



December - 11

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Union Minister for Human Resource Development (HRD), Dr Ramesh Pokhriyal said Artificial Intelligence (AI) has been introduced as a subject in classes VIII, IX and X from the session 2019 to 2020 in CBSE schools.
 - The initiative has been undertaken in order to enhance the multidisciplinary approach in teaching-learning and to sensitize the new generation.
- ❖ Human Library held in the City of Palaces, Mysuru in Karnataka. It is a concept to replace books with humans.
- ❖ The National Stock Exchange (NSE) has appointed Public Interest Director Girish Chandra Chaturvedi as its Chairman replacing Ashok Chawla.
 - The appointment comes following the approval of the markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- ❖ Lt Gen Pandala Nagesh Rao has taken over the charge of General Officer Commanding, Dakshin Bharat (DB) area. DB Area has its headquarters in Chennai which is under Southern Command of Indian Army.
- ❖ South African beauty Zozibini Tunzi was crowned as Miss Universe 2019 in Atlanta, US.
 - Tunzi is the third African woman to have won the coveted star-studded crown, and the first black woman to have taken home the title, after Leila Lopes' win in 2011.
- ❖ Geological hazard monitoring group GeoNet said volcanic tremors had "significantly increased" on White Island.
 - Fatal eruption has been on White Island/Whakaari in New Zealand.

TAMIL NADU

Kavalan - SOS Mobile App

- ❖ The Kavalan – SOS app was launched as part of the Tamil Nadu State Police Master Control Room initiative.
- ❖ People of Tamil Nadu can use to seek police assistance instantly in emergency situations such as physical emergencies, eve teasing, kidnapping or natural disasters such as floods, earthquake, etc.
- ❖ People residing in Tamil Nadu, especially, Women & elderly people can use the Kavalan – SOS app whenever they feel vulnerable or threatened.



NATIONAL

Santhali used for first time in Rajya Sabha

- ❖ 'Santhali' reverberated in Rajya Sabha for the first time in 67 years since its inception.
- ❖ BJD MP Sarojini Hembram spoke in the language of the tribal community Santhals in Rajya Sabha.
- ❖ Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu has encouraged MPs to use their local languages for raising Zero Hour mentions.
- ❖ He ensured that English and Hindi translations are available to other members on headphones.

INTERNATIONAL

Malaysia records first polio case

- ❖ Malaysia has reported the first case of Polio in 27 years, when a three-month-old Malaysian infant boy was diagnosed with polio.
- ❖ The last polio case in Malaysia occurred in 1992.
- ❖ The country was declared polio-free after 2000.
- ❖ In this recent case, the child was confirmed to be infected with vaccine-derived poliovirus Type 1 (VDPV1).

- ❖ VDPV1 is classified as a Circulating Vaccine-Derived Poliovirus (cVDPV) Type 1.

ENVIRONMENT

10th Asian Elephant Specialist Group

- ❖ The International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) 10th Asian Elephant Specialist Group (AsESG) Meeting started at Kota Kinabalu in Malaysia.
- ❖ Conservationists will discuss the threats and challenges faced by Asian elephants and suitable conservation plans.
- ❖ It is a global network of voluntary specialists concerned with the study, monitoring, management, and conservation of Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*) that exist in 13 range states.
- ❖ Gajah is the bi-annual journal of the AsESG.

Second giant Earthworm has found in Western Ghats

- ❖ A giant earthworm was found at Kollamogaru, the foot of Western Ghats, Mangaluru, Karnataka.
- ❖ The latest discovery is the second reported finding of a giant earthworm in the same place of western ghats along the coastal belt of Karnataka.



Victoria Falls - severe drought

- ❖ A worst drought has reduced Victoria Falls' flow into something closer to the steam.
- ❖ Climate change might destroy a major tourist attraction such as this.

- ❖ The falls fed by the Zambezi River, define the boundary between Zambia and Zimbabwe in southern Africa.
- ❖ The falls are also referred to as “The Smoke that Thunders” and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



FrogPhone

- ❖ 'FrogPhone' is a novel device which allows scientists to call up a frog survey site and monitor them in the wild.
- ❖ The FrogPhone is the world's first solar-powered remote survey device.
- ❖ It relays environmental data to the observer via text messages, whilst conducting real-time remote acoustic surveys over the phone.



STATES

Integrated Command and Control Centre

- ❖ Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar has inaugurated Gurugram's ambitious Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC).
- ❖ Gurugram has become the first such city in the state with such facility.
- ❖ It has been developed as the nerve centre to provide multifaceted online smart services to people such as traffic management system and smart parking system etc.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

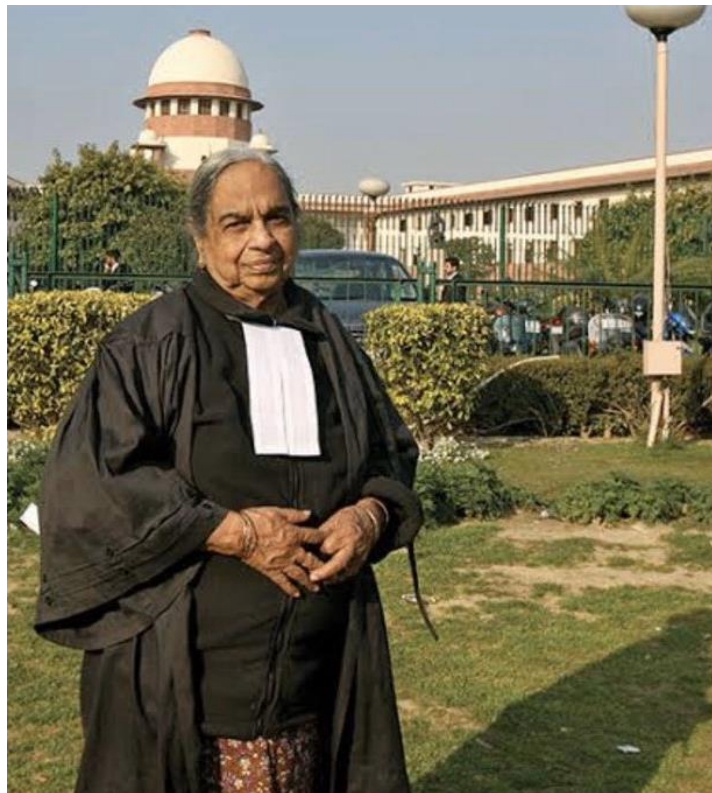
World's youngest PM – Sanna Marin

- ❖ Sanna Marin (34) was chosen as the prime minister of Finland.
- ❖ Marin is the world's youngest serving prime minister.
- ❖ Finland was one of the first country in Europe to give women voting rights in 1906.
- ❖ Finland was also the first country in the world to vote women to parliament in 1907.



Lily Thomas - passed away

- ❖ The first Malayali woman lawyer in the Supreme Court Lily Thomas (91) passed away.
- ❖ She became the first woman to complete post-graduation in law in India.
- ❖ Lily Thomas was also among the lawyers who dealt with the case related to assassination of Indira Gandhi.
- ❖ One of the most remembered of which is her petition which resulted in striking down of Section 8 (4) of the Representation of the People Act.
- ❖ The landmark judgement in 2013 resulted in the automatic disqualification of convicted legislators for a minimum of two years.
- ❖ Lily Thomas also had challenged section 494 (marrying again during the lifetime of husband or wife) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).



SPORTS

South Asian Games 2019 medal tally

- ❖ India concluded the South Asian Games - 2019 with their highest medal tally in the history of the tournament.



- ❖ India had claimed 309 medals in the 2016 edition of the South Asian Games and by winning 312 this time around, the contingent has broken their record.
- ❖ Indian contingent was able to win 312 medals, which includes 174 gold, 93 silver, and 45 bronze medals.

About South Asian Games

- ❖ The event was held in cities such as Kathmandu, Pokhara and Janakpur in Nepal.
- ❖ This year Cricket has also been included after a gap of 8 years.
- ❖ The official mascot of the South Asian Games is a pair of Black bucks.
- ❖ Blackbucks is an endangered species that is found in the southern region of Nepal.

Participating Country		 Gold	 Silver	 Bronze	Total
India		174	93	45	312
Nepal		51	60	95	206
Sri Lanka		40	83	128	251
Pakistan		31	41	59	131

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Human Rights Day - December 10

- ❖ The theme for 2019 Human Rights Day is: 'Youth Standing up for Human Rights.'
- ❖ The campaign, #StandUp4HumanRights has also been launched by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).
- ❖ The day marks the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 1948.
- ❖ United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) was established in 2006 and is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.



- ❖ National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) was established in 1993 at New Delhi.

