

August - 30

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has issued directions for allocating ₹3 crore to the State Official Language (Legislative) Commission for translating the judgments of the Madras High Court in Tamil.
- ❖ The Telangana government and UNESCO will be collaborating to implement the UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence (AI).
- ❖ Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) has successfully manufactured the first set of indigenous SCR Catalysts for limiting NOx emissions from thermal power plants.
- ❖ HDFC Bank and Marriott Bonvoy joined to launch India's first co-branded hotel credit card - 'Marriott Bonvoy HDFC Bank Credit Card'.
- ❖ A central advisory committee has recommended that licenses to food business operators (FBOs) can be issued for up to five years instead of one year.
- ❖ The National Small Industry Day is observed in India on August 30 every year.

TAMIL NADU

Capital subsidy under NEEDS scheme



 **New Entrepreneur cum Enterprise Development Scheme (NEEDS)**

Avail capital subsidy up to **25% (subsidy up to ₹50 Lakhs)** to kickstart your business with **6% interest** subvention

Start your own company and become the first entrepreneur in your family.

- ❖ The Tamilnadu State government has disbursed highest ever capital subsidy in 2022-23 under its flagship New Entrepreneur cum Enterprise Development Scheme (NEEDS).
- ❖ It is a State-funded programme to promote first generation entrepreneurs.
- ❖ The scheme is run by the State's Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Department.

- ❖ It has seen subsidy disbursement of ₹163.88 crore in 2022-23, when compared to about ₹97.25 crore in 2021-22.
- ❖ The scheme, which has been operational since 2012-13, also saw over 1,000 sanctions for the first time ever in 2022-23.
- ❖ Under NEEDS, the minimum project cost is ₹10 lakh and the maximum project cost is up to ₹5 crore.
- ❖ The individual-based capital subsidy under NEEDS is given at the rate of 25% of the project cost (not exceeding ₹75 lakh).

UPS technology center in Chennai



- ❖ Chief Minister inaugurated American multinational shipping and supply chain management company United Parcel Service's (UPS) Technology Centre in Chennai.
- ❖ The UPS centre is the company's first such facility in India.
- ❖ It will invest \$15 to \$20 million in India to provide jobs for 1,000 people by 2025.

NATIONAL

Alcoholic Beverage Norms

- ❖ Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has come out with 'Food Safety and Standards (Alcoholic Beverages) First Amendment Regulations, 2023'.
- ❖ It will come into force on March 1, 2024.
- ❖ Alcoholic beverage shall not contain any nutritional information on the label except energy content in kcal.
- ❖ Such declaration is related to energy content shall be voluntary.

- ❖ Food Safety and Standards (Alcoholic Beverages) Regulations, 2018 was stated that alcoholic beverages should not contain any nutritional information on the label.

Alcoholic Beverages Regulation

- **Alcoholic Beverages Regulation**
- **General requirements**
- **Packaging Requirements**
- **Specific Labeling Requirements for Alcoholic Beverages**
- **Labelling of wine**

INTERNATIONAL

African Swine Fever

African swine fever (ASF)

The virus is highly **resistant to low temperatures** and can survive for extended periods of time in the blood, feces and tissue of infected animals.

ASF is a **highly contagious**, transboundary viral disease (*Asteriviridae* family; *Asfivirus* genus).

Global alarms went off in August 2018, when an ASF outbreak was first reported in **China**. The disease swept through the entire Asian country and spread to **Mongolia, Vietnam, Cambodia and Hong Kong**.

Between 2016 and May 2019, there were a total of **10,211 outbreaks in Africa, Europe and Asia**.

It can affect both domestic and wild pigs (wild boars and peccaries). **It is harmless to humans.**

According to the OIE, **24% of its member countries (48 out of 200) have reported the disease** as present since 2016.

Typical clinical signs of ASF are similar to those of classical swine fever (which is endemic in several countries of the Americas); therefore, a **laboratory test** is required to distinguish them.

Symptoms include **fever, loss of appetite**, low energy, abortion, internal hemorrhages, visible hemorrhages, and even death.

The **peracute** form of the virus causes sudden death with few signs.

African swine fever can be transmitted through **direct contact** between sick and healthy animals. It can also be transmitted **indirectly** through feed containing meat from infected animals (the virus can remain infectious for 3 to 6 months in uncooked pork products); **biological vectors** such as ticks of the genus *Ornithodoros*; and contaminated **inanimate objects** (fomites) that can transmit the virus.

- ❖ African swine fever (ASF) is a highly contagious viral pig disease.
- ❖ ASF has spread to 49 countries and resulted in around 1.5 million animal losses since 2021.
- ❖ The 49 countries were located in five different world regions of Asia, Africa, Americas, Europe and Oceania.

- ❖ The livestock disease was first reported in Kenya in 1921.
- ❖ The disease is still prevalent in India, with the most recent cases reported in May and June 2023 from Meghalaya and Mizoram.
- ❖ There is no treatment for the disease, some versions can have a 100% mortality rate in certain circumstances.
- ❖ It is not the same as swine flu.
- ❖ It can be transmitted through direct contact with infected animals.
- ❖ It can also spread via insects such as ticks.
- ❖ But the virus can also survive several months in processed meat, and several years in frozen carcasses.

Exercise Bright Star-23



- ❖ For the first time, Indian Air Force (IAF) contingent is participating in Exercise BRIGHT STAR-23.
- ❖ It is a biennial multilateral tri-service exercise scheduled to be held at Cairo (West) Air Base, Egypt.
- ❖ It also witnesses the participation of contingents from the United States of America, Saudi Arabia, Greece, and Qatar.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

3D Eye Scans and Parkinson

- ❖ 3D eye scans could help to identify people at high risk of developing Parkinson's disease up to seven years before they have symptoms.
- ❖ This research explores into the emerging field of 'oculomics,' utilizing retinal imaging to identify markers of various neurological disorders.

- ❖ Ocular changes can be an early indicator of the disease, potentially transforming early diagnosis and intervention.



Predicting Markers of Systemic Disease through Ophthalmic Imaging

			
			
			

Smoking	Anemia
Atherosclerosis	RBC
Hematocrit	eGFR
Blood Pressure	Age
Hypertension	Gender
Diabetes	Weight
Creatinine	Height
CKD	BMI

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Chandrayaan-3 Project Director



- ❖ P. Veeramuthuvel worked as the project director for Chandrayaan-3 mission.
- ❖ He is belonging to Tamil Nadu's Villupuram district.
- ❖ He completed ME mechanical engineering at the erstwhile Regional Engineering College (now National Institute of Technology), Trichy.
- ❖ He had received his doctoral degree from IIT, Madras.
- ❖ He was offered a position at HAL in 2003, but declined the offer.
- ❖ He joined ISRO in 2014.

- ❖ He was named as the associate project director for the prestigious Chandrayaan-2 project.
- ❖ Before he was appointed as the project director of Chandrayaan- 3, P Veeramuthuvel worked as deputy director of ISRO.

SPORTS

New members to join World Boxing



- ❖ The World Boxing is a new body which is seeking International Olympic Committee (IOC) recognition to run the sport.
- ❖ The national federations of Canada, Brazil, Argentina, Germany, Honduras and Sweden joined the body newly.
- ❖ It was bringing the total number of members to 12.
- ❖ New Zealand, Australia, England, Great Britain, the Dutch and the United States are already members.
- ❖ The IOC has stripped the recognition of the Russian-led International Boxing Association over its failure to meet a set of governance, financial and sports reforms.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances 2023 - August 30

- ❖ This day is dedicated to raising awareness about the global crime of enforced disappearance.
- ❖ Enforced disappearance is the arrest, detention, abduction or other deprivation of liberty by agents of the State.
- ❖ Enforced disappearance is a serious violation of human rights.

- ❖ This day was chosen to commemorate the enforced disappearance of Filipino human rights activist Jonas Burgos.



MISCELLANEOUS

New Genetic Insights from Ötzi



- ❖ In 1991, hikers in an Italian valley near the border with Austria stumbled on a frozen corpse.
- ❖ It is Nicknamed Ötzi, after the valley where he was found.
- ❖ The remains belonged to a man who had died around 5,300 years earlier, after being shot by an arrow.



- ❖ The recent research revealed that Ötzi had dark skin, dark eyes, and a receding hairline, which differed from previous depictions.
- ❖ He was also genetically predisposed to baldness.
- ❖ Earlier research suggested a genetic affinity between Ötzi and modern Sardinians.
- ❖ However, the new study demonstrates that the majority of his genetic makeup can be traced back to early Anatolian farmers.

