



**December - 07**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ The RBI in its fifth bi-monthly Monetary Policy has kept the policy repo rate unchanged at 5.15%, reverse repo at 4.90% and bank rate at 5.40%.
  - The six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) headed by Governor Shaktikanta Das unanimously voted for a status quo policy.
- ❖ Indian actress Priyanka Chopra has been awarded the Danny Kaye Humanitarian Award by UNICEF. She has been associated with UNICEF for the past 15 years as a Goodwill Ambassador.
- ❖ The ministry of Finance & Corporate Affairs has decided to set up five benches of National Company Law Appellate Tribunal at Chennai, Jaipur, Cuttack, Kochi, Indore and Amaravati.
- ❖ Tennis legend Roger Federer will become the first living person in Switzerland to have a coin minted in his honour. The Federal Mint of Switzerland, Swissmint, has created a 20-franc silver coin bearing Federer's image.
  - It's the first time in its history that Swissmint has created a commemorative coin to honour a living person.

## **NATIONAL**

### **Women Help Desks @ Police Stations**

- ❖ The Ministry of Home Affairs has sanctioned Women Help Desks in Police Stations across the country.
- ❖ It has sanctioned a sum Rs. 100 crores from Nirbhaya Fund for this purpose.
- ❖ Lady police officers would be employed at the desk.
- ❖ Experts like lawyers, psychologists and NGOs would also be part of the desk and will facilitate legal aid, counselling, shelter, rehabilitation and training etc

### **Exercise INDRA 2019**

- ❖ Exercise INDRA 2019 will be conducted in India from 10 — 19 December 2019 simultaneously at Babina (near Jhansi), Pune, and Goa.
- ❖ It is a joint, tri services exercise between India and Russia.
- ❖ The INDRA series of exercise began in 2003 and the First joint Tri Services Exercise was conducted in 2017.

### **National Florence Nightingale Award-2019**

- ❖ The President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, presented the National Florence Nightingale Awards to nursing personnel on the occasion of International Nurses Day.
- ❖ The awards were instituted in the year 1973 by the Indian government as a mark of recognition for the meritorious services rendered by nurses.
- ❖ Lini PN, the nurse from Kerala who died of the deadly Nipah virus while treating a Nipah-infected patient was posthumously awarded.

### **Expedited Delivery of French-Meteor Missiles**

- ❖ India has requested France to expedite the delivery of ten Meteor missiles.
- ❖ They will be used to counter the threat faced from American origin AMRAAM missiles, in possession of Pakistan.



- ❖ Meteor is a Beyond visual range air to air missile that is possibly the best in its class.
- ❖ It can take out enemy aircraft at range of over 100 km.
- ❖ It has a no escape zone of over 60 km and the missile easily outclasses the American origin AMRAAM currently in service with Pakistan.



- ❖ The No-Escape Zone is the zone within which there is a “high kill probability” against a target, even if the target has been alerted.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **Pacific Air Chiefs Symposium 2019 (PACS 2019)**

- ❖ Air Chief Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria, the Chief of Air Staff represented India at the PACS 2019.
- ❖ The meet was hosted by the USA at Joint Base Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.
- ❖ The theme for this year’s symposium is ‘A Collaborative Approach to Regional Security’.

## **ECONOMY**

### **15th Finance Commissions Report for 2020/21**

- ❖ The Finance Commission headed by N K Singh submitted its report for the financial year 2020-21 to President Ram Nath Kovind.
- ❖ It was constituted by the President of India under Article 280 of the Constitution on November 27, 2017.
- ❖ It was tasked with making recommendations for a period of five years from April 2020 to March 2025.
- ❖ The term of the commission was originally set to end in October 2019, but was extended by one month to November 30.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **Global Climate Risk Index – India Ranked 5th**

- ❖ According to a report released by environment think tank “Germanwatch”, India is the fifth most vulnerable country to climate change.
- ❖ In the Climate Risk Index 2020, India’s rank has worsened from the 14th spot in 2017 to 5th in 2018.
- ❖ India has also recorded the highest number of fatalities due to climate change.
- ❖ It also suffered from the second highest monetary losses from climate change impact in 2018.
- ❖ Japan, Philippines and Germany were the three most infected countries in 2018.

- ❖ Germanwatch, based in Germany, is an independent development and environmental organisation which works for sustainable global development.

Ranking 2018 (2017)	Country	CRI score	Death toll	Deaths per 100 000 inhabitants	Absolute losses (in million US\$ PPP)	Losses per unit GDP in %	Human Development Index 2018 Ranking <sup>12</sup>
1 (36)	Japan	5.50	1 282	1.01	35 839.34	0.64	19
2 (20)	Philippines	11.17	455	0.43	4 547.27	0.48	113
3 (40)	Germany	13.83	1 246	1.50	5 038.62	0.12	5
4 (7)	Madagascar	15.83	72	0.27	568.10	1.32	161
5 (14)	India	18.17	2 081	0.16	37 807.82	0.36	130
6 (2)	Sri Lanka	19.00	38	0.18	3 626.72	1.24	76
7 (45)	Kenya	19.67	113	0.24	708.39	0.40	142
8 (87)	Rwanda	21.17	88	0.73	93.21	0.34	158
9 (42)	Canada	21.83	103	0.28	2 282.17	0.12	12
10 (96)	Fiji	22.50	8	0.90	118.61	1.14	92

## STATES

### Startup India Global Venture Capital Summit – Goa

- ❖ The 2nd edition of Startup India Global Venture Capital Summit is being organized in Goa.
- ❖ The summit is being organized by Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and government of Goa.
- ❖ The Theme for the event is 'India Opportunity- Investing in tomorrow together'.

## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### CAG Rajiv Mehrishi – External Auditor of WHO

- ❖ Comptroller and Auditor General of India Rajiv Mehrishi has been elected as external auditor of the World Health Organization (WHO) for four years from 2020 to 2023.
- ❖ He was elected at the 72nd World Health Assembly in Geneva.
- ❖ This is the second major international audit assignment for the CAG this year.
- ❖ He has also been selected for the post of External Auditor of Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome.

## SPORTS

### Chennai's Chess Prodigy – R. Praggnanandhaa

- ❖ At the London Chess Classic, Chennai's R Praggnanandhaa has crossed the Elo rating of 2600 at the age of 14 years, three months and 26 days.
- ❖ He is thus the youngest Indian ever to cross 2600 and the second youngest in the world.
- ❖ Praggnanandhaa, who is also India's second-youngest Grandmaster, broke Nihal Sarin's record of the youngest Indian to cross 2600.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### Indian Navy Day – December 4

- ❖ The December 4th Indian Navy day is a commemoration of the Operation Trident and celebrates bravery of the navy.



- ❖ The operation was a counter-attack by Indian Navy on the Karachi harbour during the Indo-Pakistan war in 1971.
- ❖ India used anti-ship missiles for the first time during this operation and destroyed the Pakistani destroyer ship PNS Khaibar.

### World Soil Day – December 5

- ❖ This day highlights the importance of healthy soil and advocates the sustainable management of soil resources.



- ❖ The World Soil Day (WSD) was recommended by the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) in 2002.
- ❖ 5 December 2014 was designated as the first official WSD by the UN General Assembly.
- ❖ The theme for 2019 observance of WSD is 'Stop Soil Erosion, Save Our Future'.
- ❖ Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) also supported the formal establishment of WSD as a global awareness day under the leadership of the Kingdom of Thailand.
- ❖ FAO gives two awards on the eve of WSD,
  - The King Bhumibol World Soil Day Award,
  - The Glinka World Soil Prize.



### **International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development - December 5**

- ❖ It is mandated by the UN General Assembly in 1985.
- ❖ It is celebrated by many non-governmental organizations, civil society, and the private sector, among others.
- ❖ The theme of 2019 is "Volunteer for an inclusive future", highlighting SDG 10 and the pursuit of equality – including inclusion.