



December - 05

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has agreed to advance a loan of US \$206 million to develop water supply and sewerage infrastructure in Tiruchi, Ambur, Tiruppur, and Vellore and other cities in Tamil Nadu.
 - It will also strengthen the capacities of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) for improved service delivery.
- ❖ The Indian navy plans to set up a Tupolev TU-142 aircraft museum in Kolkata. The TU-142 is a Russian and formerly Soviet Union manufactured maritime reconnaissance and anti-submarine aircraft.
- ❖ King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden have arrived in India on an official visit to Delhi, Mumbai and will also visit Uttrakhand.
- ❖ Google co-founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin have announced that they are stepping down from the leadership role of the parent company "Alphabet".
 - Google CEO Indian-American Sundar Pichai will be assuming the role of Alphabet CEO.
- ❖ The Ministry of Corporate Affairs has launched the Independent Directors Databank in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013.
 - Independent Directors have an important role in ensuring good corporate governance practices at companies.

NATIONAL

Mission Indradhanush 2.0

- ❖ The Union Government has launched a nationwide vaccination drive to prevent eight diseases under Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 2.0 from December 02, 2019.
- ❖ Target Group: Children under the age of 2 years and pregnant women.
- ❖ Aim of the Project: to achieve targets of full immunization coverage in 272 districts spread over 27 States.
- ❖ Project Period: December 2019 and March 2020.
- ❖ The IMI covers vaccines for diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, tuberculosis, measles, meningitis and Hepatitis B.
- ❖ Vaccines for Japanese encephalitis and influenza are also being provided in selected areas.



Nethaji Papers

- ❖ The Minister of Culture and Tourism Prahlad Singh Patel has informed Lok Sabha that the Union Government has “de-classified” all records relating to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and Azad Hind Fauj (Indian National Army).
- ❖ They have been placed in the National Archives of India.
- ❖ Out of 304 files, 303 files are already uploaded on the Netaji web portal i.e. www.netajipapers.gov.in

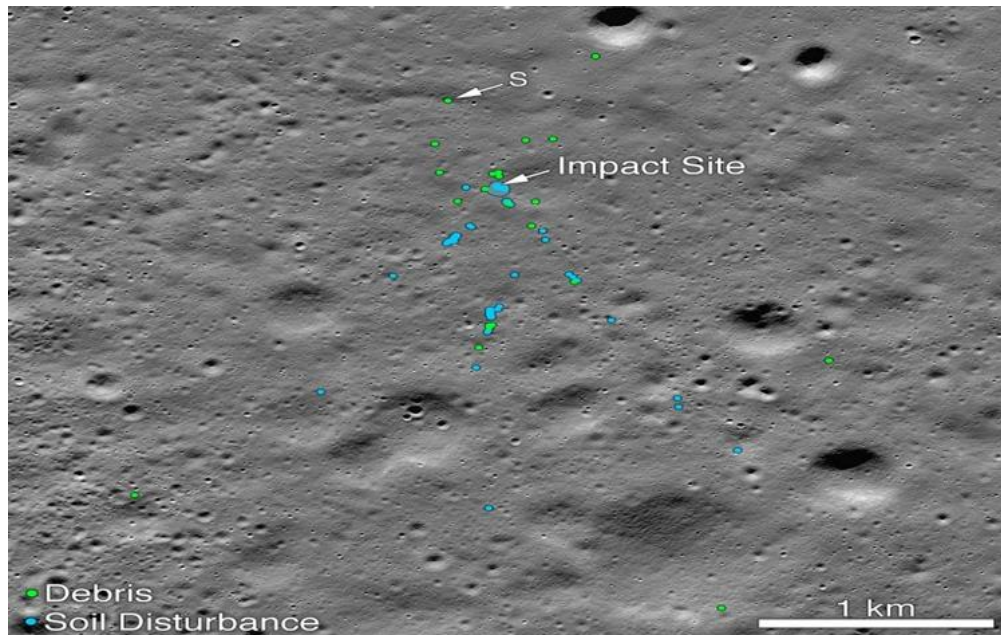
RTMS Party Registration Portal

- ❖ The Election Commission of India will implement the political parties Registration Tracking Management System (RTMS).
- ❖ It will be implemented through an online portal to facilitate tracking of the status of the application by applicants.
- ❖ From 1st January 2020, applicants who apply for party registration, can track progress through this portal.

NASA finds India's crashed Vikram lander

- ❖ A NASA satellite orbiting the Moon has found India's Vikram lander which crashed on the lunar surface in September.

- ❖ NASA released an image taken by its Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO) that showed the site of the spacecraft's impact and associated debris field on 6th of September.
- ❖ It released a mosaic image of the site.
- ❖ Tamilnadu's Shanmuga Subramanian has been credited for identifying the lander.



Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups

- ❖ The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has implemented the scheme of “Development of PVTGs” which covers Total 75 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) for their comprehensive socio-economic development.
- ❖ These PVTGs spread over 18 states and one Union Territory (A&N Islands) in the country (2011 census).
- ❖ Among the 75 PVTG's the highest number are found in Odisha (13), followed by Andhra Pradesh (12).
- ❖ Irular (Tamilnadu) and konda reddy (Andhra Pradesh) tribes are recently included in the list of PVTG's.

Exercise Hand-in-Hand

- ❖ The 8th India-China joint training exercise 'HAND-IN-HAND 2019' with the theme of 'Counter Terrorism' under United Nations mandate is scheduled to be conducted at Umroi, Meghalaya from 7th to 20th December 2019.



- ❖ The aim of the exercise is to practice joint planning and conduct of counter terrorist operations in semi urban terrain.
- ❖ In 2018, the exercise was held in Chengdu, China.
- ❖ The exercise didn't take place in 2017 due to the 72-days long standoff between Indian and Chinese troops in Doklam.

INTERNATIONAL

Power of Siberia – Russo Chinese Gas Pipeline

- ❖ Chinese President Xi Jinping and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin inaugurated a new energy project called “Power of Siberia” gas pipeline.
- ❖ Under the contract, Russia will deliver 1 trillion cubic meters of natural gas to China over the next 30 years.
- ❖ The pipeline will connect Siberia to China's Yangtze River delta in Shanghai.
- ❖ It is also an emblem of closer energy integration in Eurasia, with Russia and China as the key partners.

Global Migration Film Festival

- ❖ The Global Migration Film Festival (GMFF) was organised in Dhaka.
- ❖ The day-long festival screened 15 films on the theme of migration and its various aspects.
- ❖ The festival was organised by the International Organisation of Migrants (IOM) and Dhaka University Film Society with the support of the European Union.
- ❖ IOM is the UN migration agency established in 1951.
- ❖ It works to ensure orderly and humane management of the migration issue.

INSTEX – Trading with Iran

- ❖ Belgium, Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden have recently joined INSTEX.
- ❖ The ‘Instrument in Support of Trade Exchanges (INSTEX)’ trade mechanism was established by France, Germany and the United Kingdom in January 2019 to allow European entities to maintain trade with Iran.
- ❖ The mechanism has been designed to circumvent U.S. sanctions against trade with Iran by avoiding the use of the dollar.
- ❖ This Paris-based mechanism functions as a clearing house.



- ❖ It allows Iran to continue to sell oil and import other products or services in the exchange.

STATES

Tanbo Art - Kerala

- ❖ A progressive farmer in Kerala is using Tanbo Art (a 3D art form) to depict the celebrated Guruvayur temple elephant that died in 1976.
- ❖ The farmer used several indigenous varieties of rice like Krishna Kamod, Gandhakasala and Jeerakasala to give shape to the image.
- ❖ Tanbo Art is a rice paddy art developed by the farmers of Inakadate village in Japan about three decades ago to beautify their paddy fields.
- ❖ They drew huge replicas of famous paintings, including Mona Lisa, by growing rice crops with fronds of different colours.

SPORTS

6th Ballon d'Or for Messi

- ❖ Barcelona forward Lionel Messi has won the Ballon d'Or award for the world's best player for a record 6th time.
- ❖ It is Messi's first Ballon d'Or since 2015 and his sixth overall award.
- ❖ The Ballon d'Or Féminin (Women's Ballon d'Or) was presented to "Megan Rapinoe".
- ❖ This special award to women has been started since 2018 only.
- ❖ Ada Hegerberg of Norway won the inaugural award.
- ❖ Both awards were organised by the magazine called France Football and voted for by a panel of journalists from around the world.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPWD) 2019 - December 3

- ❖ It is an awareness day celebrated to bring changes in people's behaviour towards differently-abled people and to make them aware of their rights.
- ❖ The day has been promoted by UN since 1992.
- ❖ The theme of celebration of 2019 is "Promoting the participation of persons with disabilities and their leadership: taking action on the 2030 Development Agenda".



- ❖ The Nagpur station of All India Radio celebrated the day in a unique way.
- ❖ The FM headlines were prepared in Braille and read by Raghuver Kurmi, a visually impaired school teacher.

