

December - 14

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The international Maritime organization (IMO) recognized the NavIC as a component of the worldwide radio navigation system.
- ❖ Maharashtra Cyber department becomes India's first agency to acquire software 'Crawler' from the Interpol's south Asian wing.
 - This software will be used in Operation Blackface, the state's call to action against Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) across the country.
- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved the Submarine Optical Fiber Cable connectivity between Kochi and the Lakshadweep islands.
- ❖ The Indian skipper Virat Kohli has equaled the record for most half-centuries in T20Is, which was held till recently by Rohit Sharma.
- ❖ The Indian Navy ordered Israeli SMASH 2000 Plus systems to tackle drones.
- ❖ The author Amish Tripathi has announced his new non-fiction book 'Dharma: Decoding the Epics for a Meaningful Life'.
- ❖ The Justice Rajesh Bindal was appointed by the President as the acting chief justice of the common high court for the union territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.
 - He was appointed after the retirement of Justice Gita Mittal who was the first female Chief Justice of that High Court.
- ❖ The Army Service Corps (ASC), the oldest and the largest administrative service in the Indian Army celebrated the 260th Corps Day of the Army Service Corps on 08 December 2020.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India has cancelled the license of Maharashtra-based Karad Janata Sahakari Bank Ltd.
 - On liquidation of a bank, every depositor is entitled to get repayment of deposits up to Rs 5 lakh from the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC).
- ❖ Canada has become the second country after the United Kingdom to give approval to Pfizer's vaccine for its citizens.
- ❖ The Karnataka assembly passed anti cow slaughter bill.
 - The bill seeks a total ban on slaughter of cows in the state.

- ❖ On December 9, 2020, the BSE sensex closed above 46000 first time.

NATIONAL

Malaria in India

- ❖ India has been the only high endemic country that reported a decline of 17.6% in 2019 compared to previous years.
- ❖ Meghalaya has topped the list in reducing malaria cases by 59 per cent in the country.
- ❖ It is followed by Odisha and Jharkhand.

Urban Governance Index

- ❖ The Praja Foundation recently released the Urban Governance Index.
- ❖ The ranking was done based on urban governance reforms.
- ❖ Odisha topped the list of states.
- ❖ It was followed by Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh.
- ❖ Manipur and Nagaland were at the bottom of the list.

The National Digital Health Mission

- ❖ It will be rolled out across India in January 2021.
- ❖ It was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his Independence Day speech in August 2020.
- ❖ The National Health Data Management Policy is the basis of rolling out the National Digital Health Mission.
- ❖ This would be the first time India would make a foray in digital health sector.
- ❖ It will provide a unique health account to every Indian citizen, enabling them hassle-free access to healthcare across the country.
- ❖ The National Digital Health Mission had a pilot run in the Union Territories.



One Nation One Ration Card

- ❖ The Finance Ministry has informed that the 'One Nation One Ration Card' policy has been successfully implemented in 9 states of India.
- ❖ The 9 states that successfully implemented the policy are Goa, Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Tripura, and Gujarat.
- ❖ Under the scheme, beneficiaries are able to buy the subsidized food grains from any Fair Price Shops all over the country.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh is the biggest beneficiary of this scheme.
- ❖ It was followed by Karnataka and Gujarat.
- ❖ The Department of Food and Public Distribution under Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution is the nodal department for this scheme.

INTERNATIONAL

First country to launch COVID-19 vaccine

- ❖ The United Kingdom has become the first country to roll out the covid-19 vaccine in the world.
- ❖ The British government recently rolled out the covid-19 vaccine developed by Pfizer and BioNTech.
- ❖ The vaccine is to be provided as two injections within a time gap of 21 days.
- ❖ The Pfizer vaccine uses mRNA technology.
- ❖ This vaccine must be transported at negative 20 to 80 degree Celsius unlike Oxford vaccine.
- ❖ The Oxford vaccines can be refrigerated at normal two to eight degrees Celsius.

Epidemic Preparedness Day

- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly recently approved the resolution.
- ❖ It proclaimed to mark December 27 as the International Day of epidemic preparedness.
- ❖ It is to be marked to facilitate exchange of information, transmission of scientific knowledge and best practices locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.



- ❖ An epidemic is a disease that spreads rapidly to a large number of people within a short period of time.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

5G NR-New Radio

- ❖ Nokia has begun its production of next generation of 5G Equipment in India.
- ❖ It is the first in India to manufacture 5G NR in India.
- ❖ 5G NR is 5G New Radio.
- ❖ It is a new radio access technology developed for the fifth-generation mobile network.
- ❖ In 2019, South Korea became the first country to roll out 5G network.

Water from Air

- ❖ A team of researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology-Guwahati (IIT-G) have developed a method for harvesting water from humid air.
- ❖ This method involves spraying a sponge-like porous polymeric material on a normal printer paper.
- ❖ The method mainly uses the principle of hydrophobicity.
- ❖ The lotus leaves exhibit the property of hydrophobicity.

STATES

Eluru mystery disease

- ❖ At least 550 people fell sick in Eluru town in Andhra Pradesh since the outbreak due to an undiagnosed illness.
- ❖ The AIIMS results indicate lead and nickel content in drinking water or/and milk as the possible reason.

IMPORTANT DAYS

36th SAARC Charter Day – December 08

- ❖ The SAARC was founded at the First SAARC Summit held in Dhaka of Bangladesh on 8 December 1985
- ❖ The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) is the regional intergovernmental organization and geopolitical union of states in South Asia.
- ❖ Its member states are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
- ❖ Its secretariat is based in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- ❖ Nepal is the current chairman of the SAARC.
- ❖ It is a position moves by rotation through the eight countries of South Asia.

International Mountain Day - December 11

- ❖ It aims to bring focus to the sustainable development and conversation of mountains.
- ❖ 2002 is declared as the UN International Year of Mountains.
- ❖ The first international day was celebrated for the first time the following year, 2003.
- ❖ Mountain biodiversity is the theme of this year.



International Day of Neutrality - December 12

- ❖ United Nations General Assembly resolution adopted on 2nd February 2017.
- ❖ It was first observed on 12th December 2017.
- ❖ A neutral country is a sovereign state that abstains itself from participation in war as per international law.
- ❖ The rights and duties of a neutral country are defined in the 1907 Hague Convention.
- ❖ In 1815, Switzerland was the first country to declare itself as a permanent neutral.
- ❖ But Turkmenistan was the first state whose neutrality was recognized by the United Nations in 1995.



International Universal Health Coverage Day – December 12

- ❖ It aims to raise awareness of the need for strong and resilient health systems and universal health coverage (UHC) with multi-stakeholder partners.
- ❖ In 2017 the United Nations proclaimed 12 December as International Universal Health Coverage Day.
- ❖ The theme for the 2019 UHC Day is: Protect Everyone.



HEALTH FOR ALL:
PROTECT EVERYONE

12.12.2020 | UHCDAY.ORG

To end this crisis and build a safer and healthier future, we must invest in health systems that protect us all — **now**.

