

August - 17

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission in collaboration with Dell Technologies has launched the 2nd edition of Student Entrepreneurship Program (SEP 2.0) for young innovators of Atal Tinkering Labs.
- ❖ Belarus's longtime authoritarian leader Alexander Grigoryevich Lukashenko has won his sixth consecutive presidential term (1994-present).

NATIONAL

New Platform of IT department

- ❖ Prime Minister launched a platform for "Transparent Taxation – Honoring the Honest".
- ❖ It provides faceless assessment and appeal and taxpayers' charter, as a part of direct tax reforms.
- ❖ The objective of the platform is to ease the tax compliance and expediting refunds, benefiting honest taxpayers.

Online Accreditation System for Agricultural Institutions

- ❖ Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar virtually launched:
 - The Krishi Megh along with the KVC ALUNET (Krishi Vishwavidyalaya Chhatr Alumni Network) and
 - Online Accreditation System for Higher Agricultural Educational Institutions on the lines of the Digital India initiative.
- ❖ National Agricultural Research & Education System - Cloud Infrastructure and Services known as Krishi Megh is aimed at protecting the data of the government's premier research body Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
- ❖ KVC ALUNET - "KVC Alumni Network" that acts as a medium for sharing of information or social networking among alumni of all the 74 Agricultural Universities.



Atma Nirbhar App Innovation Challenge winner

- ❖ The Centre has announced 24 winners in the eight categories of “Aatma Nirbhar App Innovation Challenge”.

Category	App Name
Entertainment	CaptionPlus, Meme Chat, FTC Talent.
News	Logically, IsEuqalTo.
Games	Bitwicket Superstars - 3D Cricket Strategy Game, ScarFall - The Royal Combat, World Cricket Championship-2
Business	Zoho Invoice, Books & Expense, Mall91, Gim Books.
Office	Zoho Workplace & Cliq, SureMDM.
Health	StepSetGo, iMumz.
eLearning	Disprz, Kutiki Kids Learning App , Hello English.
Social	Chingari, YourQuote, Koo
Others	MapmyIndia Move - Maps, Navigation & Tracking, AskSarkar, Myitreturn.

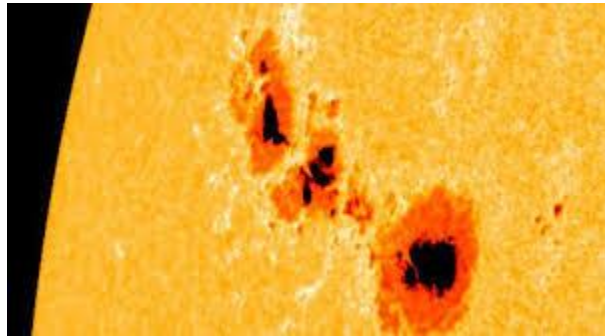
National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration

- ❖ The Central Government has formulated an expert committee namely “National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration” under the chairmanship of Dr VK Paul.
- ❖ This group will consider the logistics, ethical aspects of procurement, and administration of COVID-19 vaccine in discussion with all state governments and vaccine manufacturers.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Sunspot group - AR2770

- ❖ A massive Sunspot group, AR2770, was observed recently using images of the Sun's surface from NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory (SDO).
- ❖ A Sunspot is an area on the Sun that appears dark on the surface and is relatively cooler than surrounding parts.
- ❖ Also, in this area, star's magnetic field is the strongest, around 2,500 times more than the Earth's magnetic field.
- ❖ These spots, some as large as 50,000 km in diameter, are the visible markers of the Sun's magnetic field.



Arrow-2 Ballistic Missile Interceptor

- ❖ Israel has successfully tested their advanced missile defence system, Arrow-2, a ballistic missile interceptor.
- ❖ It serves as the top tier integrated Israeli shield made to withstand various missile salvos, was built with the support of the United States.
- ❖ Arrow 2 is designed to defend the short and mid-range rockets and long range missiles.

TESS's Primary Mission

- ❖ TESS (Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite) completed its primary mission of imaging 75% of the starry sky during the two-year survey and found 66 new exoplanets.
- ❖ TESS uses the Transit Method to monitor the stars for brightness dip caused by planets orbiting across the stars.
- ❖ TESS the exoplanet-finding Space telescope was launched into the Earth's orbit in April 2018.

STATES

Patriots' Day - Manipur

- ❖ Patriots' Day is observed annually on August 13 in Manipur.
- ❖ It is observed to commemorate the 1891 Anglo-Manipuri war during which many sacrificed their lives to safeguard the independence of the State.

German Vocational Training

- ❖ Government of Goa signed a tripartite memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Siemens Limited and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) India.
- ❖ It aims to provide world class German dual vocational education and training in Goa's Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs).
- ❖ This is a first-of-its-kind collaboration between the state government, industry and an international development for skill training in Goa.

AI for Agricultural Innovation Program

- ❖ The Government of Telangana has launched Artificial Intelligence for Agricultural Innovation Programme (AI4AI).
- ❖ For this govt collaborate with Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (C4IR) & World Economic Forum (WEF) – India.



IMPORTANT DAYS

International Left-Handers Day - August 13

- ❖ The World Left-Handers Day is observed every year on August 13 to celebrate the uniqueness and differences of Southpaws.
- ❖ It was first observed in 1976.



- ❖ It aims to raise awareness about everyday issues that lefties face.
- ❖ Around 10 per cent of the world's population is left-handed, with men more likely being so.

World Organ Donation Day - August 13

- ❖ It aims to spread awareness about the importance of organ donation and motivate people for donating organs after death.
- ❖ The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare of India launched the 6th World and 1st ever Indian Organ Donation Day and Organ Donation Congress in 2010.
- ❖ Maharashtra observe Organ Donation Week from August 13 to August 20, 2020.
- ❖ There are two types of organ Donation: Living and Deceased Donation.

