TNPSC BITS

- As part of Israel-India cooperation to fight the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic, Israel has shared Artificial Intelligence (AI) based technology and high-end equipment with All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS), Delhi, India.

- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari has unveiled a microwave device named 'Atulya' that can disinfect any premises in just 30 seconds, disintegrating COVID-19 virus.

NATIONAL

Katra - Delhi Express Road Corridor

- First-of-its-kind Katra (Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir)- Delhi Express Road corridor works are expected to be completed by 2023.

- The express Corridor is expected to reduce the travel time between Katra and Delhi to around six and half hours.

- The Express Corridor is being built under the Bharatmala Pariyojana, which is a centrally-sponsored and funded Road & Highways project of the Government of India.

- Katra is a town in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir houses the holy shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi.

- The Road Corridor will connect the holy cities of Amritsar, Punjab and Katra - Vaishno Devi, Jammu & Kashmir.

Swachh Bharat Mission Academy

- Union Minister for Jal Shakti launched the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) Academy.

- It is an Interactive Voice Response (IVR) based free mobile online training course with modules on the Open Defecation Free (ODF) Plus programme.

- It is launched as part of 'Gandagi Mukt Bharat', the ongoing week-long behaviour change campaign.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

SpaceX's SN5 Starship prototype

- ❖ It is a prototype of SpaceX's uncrewed "Mars ship".
- ❖ It is a part of the Starship spacecraft.
- ❖ The prototype recently completed its first test flight.
- ❖ It will act as a reusable transportation system for crew and cargo to the Earth's orbit, Moon and Mars.
- ❖ SpaceX has described Starship as "the world's most powerful launch vehicle".
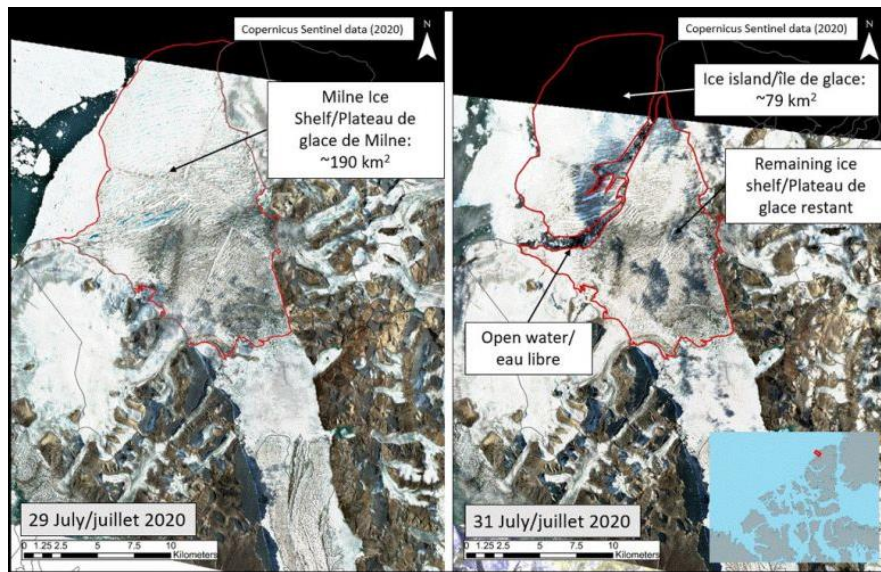

Test Fire of Upper Stage Rocket Engine

- ❖ Skyroot Aerospace, Indian aerospace startup successfully test fired an upper stage rocket engine "Raman".
- ❖ This is an India's first 100% 3D printed bi-propellant liquid rocket engine injector named after the Nobel laureate Sir CV Raman.
- ❖ It also became the first private aerospace company in India to test a rocket engine developed in India.
- ❖ Raman is a lightweight 3D printed rocket engine featuring a fewer number of moving parts.
- ❖ It can place a satellite of 250 to 700 kilograms into the lower orbits.

ENVIRONMENT

Arctic ice split

❖ A mass of ice measuring about 81 square km detached from the northern part of the Arctic ice shelf (Milne Ice Shelf) and began drifting north.

❖ The Milne ice shelf lost more than 40 per cent of its ice over two days end of July 2020.

❖ The Arctic region is warming at twice the rate compared to the rest of the planet due to a feedback mechanism known as the Arctic amplification.

STATES

New GI Tags to Goa

❖ Goa's Harmal Chillies, Moira bananas & Khaje gets Geographical Indications (GI) from the Geographical Indications Registry.

❖ Harmal Chillies are grown only in Harmal village and adjacent areas of Pernem taluka- specifically in the coastal village of Arambol.

❖ Moira bananas are unique bananas grown in Moira village of Bardez taluka & Bicholim Taluka.

❖ Khaje, the traditional state sweet is an integral part of the Hindu jatras and Catholic feasts held in the state.

Karma Sathi Prakalpa scheme

❖ On the occasion of International Youth Day 2020, the West Bengal government launched the 'Karma Sathi Prakalpa' scheme.

❖ Under this scheme 1 lakh unemployed youth will be provided soft loans and subsidies so as to make them self-reliant.

YSR Cheyutha scheme

❖ Andhra Pradesh govt launched "YSR Cheyutha" a scheme to ensure the sustainable livelihood of women by providing a financial assistance.

❖ This scheme aims to:

o To support the contribution of women in economic progress.

o To provide technical assistance to the women interested to invest money in business.

Ordinance to Enhance Punishment

❖ The State Cabinet of Odisha approved a proposal which will enhance the penalty for violators of the COVID-19 regulations.

❖ The State proposals to effect necessary amendments in the Epidemic Diseases Act 1897.

❖ The provision to levy punishments has been provided in the Section 3 of the Act.
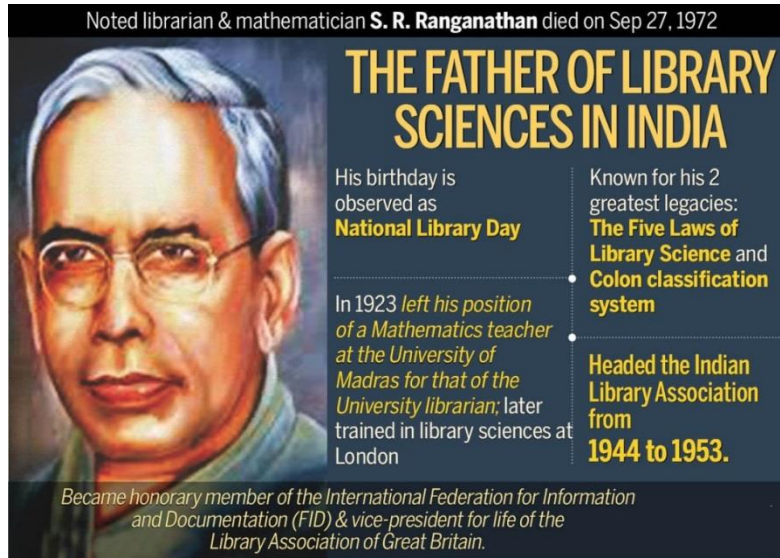
IMPORTANT DAYS

World Elephant Day - August 12

❖ The first international Elephant Day was celebrated on August 12, 2012.

❖ It is observed annually to create awareness on the need to conserve and preserve the elephants and their habitats.

❖ Beta Version of a portal called "Surakhsya" to support the management of conflicts on real time basis were launched in India.

National Librarians Day - August 12

❖ National Library Day is celebrated in India on 12th of August Every year in memory of Birthday of Mr. S.R. Ranganathan.

❖ This had led the development of Library Science in India.

Noted librarian & mathematician **S. R. Ranganathan** died on Sep 27, 1972

THE FATHER OF LIBRARY SCIENCES IN INDIA

His birthday is observed as **National Library Day**

In 1923 *left his position of a Mathematics teacher at the University of Madras for that of the University librarian;* later trained in library sciences at London

Known for his 2 greatest legacies:
The Five Laws of Library Science and **Colon classification system**

Headed the Indian Library Association from 1944 to 1953.

Became honorary member of the International Federation for Information and Documentation (FID) & vice-president for life of the Library Association of Great Britain.

International Youth Day - August 12

❖ International Youth Day was designated by the United Nations (UN) in the year 1999 to raise awareness regarding the cultural and legal issue concerning youth.

❖ The First International Youths day was observed on 12th August 2000.

❖ The theme for 2020 is 'Youth Engagement for Global Action'.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY | 2020 YOUTH ENGAGEMENT FOR GLOBAL ACTION

MISCELLANEOUS

Bloomberg Billionaires Index

❖ As per the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, Mukesh Ambani become the world's fourth-richest person.

❖ Amazon founder and CEO Jeff Bezos, Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates and Facebook co-founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg topped the list.

❖ Mukesh Ambani is the only Indian in the list of Top Ten Billionaires across the world.

❖ Bloomberg Billionaires Index is a daily ranking of the World's richest people.

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