

**August – 30**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ Piyush Goyal, Minister of Railways & Coal, inaugurates Smart Railway Conclave organized by FICCI in New Delhi.
- ❖ Union Government's premier thinks tank NITI Aayog has made computer chip manufacturer NVIDIA its deep learning technology partner support its MoveHack event.
  - MoveHack is global mobility hackathon event organized by NITI Aayog to crowdsource solutions aimed at the future of mobility in India.
- ❖ Search engine giant Google has unveiled Project 'Navlekha' to make online content relevant for more Indian users, especially in local languages. It was unveiled along with a host of upgrades of Google's other products at fourth 'Google for India' event held in New Delhi.
  - Navlekha is a word derived from Sanskrit meaning "a new way to write." The platform aims to bring 1,35,000 publishers in Local languages together 'online' by making webhosting simpler
- ❖ Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare issued an advisory to all states and Union Territories to not allow manufacture, sale, and advertisement of e-cigarettes and other Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS).
- ❖ Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has given its approval for the umbrella scheme "Ocean Services, Technology, Observations, Resources Modelling and Science (O-SMART)" of Ministry of Earth Sciences
  - Implementation of O-SMART will help in addressing issues relating to Sustainable Development Goal-14, which aims to conserve use of oceans, marine resources for sustainable development.
- ❖ Ruchi Ghanshyam has been appointed as the next Indian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, she will be replacing incumbent High Commissioner to the UK, YK Sinha.
- ❖ Emmerson Mnangagwa has been sworn in as the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe. Where former President Robert Mugabe resigned in November last year and with elections due this year.



## **TAMIL NADU**

### **State Disaster Management Perspective Plan 2018–2030**

- ❖ Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami released the State Disaster Management Perspective Plan 2018–2030.
- ❖ The plan has been prepared by the Tamil Nadu State Disaster Management Authority in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.
- ❖ It's aims to build a safe and disaster-resistant Tamil Nadu through systematic approach, inclusive development and mainstreaming disaster risk concerns into the development ethos of the State.

## **NATIONAL**

### **Trial Run of The Indigenous Patrol Vessel**

- ❖ Veera ,The second Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) of Indian Coast Guard, part of a series of seven vessels was launched at the L&T shipyard, Kattupalli.



- ❖ It has to be recalled that Patrol vessels 'Vikram' (October 2017) and 'Vijaya' (January 2018) were the earlier Patrol vessels developed by L&T which is under trial run.



## INTERNATIONAL

### 1st SAARC Agri Cooperative Business Forum

- ❖ The First South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Agri Cooperative Business Forum has begun in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- ❖ The theme of three-day Forum is the 'Organizing and Strengthening Family Farmers' Cooperatives to attain the Sustainable-Development-Goals-1 and 2 in South Asia'
- ❖ It is being co-organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and Asian Farmers' Association with the support from the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Innovation Advisory Council

- ❖ Union Government has constituted a new 21-member advisory panel on science, technology and innovation called the Prime Minister's Science, Technology and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC).
- ❖ It will replace earlier Scientific Advisory Committee to Prime Minister and to Cabinet.
- ❖ It will be headed by Principal Scientific Advisor to government K Vijay Raghavan.
- ❖ The council will advise the PM on science, technology, as well as innovation.
- ❖ It will also coordinate implementation of PMs scientific vision.
- ❖ It will actively aid in the formulation and timely implementation of major science and technology missions and evolve interdisciplinary technology development programmes.
- ❖ It will also advise the government on developing 'Clusters of Excellence' in science including city-based R&D clusters.
- ❖ It has nine members, including Chairperson.
- ❖ Apart from nine members, it will also have twelve special invitees
  - eleven ex officio secretaries 10 central ministries, related to science, technology, energy, and education, are special invitees to the panel.



### **India, EU join hands for research program**

- ❖ Union Government and European Union (EU) have collaborated for a research programme named 'Horizon 2020' to develop Next Generation Influenza Vaccine to protect citizens across the globe.
- ❖ Under this project, a cost-effective and affordable influenza vaccine will be developed. It aims at advancing the efficacy, safety, duration of immunity, and reactivity against an increased breadth of influenza strains.



- ❖ The outcome of this project is expected to contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 3 (SDG-3) to ensure health and well-being for all.
- ❖ It will also help the international community to better prepare in the event of an influenza pandemic. It will also give boost India's National Health Mission.

### **IMPORTANT DAYS**

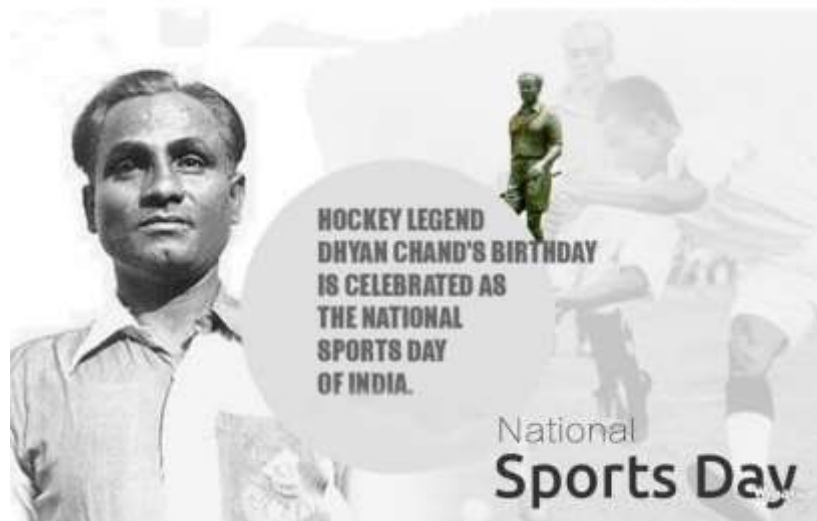
#### **Telugu Language Day - August 29**

- ❖ "Day of the Telugu Language" is observed on 29 August every year in the State of Andhra Pradesh
- ❖ This date was chosen to coincide with the birthday of the Telugu poet Gidugu Venkata Ramamurthy.
- ❖ The Government of Andhra Pradesh provides funds and presents awards with the objective of the betterment of the Telugu language
- ❖ The Department of Culture is responsible for organizing the day on behalf of the Andhra Government



## **National Sports Day – August 29**

- ❖ The National Sports Day is celebrated every year on August 29 on the birth anniversary of Indian hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand.



- ❖ Every year on this day, Arjuna and Khel Ratna awards are conferred by the President of India to celebrate the achievements of exceptional athletes in the country.

## **International Day Against Nuclear Tests – August 29**

- ❖ The 64th session of the United Nations General Assembly declared 29 August the International Day against Nuclear Tests.
- ❖ 2010 marked the inaugural commemoration of the International Day against Nuclear Tests





- ❖ The main mechanism for eradicating nuclear weapons testing is the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT).
- ❖ It was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 10 September 1996.
- ❖ To date, 183 countries have signed the treaty and 166 have ratified it.
- ❖ After CTBT was opened for signature in September 1996, 10 nuclear tests have been conducted:
  - India conducted two tests in 1998 (India had also conducted one so-called peaceful nuclear explosion in 1974.)
  - Pakistan conducted two tests in 1998.
  - The Democratic People's Republic of Korea conducted nuclear tests in 2006, 2009, 2013 and 2016.

-----