

December - 05

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The word 'Pandemic' has been chosen as the top word of 2020 by Merriam-Webster dictionary.
- ❖ The "world's loneliest elephant" Kaavan (36) embarked a move from Islamabad zoo in Pakistan to retirement in a Cambodian sanctuary.
 - Kaavan is the only Asian elephant in Pakistan.
- ❖ The Orundoi Scheme is to be launched by the Assam government.
 - Through this scheme, the government seeks to empower women by transferring a minimum amount of Rs.830 each month directly to the bank accounts.
- ❖ AR Rahman was announced as the ambassador for the British Academy of Film and Television Arts' (BAFTA) 'Breakthrough Initiative'.
 - The initiative, supported by Netflix, aims to identify, celebrate, and support up to five talents working in film, games, or TV in India.
- ❖ The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has released a new book titled 'Future of Regional Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific'.
- ❖ The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India approved the acquisition of Bharti AXA General Insurance Company by ICICI Lombard General Insurance.
- ❖ The Boko Haram jihadist are blamed for the killing of 110 farm workers in the North Eastern region of Nigeria.

NATIONAL

National Maritime Domain Awareness Centre

- ❖ The Indian Navy's Information Management and Analysis Centre (IMAC) will become a National Maritime Domain Awareness (NDMA) centre.
- ❖ It is the nodal agency for maritime data fusion set up after the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks.
- ❖ Located in Gurugram, IMAC tracks vessels on the high seas.



- ❖ It is the nodal centre of the National Command Control Communication and Intelligence System (NC3I).

INTERNATIONAL

UN Sanitation and Hygiene Fund

- ❖ The United Nations launched the Sanitation and Hygiene Fund.
- ❖ It aims to provide accelerated funding to countries with the heaviest burden of diseases stemming from lack of sanitation services.
- ❖ The fund is hosted by the UN Office for Project Services.
- ❖ It provides technical advice and project implementation to the UN and its partners.

UNCTAD Report

- ❖ The report was titled 'Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Trade and Development: Transitioning to a New Normal'.
- ❖ It was a new report by United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).
- ❖ It warned that a viable COVID-19 vaccine will not halt the spread of the economic damage stemming from the pandemic.
- ❖ According to the report, the United Nations' Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 could be derailed unless immediate policy actions are taken.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Sea Sparkle Bloom in Karnataka

- ❖ The bloom of Noctiluca Scintillans, known as "sea sparkle" has been witnessed in the Karnataka coast for about a month.
- ❖ The bioluminescent green dinoflagellate N. Scintillans also brightened the sea water during night.
- ❖ N. Scintillans acts as both a plant and an animal.



The blue tide phenomenon

- ❖ It was observed in several stretches of Maharashtra coast.
- ❖ The phenomenon is due to bioluminescence.
- ❖ The sparkling light appearing in the sea from the microorganisms is called bioluminescence.
- ❖ It is the emission of light by microscopic marine plants called phytoplanktons.
- ❖ The blue light stems from chemical reactions of proteins inside the organism.

ENVIRONMENT

Banned Cat fish of India

- ❖ Thai Mangur is a catfish that was banned by the National Green Tribunal.
- ❖ It was harming the local ecosystem and the consumers' health.
- ❖ Recently it was found to be illegally breed in Thane, Maharashtra.

Private Conservation of Leopards in Gujarat

- ❖ The Gujarat forest department has transferred 12 leopards to a private rescue and Rehabilitation centre in Jamnagar.
- ❖ The project is first of its kind in the state.
- ❖ The Leopards have been transferred from the Sakkar Baug Zoological Park in Junagadh.

STATE

Duare Sarkar

- ❖ It is an outreach programme was launched by the Bengal Government.
- ❖ Under the programme, camps are to be organised at local body levels.
- ❖ Through these camps the State Government will take the Government Services to the doorstep of the West Bengal people.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Computer Literacy Day – December 02

- ❖ World Computer Literacy Day was first observed and held in the year 2001.
- ❖ World Computer Literacy Day denotes the twentieth commemoration of NIIT.
- ❖ This day is observed to make people aware of computers and technology that has not yet reached enough people.

National Pollution Control Day – December 02

- ❖ It is observed on December 2 to create awareness about the increasing pollution levels and its hazardous effect on human beings and our ecosystem.
- ❖ This was started after the disastrous incident of the Bhopal Gas Tragedy.
- ❖ It took place on the night of December 2 in 1984.
- ❖ December 2nd 2020 would mark the 36th anniversary of the Bhopal Gas Tragedy.



International Day for the Abolition of Slavery – December 02

- ❖ This day focuses on eliminating present-day forms of slavery, such as trafficking in persons, sexual exploitation, child labour, forced marriage, and the pressurized recruitment of children for use in armed rivalry.

- ❖ According to the UN, an estimated 40.3 million people are in modern slavery, including 24.9 in forced labour and 15.4 million in forced marriage.
- ❖ The Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others was passed by the Assembly on 2nd December, 1949.

International Day of Persons with Disabilities - December 03

- ❖ It aims to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities in all spheres of society and development.
- ❖ The theme of this year is “Building Back Better: toward a disability-inclusive, accessible and sustainable post COVID-19 World”.



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3 DECEMBER

