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TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The PM Narendra Modi inaugurated India's first driverless train on Delhi metro's Magenta line (Janakpuri West-Botanical Garden).
 - The Delhi Metro, commenced in 2002, is now the largest urban rapid transit system of India.
- ❖ The Madhya Pradesh (MP) Cabinet has approved the new anti-conversion law, known as Anti-Love Jihad Law, against the forced religious conversions.
 - The new law will replace the MP Religious Freedom Act, 1968.
- ❖ The Department of Revenue recently announced that the GST tax payers should compulsorily pay at least 1% of their tax in cash.
 - This is to come into effect from January 1, 2021.
- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh government is all set to establish India's first mega leather park in Kanpur's Ramaipur village.
 - The project has been recently approved by Union Ministry of Commerce.
- ❖ "In Pursuit of Happiness" is the biography of Rajinder Sachar, the former Delhi High Court Judge.
 - He is known for his report titled the "Social, Economic and Educational Status of the Muslim Community of India" or simply known as the Sachar Committee Report 2006.

NATIONAL

100th Kisan Rail

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the 100th Kisan Rail from Sangola in Maharashtra to Shalimar in West Bengal.
- ❖ The first-ever Kisan Rail was flagged off on August 7, 2020.
- ❖ The service was launched between Devlali in Maharashtra and Danapur in Bihar.
- ❖ It was then extended to Muzaffarpur of Bihar.

Features of 100th Kisan Rail

- 
Traversing from Sangola, Maharashtra to Shalimar, West Bengal
- 
Covering 2,132 Kms Within 40 Hours
- 
Pomegranates From Sangola, Oranges From Nagpur, Musk Melons from Jeur, Belvandi & Kopargaon to have Access to West Bengal & Northeast Region

#100thKisanRail

Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor



- ❖ The PM inaugurated the New Bhaupur - New Khurja section and the Operation Control Centre of Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor.



- ❖ The Operation Control Centre at Prayagraj of Uttar Pradesh is to act as the command centre for the entire route length of the corridor.
- ❖ The project was funded by World Bank.
- ❖ The Length of this corridor is 1856 km.
- ❖ It starts from Sahnewal near Ludhiana (Punjab) and will pass through the states of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Jharkhand to terminate at Dankuni in West Bengal.

Monpa Handmade Paper Unit

- ❖ The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) recently established the Monpa handmade paper making unit.
- ❖ The unit will create local employment in Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ The art of Monpa handmade paper originated in China around thousand years ago.

CII-ITC Sustainability Awards 2020

- ❖ India's largest power producer NTPC ltd has been conferred "Excellence" in the prestigious CII-ITC Sustainability Awards 2020 in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Domain.
- ❖ Also, it has been honoured in the Corporate Excellence Category, Commendation for Significant Achievement.
- ❖ This is the highest award conferred by CII-ITC in CSR domain.
- ❖ NTPC is the only PSU to receive the award in the Corporate Excellence category.
- ❖ It has won this award for a second time in a row i.e in the year 2019 and 2020.
- ❖ The Ramco Cements Alathiyur unit of Tamilnadu gets 'Commendation for Significant Achievement in CSR' award.

Digital India Awards 2020

- ❖ The Chief Minister Secretariat of Bihar, National Informatics Centre and the Disaster Management Department have been jointly chosen as winners in "Pandemic Category" in Digital India Awards, 2020.
- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh Food and Civil Supplies Department won the Digital India Award, 2020 under the "Excellence in Digital Governance" category.

Digital India Awards, 2020: Bihar wins in Pandemic category

The Chief Minister Secretariat of Bihar, National Informatics Centre and the Disaster Management Department have been jointly chosen as winners in "Pandemic Category" in Digital India Awards, 2020.



Earlier the Uttar Pradesh Food and Civil Supplies Department won the Digital India Award, 2020 under the "Excellence in Digital Governance" category. It was selected for its Points of Sale based food distribution, online billing and payment for food grains purchased from farmers, GPS tracking of vehicles transporting food grains.

INTERNATIONAL

Nature Index 2020 Artificial Intelligence

- ❖ It was released by Nature Research, an International Scientific Publishing Company.
- ❖ As per this report, India stood at rank 3rd among 25 countries with most publications on AI technology from 2015-2019.
- ❖ The list is topped by China followed by the USA at 2nd position.
- ❖ India's Anna University is ranked at 32nd position in research organisation based on a total number of publications in AI.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Portulaca laljii

- ❖ It is a new species of the wild sun rose discovered recently from the Eastern Ghats in India.
- ❖ It was discovered from Prakasam district of Andhra Pradesh.



Green Propulsion Technology

- ❖ ISRO is developing “Green Propulsion Technology”.
- ❖ It is being developed for the Human Space Flight Mission of India, Gaganyaan.
- ❖ Gaganyaan is to be launched in December 2021.
- ❖ In rockets and airplanes, the propulsion is generated through the application of Newton’s third law.
- ❖ It means “for every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction”.

Pneumonia Vaccine

- ❖ The first Indian vaccine against Pneumonia has been developed by Serum Institute of India.
- ❖ It is currently under Universal Immunization Programme of India.
- ❖ According to the Lancet study, India accounts to 20% of Pneumonia deaths in children.
- ❖ The top five contributors of Pneumonia in India are Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh.



STATES

The 8th North East Festival

- ❖ It was held recently at Guwahati in Assam.
- ❖ For the first time it was held in Assam.
- ❖ The focus of this year is “Growth Agenda for North East Post Covid-19”.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Jairam Ramesh Book

- ❖ The book titled “The Light of Asia: The Poem that Defined the Buddha” was written by the former union minister Jairam Ramesh.
- ❖ Ramesh was recently declared winner of the 2020 Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize for “A Chequered Brilliance: The Many Lives of VK Krishna Menon”.

SPORTS

ICC Teams of the decade

- ❖ The International Cricket Council (ICC) announced ICC Men’s and Women's T20I, ODI and Test teams of the decade.
- ❖ The Former Indian captain MS Dhoni was named the captain of the ICC Men’s T20I and ODI teams of the decade.

- ❖ While Virat Kohli was named captain of the ICC Men's Test team of the decade.
- ❖ In Women team, T20I Australia Meg Lanning was announced the Captain of the decade.
- ❖ India captain Virat Kohli won Sir Garfield Sobers Award for ICC Male Cricketer of the Decade.
- ❖ Australia's Ellyse Perry won the Rachael Heyhoe-Flint Award for ICC Female Cricketer of the Decade.



2021 Football World Cup

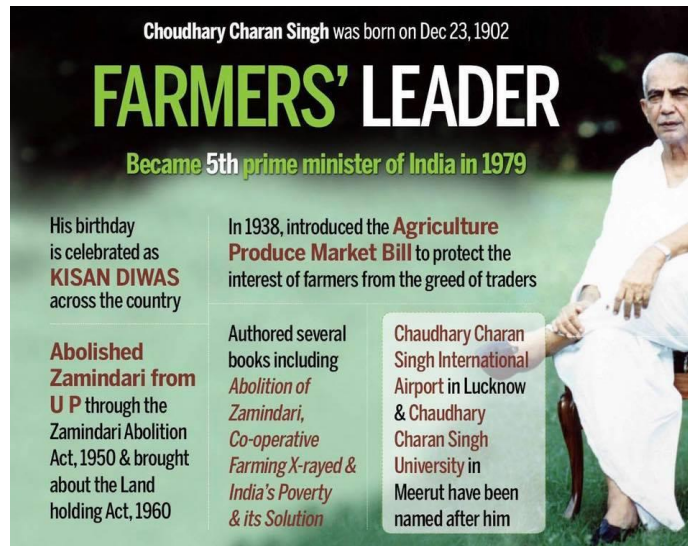
- ❖ The FIFA has decided to cancel the 2021 editions of the men's U-20 World Cup and U-17 World Cup.
- ❖ It gave the hosting rights to Indonesia and Peru respectively for the 2023 editions.
- ❖ In 2021 also, it was to be hosted by Indonesia and Peru.
- ❖ The FIFA Women's Football World Cup 2023 will be hosted by Australia and New Zealand.

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Farmer's Day (Kisan Diwas) – December 23

- ❖ The day is observed to mark the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Chaudhary Charan Singh.

- ❖ He was born in 1902 at Meerut.
- ❖ He was the fifth Prime Minister of India from 28 July 1979 to 14 January 1980.
- ❖ He once said, "The true India resides in its villages."
- ❖ In 1952, as an Agricultural Minister of India Charan Singh worked hard to abolish the Zamindari System in India.
- ❖ In 1953, Charan Singh got the Consolidation of Holdings Act passed.
- ❖ In 2001, the Indian Government decided to mark Charan Singh's birth anniversary as Kisan Diwas.



National Consumer Day – December 24

- ❖ On this day in 1986, the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 had received the assent of the president.
- ❖ The Consumer Protection Act 2019 is in to force from 20th July 2020.
- ❖ The Act includes establishment of the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) to promote, protect and enforce the rights of consumers.
- ❖ Theme of this year is "The Sustainable Consumer".
- ❖ World Consumer Rights Day is celebrated on March 15.



Provision	Consumer Protection Act,1986	Consumer Protection Bill, 2019
Regulator	No Central Regulator	Central Consumer Protection Authority to be set up.
Filing of Complaint	A complaint needs to be filed in the consumer court under whom jurisdiction of the seller falls under	A complaint can be filed from anywhere or from where the consumer resides.
Mediation	No Provision	Courts can work towards settlement through mediation cells.
Jurisdiction	The jurisdiction at District level was complaints worth of Rs. 20 Lakh	District level authorities can take-up complaints with goods and services worth up to Rs.1 crore.
Product Liability	No Provision	Consumers have the right to seek compensation for any harm caused.
E-Commerce	No Provision	E-Commerce transactions will come under the provisions involving direct sales.
Video Conferencing	No Provision	Consumers can seek hearing through Video Conference.

Good Governance Day – December 25

- ❖ It was established in 2014 to honour Former Prime Minister Vajpayee.
- ❖ It is the birth anniversary of former-Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- ❖ He served three terms as the Prime Minister of India, first for a term of 13 days in 1996, then for a period of 13 months from 1998 to 1999, followed by a full term from 1999 to 2004.
- ❖ A member of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), he was the first Indian prime minister not of the Indian National Congress to serve a full term in office.
- ❖ On December 23, 2014, Mr Vajpayee, and Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya (posthumously) were announced as recipients of the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award.
- ❖ The book, titled “Vajpayee: The Years that Changed India”, was released on the occasion of Vajpayee's 96th birth anniversary.
- ❖ It is written by author Shakti Sinha.

