



August – 22

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Annie Zaidi was awarded the Hindu Playwright Award 2018 for her play Untitled-1, at the launch of the 14th edition of The Hindu Theatre Fest at Chennai.
 - The award carried a cash prize of Rs 2 lakh. Yes Bank was the Title Sponsor for the fest.
- ❖ Justice Manjula Chellur has been appointed as Chairperson of Appellate Tribunal for Electricity (APTEL) by the power ministry. Prior to this, she was Chief Justice of Bombay High Court.
 - She was the first woman Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court and first female judge of the Karnataka High Court.
- ❖ English cricketer James Anderson became the first player to take 100 wickets at Lord's. Overall, James Anderson is the 2nd bowler to take 100 wickets at a single venue after Sri Lanka's Muttiah Muralitharan, who has taken more than 100 wickets at 3 separate venues in Test matches.
- ❖ Film Actor Akshay Kumar has been appointed the brand ambassador for Government of India (GoI)'s special road safety awareness campaign. As part of the campaign "Sadak Suraksha – Jeevan Raksha", 3 short films starring Akshay has been released to generate public awareness towards road safety.
- ❖ Telangana government has launched the eye care scheme 'Kanti Velugu' on the occasion of 72nd Independence Day 2018. In the 'Kanti Velugu' eye care scheme, every citizen of Telangana will be entitled to have free eye care viz. free eye screenings, medicines and spectacles, and surgeries. It envisages covering 3.7 crore population.
- ❖ The World Organ Donation Day (WODD) is observed every year on August 13 to encourage people to donate their precious organs.

TAMIL NADU

iCRAFPT 2018

- ❖ International Conference on Recent Advances in Food Processing Technology (iCRAFPT) 2018 is being held at Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology, Thanjavur in Tamilnadu.



- ❖ The Theme of the conference was “Doubling farmers’ income through food processing”.
- ❖ This conference will be a valuable and important platform for inspiring international and interdisciplinary exchange at the forefront of food research.

NATIONAL

National Nutrition Month

- ❖ Union Ministry of Women and Child Development has announced to observe September 2018 as the National Nutrition Month to mark the country’s fight against malnutrition.
- ❖ The month-long intensive campaign will be undertaken with an aim of reaching every household with a message of nutrition ‘Har ghar poshan tyohar’ (every house a celebration of nutrition).

New sets of specified health warnings

- ❖ Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has notified new sets of specified health warnings for all tobacco product packs.
- ❖ In this regard, it has made amendments in Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Packaging and Labeling) Rules, 2008.
- ❖ The amended rules will be applicable w.e.f. 1st September 2018.
- ❖ Under it, Government has released two separate set of images.
- ❖ Besides, images quitline number is also a pertinent feature of the new warning.

INTERNATIONAL

'Esala Maha Perahera' festival

- ❖ The 10-day festival of the historic Esala Maha Perehera has started in Kandy, Sri Lanka on August 17 with a grand procession.
- ❖ The Esala Perahera is one of the oldest and grandest of all Buddhist festivals in Sri Lanka.



- ❖ This is held in Esala (July or August) which is the month that is believed to commemorate the first teaching given by the Buddha after he attained enlightenment.
- ❖ This ritual is performed by carrying the sacred tooth relic of the Buddha through the streets and is considered as one of the most beautiful pageants in Asia.
- ❖ The festival ends with the traditional diya-kepeema ritual, a water cutting ceremony which is held at the Mahaweli River at Getambe, Kandy.

ECONOMY

First PSU to transact on TReDS

- ❖ The Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has become the first Public Sector Unit (PSU) to make a transaction on the “TReDS platform”.
- ❖ The transaction was financed by Bank of Baroda (BoB) and since stands settled.
- ❖ The TReDS platform is an online electronic institutional mechanism for facilitating the financing of trade receivables of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) through multiple financiers.
- ❖ The acronym ‘TReDS’ stands for Trade Receivables Discounting System.
- ❖ In October 2017, the central government mandated all major PSUs to join TReDS platform to facilitate payments to MSME vendors.
- ❖ RXIL (Receivables Exchange of India), which is India’s first TReDS platform, is promoted by the
 - National Stock Exchange,



- Small Industries Development Bank of India,
- State Bank of India,
- ICICI Bank and Yes Bank.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Re-Water Research Center

- ❖ Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Kharagpur has decided to set up Re-Water Research Centre to replenish and rejuvenate water resources.
- ❖ It will be seed-funded by two alumni members – Aneesh Reddy & Aditya Choubey and named after them as Aditya Choubey Center for Re-Water Research.
- ❖ The purpose of this center will be to tackle the challenge of resolving two burning issues faced by urban India – sewage disposal and access to clean potable water.

Low-cost exhaust emission controller

- ❖ Researchers from IIT Madras have developed a diesel exhaust emission-control equipment
- ❖ It can be connected to the tailpipes of old diesel vehicles in use.
- ❖ It is designed to reduce the exhaust pollution from diesel vehicles.

ENVIRONMENT

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

- ❖ The deadly agricultural insect-pest “Fall Armyworm (FAW)” has been recently spotted at a few places in the districts of Karimnagar, Kamareddy, Sangareddy, Medak and Gadwal in Telangana.
- ❖ It is known to attack and destroy several varieties of crops, but it prefers maize and sorghum because of the sweetness in their leaves.
- ❖ The Fall Armyworm (or *Spodoptera frugiperda*) is a species in the order of Lepidoptera and is the larval life stage of a fall armyworm moth.



- ❖ The lifespan of the pest is 30 to 60 days and each generation can migrate to a distance of more than 400 km.
- ❖ It is considered deadly as it has caused massive agricultural losses in several countries in Africa.
- ❖ The worm was first found in Karnataka in the country and later spread to Tamil Nadu.



SPORTS

4th Indian wicket-keeper to take five catches

- ❖ Rishabh Pant became 4th Indian wicket-keeper to take five catches on Test debut during the second day of the third Test against England.
- ❖ With this feat, Rishabh Pant joins the club of other Indian wicket-keepers who have taken five catches on Test debut.
- ❖ They are Naren Tamhane, Kiran More, and Naman Ojha.
- ❖ It also makes him Pant first Asian wicket-keeper and third in the world to take five catches in an innings on Test debut.
- ❖ Earlier, he became the first Indian batsman and 12th overall, to open his account in Test cricket with a six.



Shooting World Cup 2020

- ❖ New Delhi has been granted hosting rights of the Combined ISSF World Cup, to be held before the 2020 Tokyo Olympics
- ❖ The International Shooting Sport Federation's Combined World Cup involves events in rifle, pistol, and shotgun.
- ❖ This would be the seventh continental or global multi-nation shooting competition to be staged in the country since 2012.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Sadbhavana Diwas (Harmony Day) - August 20

- ❖ The day commemorates the birth anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi, Former Prime Minister of India.



- ❖ On this day, Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Award is presented to commemorate the contribution made by Rajiv Gandhi for promoting the communal harmony, peace and national integration
- ❖ This year, Gopalkrishna Gandhi was conferred with 24th Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Award.

MISCELLANEOUS

World's oldest cheese discovered

- ❖ Researchers have found the world's most ancient solid cheese in a 3,200-year-old Egyptian tomb, as well as evidence of a potentially deadly disease.



- ❖ The cheese was discovered from the tomb of Ptahmes, mayor of Memphis, Egypt during the 13th century BC.
 - ❖ It was initially unearthed in 1885, but got lost under drifting sands, and rediscovered in 2010.
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