

December - 19

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Adani Green Energy Ltd has signed a purchase agreement with Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) to supply 4,667 MW of green power.
 - It is the world's largest-ever green power purchase agreement.
- ❖ India's TVS Motor Company will develop electric vehicles with BMW's motorcycle brand in India.
 - The tie-up comes at a time when new-age start-ups like Ola Electric & Ather are ramping up investment in electric scooters.
- ❖ The Union Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur formally inaugurated the first-ever national-level Khelo India Women's Hockey League at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium in New Delhi.
 - The Sports Authority of India and Hockey India are jointly organizing the first-ever national-level Khelo India league.
- ❖ The Supreme Court gave the nod to resume bullock cart races in Maharashtra.
 - The races were prohibited since 2017.

TAMIL NADU

Tamil Nadu State song

தமிழ்த்தாய் வாழ்த்து

நீராரும் கடலூடுத்த நிலமடந்தைக் கெழிலொழுகும்
சீராரும் வதனமெனத் திகழ்பரதக் கண்டமிதில்
தெக்கணமும் அதிற்சிறந்த திராவிடநல் திருநாடும்
தக்கசிறு பிறைநுதலும் தரித்தநறுந் திலகமுமே
அத்திலக வாசனையோல் அனைத்துலகும் இன்பமுற
எத்திசையும் புகழ்மணக்க இருந்தபெருந் தமிழணங்கே!
தமிழணங்கே!

உன் சீரிளமைத் திறம் வியந்து
செயல் மறந்து வாழ்த்துதமே! வாழ்த்துதமே!
வாழ்த்துதமே!

- மணவாளசாய் செ. சுந்தரப்பிள்ளை

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Government declared the Tamil Thai Vaazhthu as the State song of Tamil Nadu.

- ❖ Everyone except the differently-abled should rise when the song is sung at educational institutions, government offices, and public functions.

NATIONAL

All-India Mayor's Conference



- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi is to address and inaugurate an All-India Mayor's Conference in Varanasi.
- ❖ The All-India Mayor's Conference is being organized by the Department of Urban Development of Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ The conference will witness the participation of the mayor's from more than 100 cities.

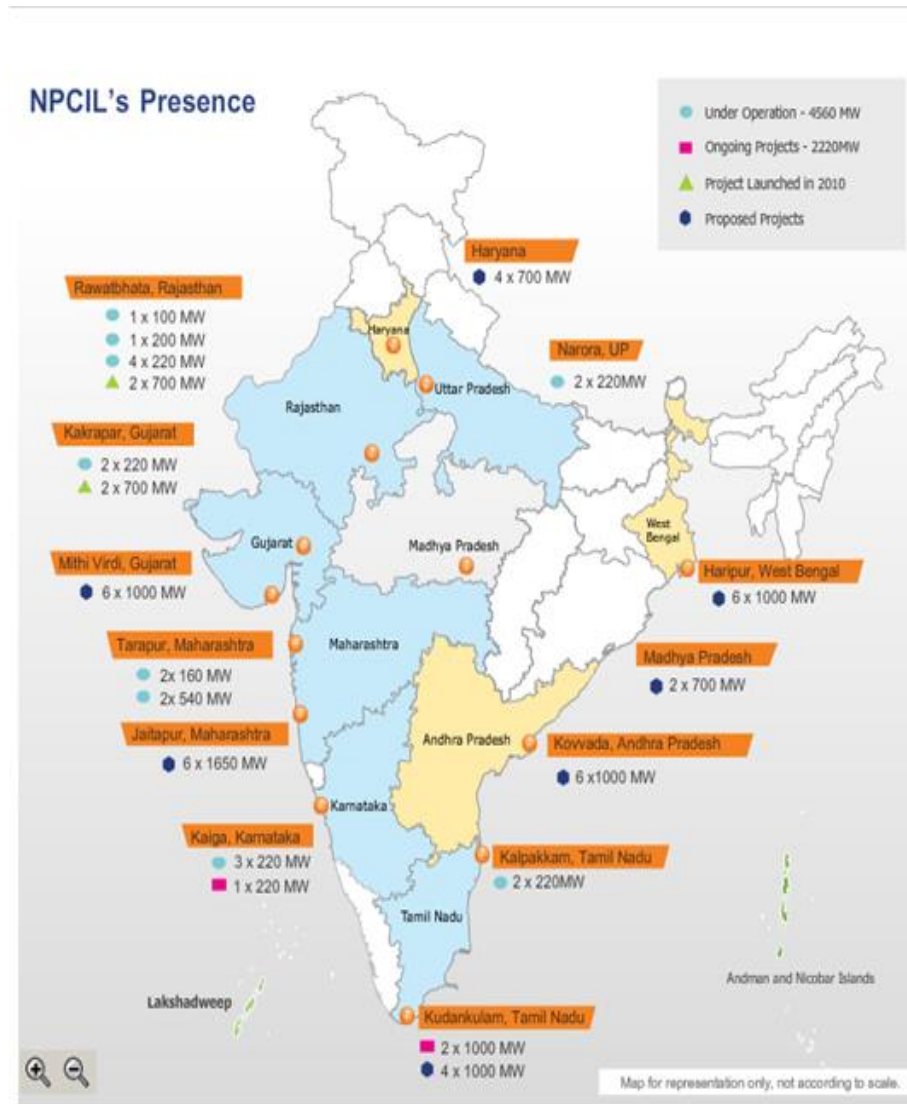
Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana



- ❖ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana for 2021-26.

- ❖ As a part of the scheme, Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme, Watershed Development, and Har Khet ko Paani components have been extended for 2021-26.
- ❖ PMKSY scheme was launched in 2015.

Nuclear Power Reactors

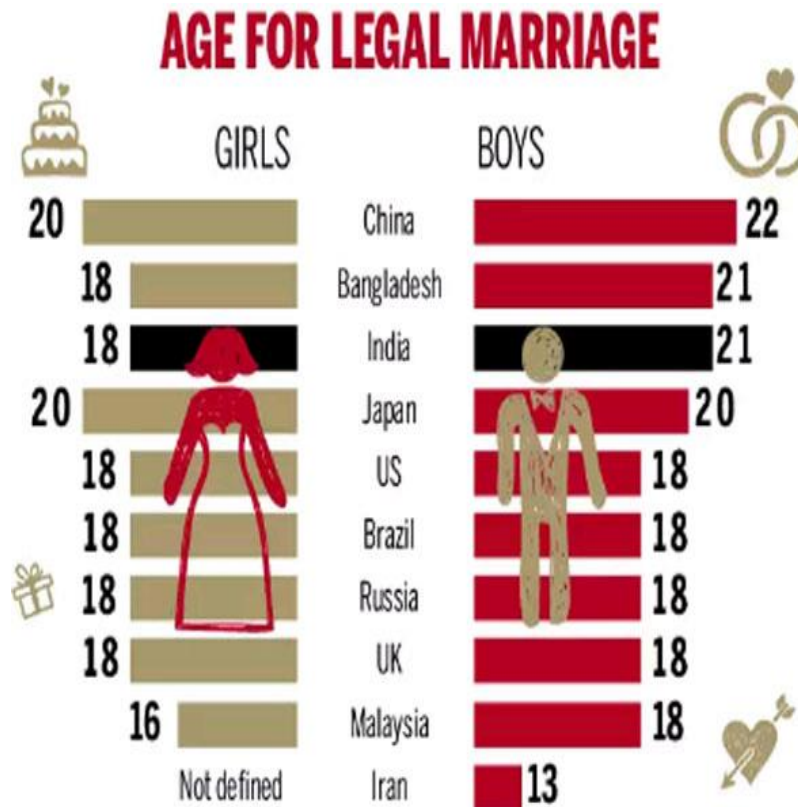


- ❖ The Government of India has granted 'In-Principle' approval to set up six Nuclear Power Reactors in technical cooperation with France.
- ❖ The approval to the nuclear power reactors has been accorded to a site in Maharashtra's Jaitapur.
- ❖ It will make it the largest nuclear power generating site in India.

- ❖ The Government of India has been determined to provide all the impetus to promote the use of Nuclear Energy in India in sectors such as Health Services as well as the agricultural programs for indigenous developments and import substitutes.

Legal marriage age for women

- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved the proposal of increasing the marriage age for women from 18 years to 21 years.
- ❖ Currently, the minimum age of marriage for men is 21 while for women it is 18.
- ❖ The government will now look to introduce amendments to the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act of 2006, Special Marriage Act of 1954, and the Hindu Marriage Act of 1955 to bring the plan into action.



National Conclave on Natural Farming

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses farmers during a session of the 'National Conclave on Natural Farming'.
- ❖ The summit will focus on natural farming and provide information to farmers on its benefits.

- ❖ The three-day conclave is held in the Anand district of Gujarat.



Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Index

THE TOPPERS		Score	Bengal Overperformed In > More schools with drinking water, toilets and hand-wash facilities > Percentage of teachers for primary education > Infant mortality rate (IMR) > Net Enrolment Ratio (NER) at primary level for girls
Large states (10)	Bengal	58.9	
Small states (11)	Kerala	67.9	
UTs	Lakshadweep	52.6	
NE states	Mizoram	51.6	
Bengal Underperformed In > Schools with internet and computers > Primary schools per lakh population > Primary drop-out rates			

- ❖ On the Index on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy, West Bengal has topped the chart in the large states category.
- ❖ The report on 'Index on Foundational Literacy & Numeracy' has been prepared by 'Institute for Competitiveness'.

- ❖ Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Index is an indicator of literacy among children aged below 10 years.
- ❖ In the 'large states' category, Bihar languished at the bottom.
- ❖ In the 'small states' category, Kerala was placed at the top spot.
- ❖ Jharkhand emerged as the worst performer on the index.
- ❖ Mizoram topped the list in the Northeast category.
- ❖ In North East Category, Arunachal Pradesh came last.
- ❖ Among Union Territory, Lakshadweep topped the index.
- ❖ In the Union Territory category, Ladakh was listed at the bottom.
- ❖ More than 50 percent of the states scored below the national average of 28.05.

INTERNATIONAL

10th death anniversary of Kim Jong II



- ❖ North Korea has banned its citizens from laughing, drinking, and going grocery shopping for 11 days starting from December 17, 2021.
- ❖ North Korean government authorities have ordered the citizens of the country to not show any signs of happiness.
- ❖ This is as part of the 10th death anniversary of former leader Kim Jong II.

Joumou Soup

- ❖ UNESCO placed a traditional Haitian soup called 'Joumou Soup' in the intangible cultural heritage list.

- ❖ Haitian soup is widely considered a symbol of independence.
- ❖ Haitians celebrated their freedom by consuming the soup.
- ❖ They traditionally serve the soup on New Year's Day for commemorating the anniversary of liberation from slavery.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Kumar Mangalam Birla



- ❖ The USA's Silicon Valley-based The IndUS Entrepreneurs (TiE) has named Kumar Mangalam Birla as the Global Entrepreneur of the Year in business transformation.
- ❖ This makes him the first Indian industrialist to receive the award.

- ❖ He was awarded for his extraordinary leadership of the conglomerate during the pandemic.
- ❖ The award was presented at the TiE Global Summit Awards ceremony held in Dubai.

Bhutan highest civilian award

- ❖ Bhutan has honoured PM Modi with its highest civilian award, Ngadag Pel gi Khorlo.
- ❖ Bhutan's Prime Minister Lotay Tshering has announced PM Modi's name for Bhutan's highest honour.
- ❖ The honour comes as an appreciation for India's friendly approach to Bhutan under PM Modi's governance.
- ❖ This is Modi's 10th international award given by various governments.



SPORTS

Simone Biles named Time Magazine's 2021 Athlete of the Year

- ❖ Simone Biles of USA was named Time magazine's 2021 Athlete of the Year.
- ❖ The world's most decorated gymnast, a four-time Olympic medallist, was hailed for putting her mental health first when she withdrew from four event finals at the Tokyo Olympics.

- ❖ Despite the setback, the 24-year-old managed to earn a team all-around silver and a bronze in balance beam at the Tokyo Games.



SJFI Awards

Award	Winner
SJFI Sportsman of the year 2021	Neeraj Chopra (Javelin)
SJFI Sportswoman of the year 2021	Mirabai Chanu (Weightlifting)
SJFI Team of the Year 2021	Indian Men's Hockey team
SJFI Parathletes of the year 2021(Men)	Pramod Bhagat (Badminton) and Sumit Antil (Javelin)
SJFI Parathletes of the year 2021(Women)	Avani Lekhara (rifle shooter)
SJFI Special Recognition Award	Olympic Gold Quest (OGQ)

- ❖ The Sports Journalists Federation of India (SJFI) has decided to honour former Indian Cricketer and cricket commentator Sunil Manohar Gavaskar with its prestigious 'SJFI Medal 2021'.
- ❖ SJFI Medal is the highest honour of SJFI.



- ❖ SJFI was founded on 27th February 1976 at the Eden Gardens, Calcutta (now Kolkata), West Bengal.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers - December 17



- ❖ It is annually observed across the globe to focus attention on the hate crimes committed against sex workers across the globe.
- ❖ The day has empowered the workers to come together against discrimination and remember the victims of violence.
- ❖ 'Red Umbrella' is the symbol for sex workers' rights across the globe.
- ❖ In 2005 the International Committee on the Rights of Sex Workers in Europe adopted the red umbrella as its symbol for the rights of sex workers.

