

August - 22

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Goa become the first state to be 'Har Ghar Jal-certified'.
 - It means that every household in the state had a piped water connection.
- ❖ Kerala inaugurated 'Kerala Savari', the country's first online taxi service owned by a state government.

TAMIL NADU

No Caste, No Religion certificate

- ❖ Madras High Court ordered issuance of a no-caste, no-religion certificate to a three-year-old child from Chennai within two weeks.
- ❖ The petitioner had stated that he wanted the certificate as per two government orders issued by the State government.

NATIONAL

Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) database



- ❖ Union Cabinet approved the “Widening access of Traditional Knowledge Digital Library database to users, apart from the patent offices”.
- ❖ This approval is focused towards integrating and co-opting traditional knowledge with current practices, in a bid to enhancing innovation and trade.

- ❖ This database will act as an important source of traditional knowledge information to advance knowledge and technology frontiers.
- ❖ This database can be accessed through a paid subscription model.
- ❖ It will be opened for national and international users in a phase-wise manner.
- ❖ Traditional Knowledge Digital Library was established in 2001.

INTERNATIONAL

UN Report on Contemporary forms of slavery



- ❖ U.N. report highlighted contemporary forms of slavery, pointed out that Child labour, caste-based discrimination and poverty data.
- ❖ Contemporary forms of slavery are widely practiced around the world, including forced labour for China's Uyghur minority, bonded labour for the lowest caste Dalits in South Asia, and domestic servitude in Gulf countries, Brazil and Colombia.
- ❖ Child labour (5-17 age), including its worst forms, exists in all regions of the world.
- ❖ In Asia and the Pacific, the Middle East, the Americas and Europe, between 4% and 6% of children are said to be in child labour.
- ❖ This percentage is much higher in Africa (21.6%), with the highest rate in sub-Saharan Africa (23.9%).

- ❖ Forced marriage of women and girls is a concern in Asia, including Cambodia, India, Kazakhstan, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam.
- ❖ In parts of the Balkans, half of all Roma women ages 20 to 24 are married before age 18.
- ❖ It is compared to around 10% nationally.

ENVIRONMENT

Italy's Lake Garda

- ❖ Italy's worst drought in decades has reduced Lake Garda water level to lowest ever recorded
- ❖ Garda is the country's largest lake.
- ❖ Parts of northern Italy are experiencing their worst drought in 70 years.



Resurrect of the extinct Tiger



- ❖ Scientists in the US and Australia have embarked on a \$15-million project to resurrect the thylacine or Tasmanian Tiger using gene-editing technology.
- ❖ It was a marsupial that went extinct in the 1930's.

- ❖ The ambitious project aims to reintroduce the animal to its native place Tasmania to revive the region's lost ecological balance.
- ❖ This is not the first attempt to revive thylacines.
- ❖ In 1999, an Australian scientist, Dr Michael Archer, made an unsuccessful journey.

Megalodon

- ❖ Researchers have found new evidence about the life of one of the biggest predatory animals of all time, The Megalodon.
- ❖ The Megalodon could “completely ingest, and in as few as five bites,” a prey as big as the killer whale.
- ❖ It was bigger than a school bus at around 50 feet from nose to tail.
- ❖ It had the ability to migrate across multiple oceans.

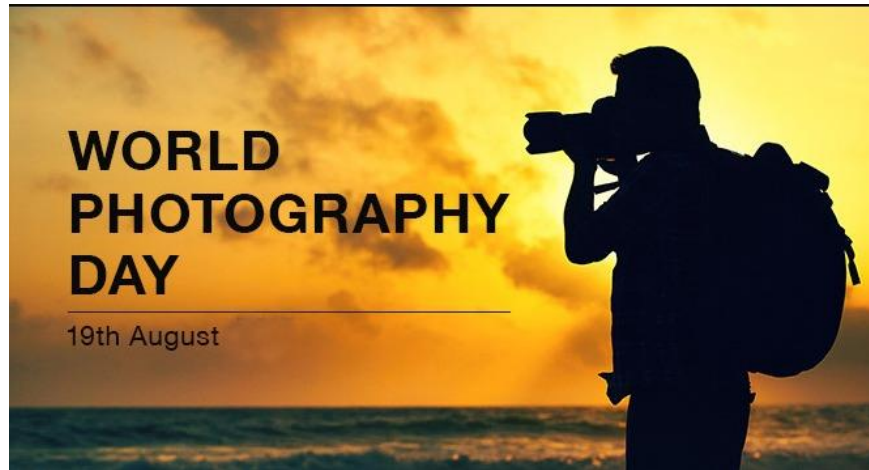


IMPORTANT DAYS

World Photography Day - August 19

- ❖ The day focuses on the art, craft and science of photography.
- ❖ The first permanent photo of an object was captured by French Joseph Nicéphore Niepce in 1826.

- ❖ The theme of the day for this year is "Pandemic Lockdown through the lens."



World humanitarian Day – August 19

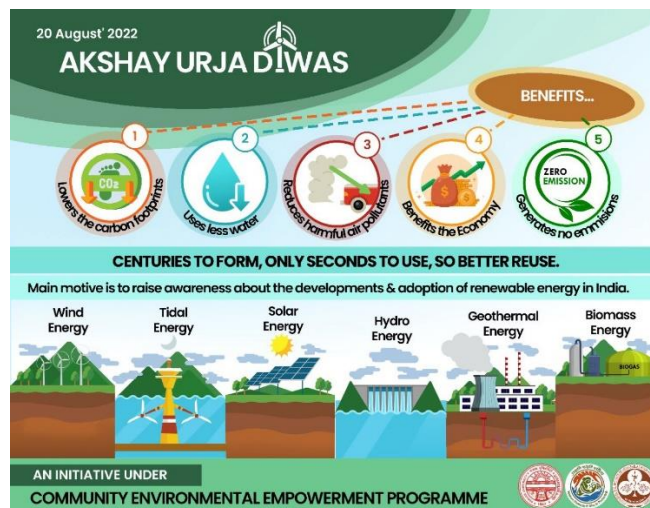


- ❖ It recognises all aid and health workers who volunteer to help victims of disasters and crises against all odds.
- ❖ The day aims to spread awareness about the need for humanitarian assistance worldwide.
- ❖ On 19 August 2003, a bomb attack on the Canal Hotel in Baghdad, Iraq, killed 22 humanitarian aid workers, including the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq.
- ❖ Five years later, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution designating 19 August as World Humanitarian Day.

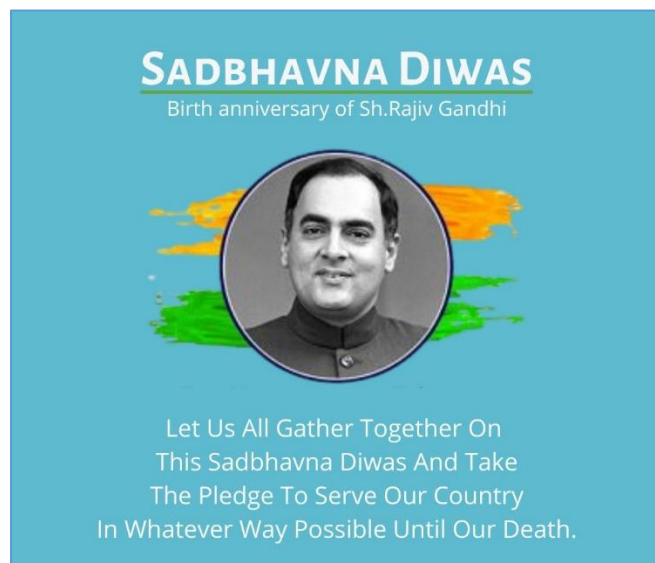
- ❖ The theme for this year's day takes its basis in the saying "It takes a village to raise a child".

Akshay Urja Diwas - August 20

- ❖ It aims to raise awareness for the development and efficient use of renewable energy in India.
- ❖ The day also commemorates the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.
- ❖ The day was first organised by former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh along with the Indian Ministry for New and Renewable Energy Sources in 2004.



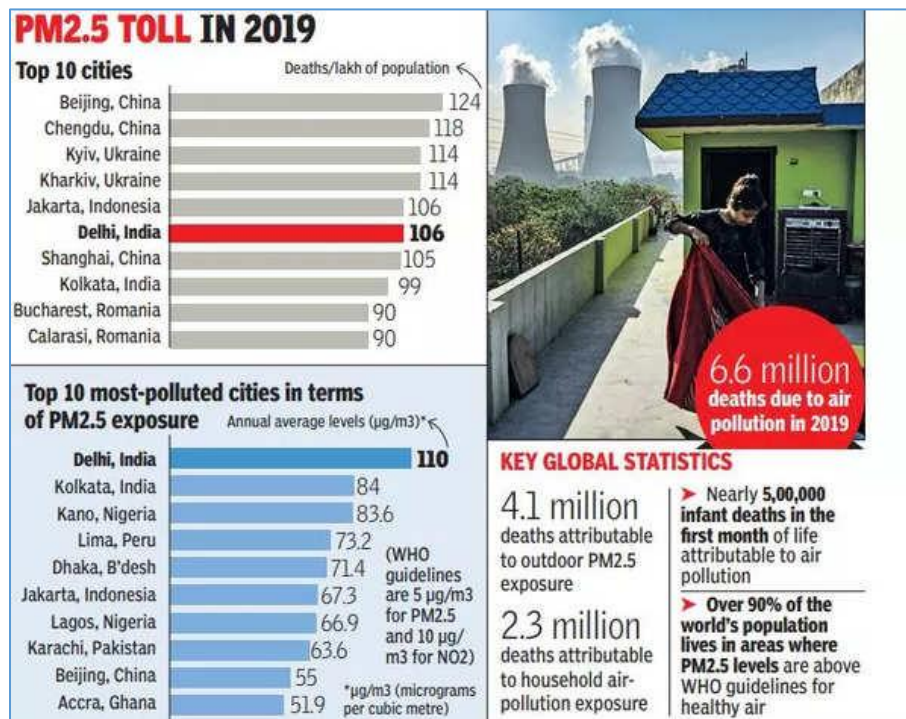
Sadbhavna Diwas - August 20



- ❖ Sadbhavna Diwas promotes peace, harmony, empathy, and unity among all citizens of India.
- ❖ This year commemorates the 78th birth anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi.
- ❖ Sadbhavna Diwas was instituted after the death of Rajiv Gandhi in 1992.

MISCELLANEOUS

Air Pollution and Health in Cities Report



- ❖ Health Effects Institute of USA released “Air Quality and Health in Cities” on air quality.
- ❖ As per report, biggest cities and urban areas of the world are witnessing worst air quality on the Earth.
- ❖ The report includes a comprehensive and detailed analysis of air pollution and global health effects for over 7,000 cities worldwide.
- ❖ It is focused on two harmful pollutants like fine particulate matter (PM2.5) and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂).
- ❖ Delhi and Kolkata are ranked first and second in the list of top 10 most polluted cities when PM 2.5 levels were compared.
- ❖ No Indian city appeared in the list of top 10 or even top 20 polluted cities when NO₂ levels were compared.



- ❖ Beijing had the largest disease burden associated with a PM 2.5-related illness, with 124 attributable fatalities per 100,000 persons.
- ❖ Five Chinese cities were in the top 20.
- ❖ Delhi came in 6th, with 106 deaths per 100,000 and Kolkata at 8th with 99 deaths.
- ❖ Greatest health impacts can be seen across cities in Asia, Africa, and Eastern & Central Europe.
- ❖ By 2050, around 68% of the world's population is likely to live in urban areas.

