



December - 02

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Union ministry of health and family welfare has cleared the proposal of Tamil Nadu to set up three new medical colleges in Krishnagiri, Nagapattinam and Tiruvallur.
- ❖ The Tamilnadu department of tourism, culture and religious endowments has proposed to establish the Governor Bungalow of Danish, located at Tharangambadi, Nagapattinam district as an ancient monument.
 - Also known as Collector's House, it is located opposite Dansborg Fort and was taken over by the British in 1845 after the exit of the Danes.
- ❖ Neenu Ittyerah of Indian Railway Traffic Service (IRTS) has assumed charge as Principal Chief Operations Manager (PCOM) of Southern Railway.
 - She is the first woman officer to occupy the post in the zonal railway.
- ❖ According to data provided in Rajya Sabha by Ministry of Environment, at the last count, the rivers of Assam and Uttar Pradesh respectively had 962 and 1,275 Gangetic dolphins (or Platanista gangetica).
- ❖ Defence Minister of India Rajnath Singh and External Affairs Minister of India S. Jaishankar, met Foreign Affairs Minister of Japan and Minister of Defense of Japan in New Delhi for the first India-Japan 2+2 Foreign and Defence Ministerial Meeting.
- ❖ Soma Roy Burman has assumed the charge as the new Controller General of Accounts (CGA).
 - She is the 24th CGA and the seventh woman to hold this coveted position. She has replaced J P S Chawla.
- ❖ Nagaland celebrated its 57th Statehood Day on 01st December 2019. It became the 16th state of the country on 01st December 1963.
- ❖ The Union government has “launched a drive” to enroll one crore beneficiaries under the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan (PM-SYM) and the National Pension Scheme for Traders and Self Employed Persons (NPS-Traders) by March 2020.

TAMIL NADU

Kulasekarapattinam Spaceport

- ❖ Due to increased launch activities, ISRO has started construction of its second spaceport after Sriharikota at Tamilnadu.

- ❖ Union minister for department of space Jitendra Singh has announced a proposal to set up a rocket launching pad near Kulasekarapattinam, Tuticorin district.
- ❖ It will mainly cater to launches of newly developed Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV or mini-PSLV).

NATIONAL

Operation Clean Art – Protecting Mongoose

- ❖ The first pan India operation to crackdown on the smuggling of mongoose hair in the country was conducted recently.
- ❖ Codenamed “Operation Clean Art”, raids were carried out in U.P, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Kerala.
- ❖ Factories which were making paint burshes with mongoose hair were targeted.
- ❖ There are six species of mongoose found in India and mostly the hair of “grey mongoose” were recovered.
- ❖ The mongoose is listed in Schedule II Part 2 of the Wildlife Protection Act and any smuggling or possession of its body part is a non-bailable offence.
- ❖ The operation was conceived by Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB).

OPERATION CLEAN ART		
Place	Brushes seized	Accused arrested
Mumbai	18,924	5
Pune	3,642	3
Sawantwadi	4,972	4
Aurangabad	1,630	3
Total	29,168	15



National Startup Awards 2020

- ❖ The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has announced institution of the first ever National Startup Awards.
- ❖ The awards seek to recognize outstanding startups with high potential of employment generation or wealth creation.
- ❖ A cash prize of Rs 5 lakh each will be awarded to the winning startup in 35 different areas.
- ❖ A cash prize of Rs 15 lakh each will be awarded to one winning Incubator and one winning Accelerator as well.



Indian Naval Air Squadron 314 (INAS 314) – Raptors

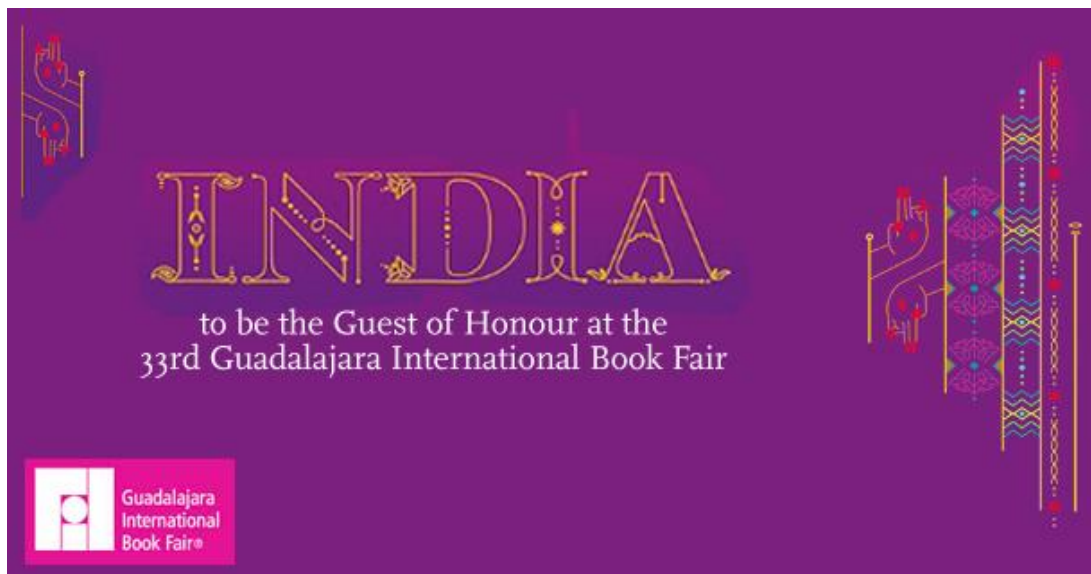
- ❖ Indian Naval Air Squadron 314, the sixth Dornier aircraft squadron was commissioned at Naval Air Enclave- Porbandar on Gujarat coast.
- ❖ The INAS 314 derives its name Raptors from the Bird of Prey family.
- ❖ The insignia of the squadron depicts a 'Raptor bird' searching over the vast blue expanse of the sea.

- ❖ This squadron will operate the Dornier aircraft, a multi-role aircraft manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautical Limited, Kanpur.



India Pavilion at International Book Fair, Mexico

- ❖ Minister of State for Human Resource Development Sanjay Dhotre inaugurated the India Pavilion at International Book Fair in Guadalajara, Mexico.
- ❖ India is the 'Guest of Honour Country' in book fair and becomes the first Asian country to participate as 'Guest of Honour' in the Fair.
- ❖ This fair is the biggest book fair in the Spanish-speaking world.





Digital Haj Pilgrimage – India

- ❖ India has become the 1st country to make the entire process for pilgrims going on Haj completely digital.
- ❖ An online application, e-visa, Haj mobile app, ‘e-MASIHA’ health facility, “e-luggage pre-tagging” have been introduced.
- ❖ 2 lakh Indian Muslims going for Haj in 2020 will receive information in India itself regarding accommodation and transportation in Mecca and Madina.
- ❖ Minority Affairs Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi signed the bilateral annual Haj 2020 agreement between India and Saudi Arabia at Jeddah.

YuWaah – UNICEF Initiative for Youth

- ❖ UNICEF has informed that it has launched an initiative called ‘YuWaah’ Generation Unlimited in India on 1.11.2019.
- ❖ Yuwaah aims to facilitate youth to gain relevant skills for productive lives and the future of work.
- ❖ The target age group of YuWaah includes adolescent girls and boys.
- ❖ India is one of the first countries in the world to launch its national initiative linked to the global Generation Unlimited movement which began in New York in September 2018.

INTERNATIONAL

G20 Presidency – Saudi Arabia

- ❖ The G20 Presidency has been taken over by Saudi Arabia from Japan.
- ❖ Saudi Arabia has become the 1st Arab nation to assume the G20 presidency.
- ❖ It will also host a global summit in its capital Riyadh in 2020.



STATES

20th Hornbill Festival, Nagaland

- ❖ The 20th edition of Hornbill Festival began at the Naga Heritage Kisama in Nagaland.
- ❖ The festival organised by Nagaland Government is an annual tourism promotional event to showcase the state's traditional and rich cultural heritage.
- ❖ The opening ceremony was presided by Governor RN Ravi and included a colourful display of Naga Culture themed show called "Colours of Nagaland".



SPORTS

13th South Asian Games

- ❖ The 13th edition of South Asian Games has officially kicked off after the opening ceremony at Dasharath Stadium in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- ❖ The President of Nepal Bidhya Devi Bhandari declared the Games open.
- ❖ The South Asian Games (formerly South Asian Federation Games) are a biennial multi-sport event held among the athletes from South Asia.
- ❖ The first such game was hosted by Kathmandu, Nepal in 1984.



IMPORTANT DAYS

World Aids Day – December 1

- ❖ World AIDS Day 2019 is being observed on the 1st of December on the theme of “Communities make the difference.”
- ❖ Aids day is observed since 1988.
- ❖ To achieve the Sustainable Development Goal of ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030, union government implements a National Strategic Plan from 2017 to 2024.
- ❖ National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) is also implemented across the country for prevention and control of aids.



BSF Raising Day – December 1

- ❖ The 55th raising day of Border Security Force was observed on December 1, 2019.
- ❖ The BSF was raised in the wake of 1965 war and with the specific purpose of manning Indian borders as the ‘First Line of Defence’ against infiltration, smuggling, and military assault.
- ❖ VK Johri is the current Director General of BSF.



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