

August - 24

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Indian Olympic Association (IOA) launched the digital campaign “Ek India Team India” as a part of the adaptation of the new identity and logo of IOA, marking its 100 years of participation in Olympic games.
- ❖ World Fashion Day observed on 21st August to celebrate and commemorate the glory, spirit and art of fashion throughout the world.
- ❖ The Kerala legislative assembly launched a TV channel, Named Sabha TV to take the proceedings of the assembly to the people.
- ❖ Former CBI Special Director Rakesh Asthana appointed Director-General of the Border Security Force (BSF).
- ❖ Union Ministry for Women and Child Development set up a committee to reconsider minimum age of marriage for women and examine matters pertaining to age of motherhood headed by Jaya Jaitely.

NATIONAL

Price Monitoring and Resource Unit (PMRU)

- ❖ The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), in collaboration with the Karnataka State Drug Control Department, has launched the Price Monitoring and Resource Unit in the state.
- ❖ The main objective of the PMRU is to help the NPPA in monitoring the prices of drugs and also the availability of such drugs in the state.
- ❖ NPPA is Constituted in 1997 and it is a government regulatory agency that controls the prices of pharma drugs in the country.
- ❖ Karnataka is 12th state where PMRU was setup.
- ❖ Already setup - Kerala, Odisha, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Nagaland, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Mizoram.

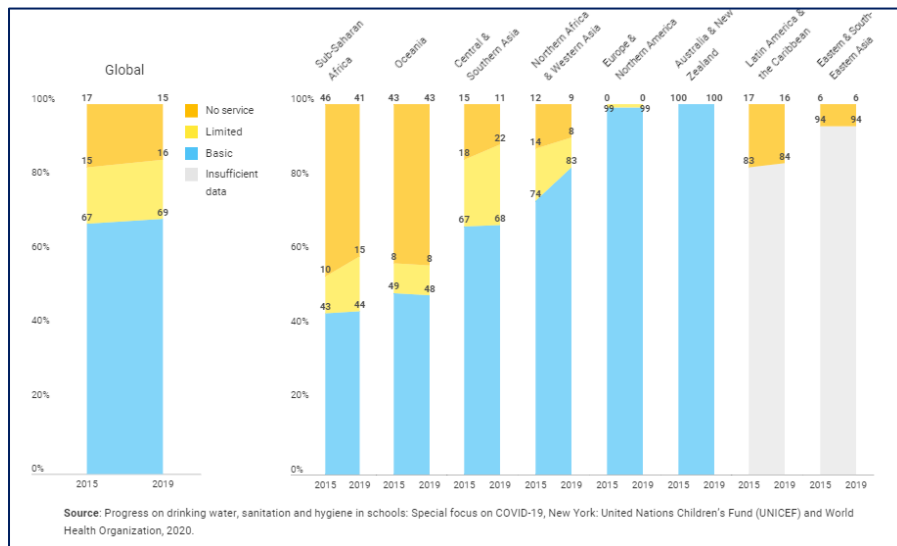
Google Assignments

- ❖ Google has announced new education tools for teachers and students to facilitate learning in the virtual education space.
- ❖ This feature will be available with all the products of Google such as Meet, G Suite and Classroom.

- ❖ This new tool will have some of the features rolled out in the coming months whereas the rest of the features will be available later this year.

WHO and UNICEF Joint Monitoring Program report

- ❖ The report pointed out that India has rapidly increased coverage of handwashing facilities with water but many of these still lack soap.
- ❖ Globally, over 462 million children had no hygiene service at their school in 2019.
- ❖ 244 million are from sub-Saharan Africa, 125 million are from central and southern Asia, of which 92 million are from India.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

"Betelgeuse" and Hubble telescope

- ❖ Several ground-based telescopes observed the star, Betelgeuse decreasing in brightness in its southern hemisphere in late 2019.
- ❖ This sudden dimming has mystified astronomers, who scrambled to develop several theories for the abrupt change.
- ❖ By April 2020, the star returned to normal brightness.
- ❖ Now, the Hubble observations suggest a dust cloud covering a portion of the star.
- ❖ Betelgeuse, is a star which is about 725 light-years away.

ENVIRONMENT

Boomerang earthquake

- ❖ Now, an international team of researchers have recorded a 'boomerang' earthquake in the Atlantic Ocean (The Romanche Spreading Zone).
- ❖ It is the rupture initially spreads away from initial break but then turns and runs back the other way at higher speeds.
- ❖ Conventionally, Earthquakes occur when rocks suddenly break on a fault - a boundary between two blocks or plates.



STATES

African Swine Fever in Meghalaya

- ❖ African swine fever has spread to Meghalaya, more than 17,000 pigs have died due to the highly-contagious disease in adjoining Assam.
- ❖ It is a contagious haemorrhagic viral disease affecting domestic and wild pigs.
- ❖ The disease was first detected in Kenya in 1909 and are later found in regions of Asia, Europe and Africa.
- ❖ According to the World Organisation for Animal Health, ASF is caused by a large DNA virus of the Asfarviridae family.
- ❖ The virus can be spread by ticks and can also be transmitted by direct or indirect contact with infected pigs, faeces or body fluids.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Photography Day – August 19

- ❖ This day celebrates the art, craft, science, and history of photography.
- ❖ This day marks the day when the people who share a passion for photography come together to raise awareness and share ideas about the field of photography.
- ❖ The first durable colour photograph was taken in the year 1861.
- ❖ The first digital photograph was invented in 1957.

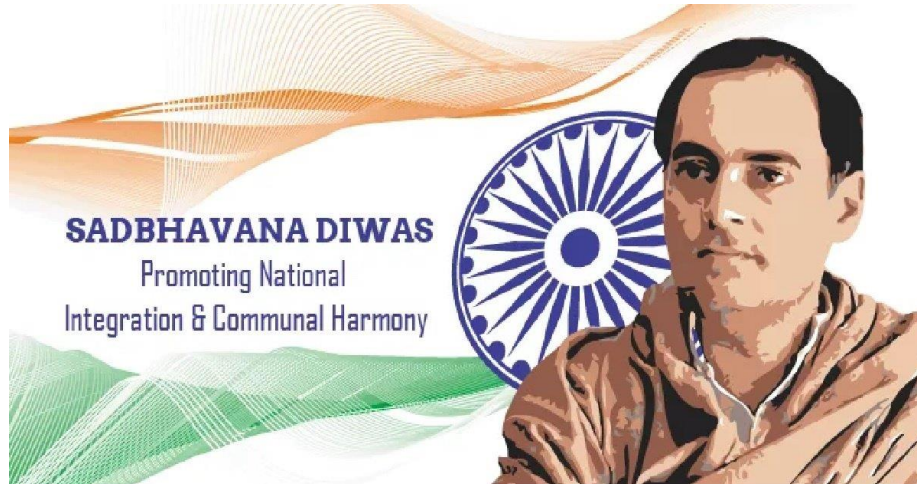
World Humanitarian Day – August 19

- ❖ It aims to remember the real-life heroes who chose humanitarian service in most difficult circumstances.
- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly formalized the day as World Humanitarian Day in 2009.
- ❖ This year World Health Organization has a global campaign that celebrates #RealLifeHeroes, who have "committed their lives to helping others."



Sadbhavana Diwas – August 20

- ❖ This day is observed to encourage the national integration, peace, affection and communal harmony among the Indian people of all religions.
- ❖ 'Sadbhavana' in English language means goodwill and bonafide.
- ❖ It commemorates the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.



World Mosquito Day – August 20

- ❖ World Mosquito Day commemorates Sir Ronald Ross' 1897 discovery of the link between mosquitoes and malaria transmission.
- ❖ The event raises awareness about the threat of malaria and other diseases transmitted by the world's deadliest animal.



Indian Akshay Urja Day – August 20

- ❖ Renewable Energy Day or Indian Akshay Urja Day was established in 2004 to support renewable energy development programs.
- ❖ Indian Akshay Urja is observed to mark the importance of renewable energy resources in India.
- ❖ The energy derived from sources and getting exhausted over time is called “non-renewable energy.”



World Senior Citizen's Day – August 21

- ❖ It was first proclaimed by the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 14, 1990.
- ❖ It aims to raise awareness of the condition of older people and to support them throughout the aging process.

