

August - 19

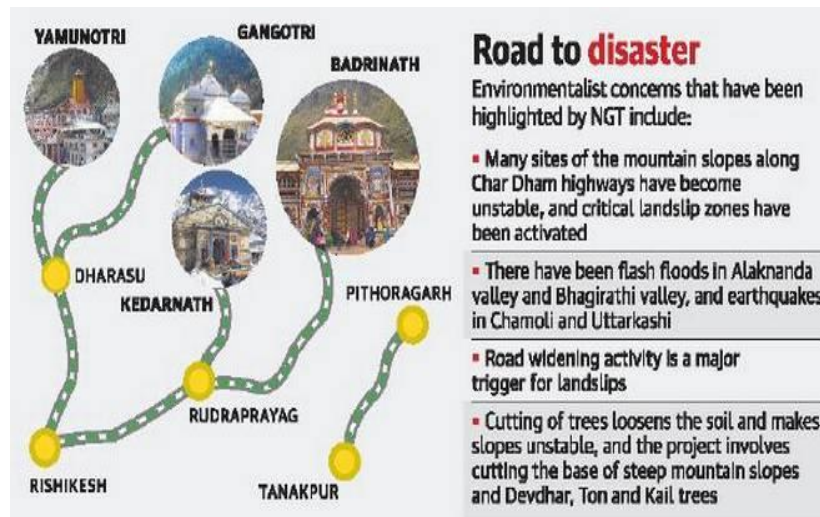
TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Anupam Kher's autobiography "Lessons Life Taught Me, unknowingly" was recently released in India.
- ❖ Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik inaugurated the Naval Tata Hockey Academy (NTHA) at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar.

NATIONAL

Chardham Project

- ❖ The Supreme Court has cleared the decks for the Chardham highway project.
- ❖ It is a proposed express National Highway to connect the four holy places in the state of Uttarakhand (Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri and Yamunotri).



Thar Express

- ❖ India suspends Thar Link Express to Pakistan.
- ❖ It starts from Jodhpur of Rajasthan, crosses Munabao, the last station on the Indian side of the border. It reaches Karachi in Pakistan.
- ❖ The Thar Link Express is a continuation of the previous Sind Mail.
- ❖ It was revived after a period of 41 years on 18 February 2006.

About

- ❖ On 28 June 1976, India and Pakistan signed the rail communication agreement.



- ❖ It was signed to normalise the relations between two nations after signing the Simla Agreement (2 July 1972) few months after the end of Indo-Pakistani War of 1971.
- ❖ This agreement forms the basis of running Thar Link Express, as well as the Samjhauta Express.
- ❖ The Delhi–Lahore Bus and Srinagar-Muzaffarabad Bus are based on a separated agreement.

India and Pakistan have 2 Trans-Border Trains. They Are:

1. Samjhauta Express: Operates on Delhi-Lahore Route Via Attari-Wagah Border Crossing. It carries both Passenger and the Freight.

2. Thar Express: It links Jodhpur(India) and Karachi(Pakistan) via Munabao-Khokhrapar Border Crossing. It carries only Passengers.

e-version of Rozgar Samachar


- ❖ The e-version of Rozgar Samachar has been launched recently by Union Minister of Information & Broadcasting Prakash Javadekar.
- ❖ It has been launched in 1976 with a view to make aspirants aware of job opportunities in government sector including public sector enterprises.
- ❖ Rozgar Samachar is the corresponding version of Employment News (English).
- ❖ Employment News is the flagship weekly job journal from Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

ECONOMY

SAMARTH scheme

- ❖ 16 out of 18 states have signed pacts with the Ministry of Textiles to partner with it for skilling about four lakh workers as part of the 'Samarth' scheme.
- ❖ Jammu & Kashmir and Odisha, which were among the eighteen states that had earlier agreed to be on board, did not participate.

- ❖ The sixteen states that signed the MoUs include Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala, Mizoram, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Tripura, Karnataka, Manipur, Haryana, Meghalaya, Jharkhand and Uttarakhand.



MoUs signed
for Samarth - Scheme for
Capacity Building in Textile Sector

August 2019

- Demand driven, placement oriented skilling programme**
- Promoting Self employment & entrepreneurship**
- Providing livelihood to all sections of society**

Skill Development of 10 lakh beneficiaries in India by March 2020

18 State Governments partnered with Ministry of Textiles for training of 4 lakh people

Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector (SAMARTH)

- ❖ It is skill development scheme of Union Ministry of Textiles.
- ❖ It covering the entire value chain of the textile sector excluding Spinning & Weaving in organized Sector.
- ❖ It was approved by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in December 2017.

ENVIRONMENT

Stubble Burning

- ❖ Burning of paddy crop residue declined by 41 per cent last year over 2016-level in Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi-NCR.
- ❖ It was done through the various efforts under the Central Sector Scheme on 'Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for In-Situ Management of Crop Residue in the State of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi'.
- ❖ Happy Seeder/Zero Tillage Technology, which is a tractor-mounted device, has the capability to cut and lift the previous crop (ex- rice straw) and sow a new (wheat) crop in its place.
- ❖ Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is implementing this scheme through its Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs).



- ❖ Crop residue burning in north-west India contributes to air pollution, health hazards, disruption of transportation, school closures and soil degradation.

KVK (Krishi Vigyan Kendra)

- Krishi Vigyan Kendra is a district level farm science centre which can help in speedy transfer of technology to the farmer's field by building bridges between SAUs/ research institutes and the farmers.
- The first KVK was established at Puducherry on 21st of March 1974.
 - Total KVK (India)= 634 (ICAR)
 - KVK (Jharkhand)= 16 (BAU)
 - Others = 7 (NGOs)

STATES

UP Tree Planation Drive

- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh government set a world record by planting over 22 crore saplings in a day on the 77th anniversary of the Quit India Movement.
- ❖ During the state-wide plantation drive 'Vriksharopan Mahakumbh', five crore saplings were planted in one hour.
- ❖ The state has entered the Guinness World Records for distributing 76,823 saplings simultaneously in six hours.
- ❖ The UP's chief minister also launched the plantation drive by planting 'Harishankari', which is a combination of peepal, pakar and banyan planted together.

Jung-e-Azadi Memorial

- ❖ On the eve of the 73rd Independence Day, Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh inaugurated the third phase of Jung-e-Azadi Memorial at Kartarpur near Jalandhar.
- ❖ The third phase is dedicated to the martyrs of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre and the unsung heroes who were incarcerated in Andaman Cellular Jail during freedom struggle.

- ❖ Punjab government's 'Connect with Your Roots' programme, helps youth visiting as part of programme to personally see rich cultural legacy of state at Jung-E-Azadi Memorial, Partition Museum at Amritsar and Virasat-E-Khalsa (Anandpur Sahib city).



Aadi Mahotsav

- ❖ Aadi Mahotsav or National Tribal Festival will be organised at Polo Ground, Leh-Ladakh.
- ❖ It aims to boost tribal economy in Ladakh.



- ❖ It is being held at Ladakh for the first time.
- ❖ It is a joint initiative of Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED).
- ❖ Theme of festival: A celebration of the spirit of Tribal Craft, Culture and Commerce.



- ❖ Ladakh is known for pashmina shawls and apricots.
- ❖ In Ladakh tribals make up 70% of population.

New Education Model

- ❖ A new higher education model has been launched in Rajasthan.
- ❖ It is titled Resource Assistance for Colleges with Excellence (RACE).
- ❖ It aims for the distribution of faculties and movable assets among the government colleges at the district level to rationalise the availability of resources.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Maharishi Badrayan vyas Samman

- ❖ President of India Ramnath Kovind awarded Maharshi Badrayan Vyas Samman to following scholars of Sanskrit, Persian, Arabic, Pali, Prakrit, Classical Kannada, Classical Telugu, Classical Malayalam and Classical Odiya for year 2019.
- ❖ It is conferred on persons once a year on the Independence Day in recognition of their substantial contribution in the field of the above said languages.
- ❖ The award was introduced in the year 2002 by the Union Ministry of Human Resource Development.
- ❖ It is given to selected young scholars in the age group of 30 to 45 years.
- ❖ In addition to this President also awarded certificate of honour to following scholars of Sanskrit, Persian, Arabic, Pali, Prakrit, Classical Kannada, Classical Telugu, Classical Malayalam and Classical Odiya for year 2019.
- ❖ It was introduced in 1958 to honour scholars of Sanskrit, Persian and Arabic languages and later in 1996 it was extended to cover Prakrit and Pali as well.
- ❖ It is awarded to scholars aged 60 years and above.

SPORTS

Ultimate Table Tennis Title

- ❖ Chennai Lions got victory over Dabang Delhi to clinch the Ultimate Table Tennis crown in New Delhi.
- ❖ The Chennai team was spearheaded by Sharath Kamal, a professional table tennis player from Tamil Nadu.



Junior Track Cycling World Championships

- ❖ The Indian junior cyclists clinched their first-ever gold in the men's team sprint medal at the Junior Track Cycling World Championships in Frankfurt, Germany.
- ❖ The trio of Esow Alben, Ronaldo and Rojit Singh Yanglem landed the historic gold medal for India.
- ❖ With the team sprint win, India registered its first-ever cycling gold at the world level.
- ❖ Esow Alben also added two medals already in this tournament by winning silver in the Men's Sprint individual event and by winning bronze in the men's keirin final.

