesh J. Chouta, and Nitin Ramesh. The permanent Benches are at Dharwad and Kalaburagi.
- ❖ Advocate I.S. Pramod Chandra has been appointed as Special Public Prosecutor-II in the vacancy created by the appointment of Mr.Chouta as AAG.

MISCELLANEOUS

Santhali

- ❖ Santhali has become the first Indian tribal language to get a Wikipedia edition in its own script.
- ❖ The home page of the Santhali edition of Wikipedia carries an article on Raghunath Murmu, who created the Ol Chiki script.

Santhali Language

- ❖ It is one of the 22 scheduled languages of the Indian constitution.
 - ❖ It is written in Ol Chiki script and spoken by 6.4 million people, according to the 2001 census, in India alone.
 - ❖ Major speakers are from Jharkhand, West Bengal, Odisha and Assam. It is also spoken in Bangladesh and Nepal.
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