



December - 20

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The deepest canyon on land on earth is found in the Denman glacier in East Antarctica.
  - The measurement of the canyon is 100 km in length and 20 km in breadth.
- ❖ The FICCI has organized the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of Global Sports Summit 'TURF 2019 & India sports awards 2019 in New Delhi.
- ❖ The National Ganga Council, headed by the PM at Kanpur, discussed the proposal to save and enhance the population of Gangetic Dolphin.
- ❖ The 6th India-Indonesia Joint Commission Meeting held at New Delhi.

## TAMIL NADU

### Tamil Nadu Rural Development Department

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu rural development department received 13 awards from the Centre for effective implementation of rural development schemes.
- ❖ The state received awards in the category of state, district, panchayat union and village panchayats in programmes like MGNREGA, National Rurban Mission and Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana.
- ❖ The rural development department received 31 national awards this fiscal year.

சிறப்பாக செயல்படுத்திய திட்டம்	விருதுகள்
மகாத்மா காந்தி தேசிய ஊரக வேலை உறுதித் திட்டம்	2 தேசிய விருதுகள், தேவக்கோட்டை ஊராட்சி (சிவகங்கை)
நீர் தேக்கி வைக்கும் கட்டமைப்புப் பணிகள்	வேலூர் மாவட்டம்
தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு குறித்த காலத்தில் ஊதியம் வழங்கல்	திருச்சி (மாவட்ட அளவில்), புனித தோமையார் மலை ஊராட்சி ஒன்றியம் (காஞ்சிபுரம்)
பணிகளை விரைந்து சிறப்பாக முடித்தல்	கரூர்

## **NATIONAL**

### **Arms (Amendment) Bill, 2019**

- ❖ Home Minister Amit Shah introduced the Arms (Amendment) Bill, 2019 and it has been passed by both the houses.
- ❖ The Bill seeks to amend the Arms Act, 1959.
- ❖ The Bill was amended by reducing the number of licensed firearms allowed per person from the current three to one.
- ❖ It also introduces new categories of offences.

#### **Features:**

- ❖ License for acquiring firearms is must.
- ❖ Validity of a firearm license is increased from three years to five years.
- ❖ Ban on un-licensed firearms.
- ❖ The Bill adds following new offences – punishable with imprisonment
  - Forcefully taking a firearm from police or armed forces.
  - Celebratory gunfire which endangers safety of others.



### **The Constitution (126<sup>th</sup> Amendment) Bill, 2019**

- ❖ This bill was introduced in Lok Sabha by the Minister of Law and Justice, Mr. Ravi Shankar Prasad.
- ❖ It was unanimously passed by both houses.
- ❖ The Constitution (Article 334) provides for reservation of seats for SCs and STs and representation of the Anglo-Indian community by nomination, in Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies of states.
- ❖ This provision has been provided for a period of 70 years since the enactment of the Constitution and will expire on January 25, 2020.



- ❖ The Bill seeks to extend the reservation for SCs and STs by another 10 years till January 25, 2030.
- ❖ The bill, however, does not propose an extension of reservation quota for the Anglo-Indian community, which is also set to expire on January 25.
- ❖ The government justified the same by saying that there are only 296 Anglo-Indians in the country.

### **37<sup>th</sup> National Symposium of Heads of Police Training Institutions**

- ❖ The 37<sup>th</sup> National Symposium of Heads of Police Training Institutions was organized by the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) in New Delhi.
- ❖ The theme of the symposium was 'Optimal Utilization of Resources - Through Sharing and Networking.'

The 37th National Symposium of Heads of Police Training Institutions was held in New Delhi



Bureau of Police Research & Development

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **Global Refugee Forum**

- ❖ The first ever Global Refugee Forum is being held in Geneva, Switzerland.
- ❖ It is being jointly hosted by United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) along with Government of Switzerland.
- ❖ Global Refugee Forum is a part of UNHCR and is guided by the Global Compact on Refugees.
- ❖ UNHCR was created in 1950, headquartered at Geneva, Switzerland.



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### world's 1<sup>st</sup> liquid hydrogen transport ship

- ❖ Japanese public multinational corporation has launched the world's 1st ocean-going liquid hydrogen carrier ship named as 'Suiso Frontier'.
- ❖ It is designed to carry liquid hydrogen at minus 253 ° C produced in south coast of Australia to unload in Kobe, Japan.
- ❖ Hydrogen can be produced in different ways, including using water and electricity, and then stored and shipped and re-used to generate power.

## STATES

### Jalsathi - Odisha Govt

- ❖ Chief Minister of Odisha Naveen Patnaik launched the 'Jalsathi' programme.
- ❖ This will ensure supply of safe drinking water to all households in the state.
- ❖ There will be Women Volunteers called 'Jalasathis' who will act as links between consumers and Public Health Engineering Organisation (PHEO) or Water Corporation of Odisha (WATCO).

## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### ICC awards 2019

- ❖ The International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced the ICC awards 2019.
- ❖ It is a set of sports awards for cricket recognising and honouring the best international cricket players of the previous 12 months.
- ❖ Indian women's cricket player Smriti Mandhana was named in both ICC women's ODI (One Day International) and T20 (twenty twenty) teams of the year.

- ❖ Others Indians in the list of T20 team of the year includes Deepti Sharma and Radha Yadav.
- ❖ Other Indians included in the ODI team of the year are Shikha Pandey, Jhulan Goswami and Poonam Yadav.

### **PRSI National Awards - NLCIL**

- ❖ NLC India Ltd (NLCIL) has bagged two national awards instituted by the Public Relations Society of India (PRSI).
- ❖ NLCIL has been adjudged as the best in the country in two aspects — in terms of
  - implementation of the Right to Information Act (RTI)
  - Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).
- ❖ The awards were given away at the 41st All India Public Relations Conference held in Hyderabad.

### **16<sup>th</sup> Orange Festival**

- ❖ The 16th edition of the State level Orange Festival began at Manipur.
- ❖ The festival is conducted annually by the Manipur government under the sponsorship of the North Eastern Council (NEC).
- ❖ It aims to promote the orange fruit and encourage its growers.

### **Tansen samaroh 2019**

- ❖ The 95th edition of Popular classical music festival 'Tansen Samaroh 2019', has commenced in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ The festival is an annual celebration started in 1924.
- ❖ It is celebrated in memory of Mian Tansen, a prominent 16-century Indian classical music composer, musician, and vocalist.





## Sahitya Akademi Awards 2019

- ❖ Recently, Sahitya Akademi under the Ministry of Culture has announced its annual Sahitya Akademi Awards in 23 languages for the year 2019.
- ❖ Tamil writer Cho Dharman has won the 2019 Sahitya Akademi award for his novel Sool.
- ❖ This novel is depicting the life of the people in the lower rung of society at Urulaikuddi village in Thoothukudi district.

### About

- ❖ Sahitya Akademi award established in 1954, is a literary honour.
- ❖ Award is presented to the most outstanding books of literary merit published in any of the 24 major Indian languages (22 scheduled languages plus English and Rajasthani).
- ❖ Sahitya Akademi award is the second highest literary honour by the Government of India, after Jnana pith award.

### Sahitya Akademi Award 2019

Language	Title and Genre	Name of the Author
Assamese	Chanakya (Novel)	Joysree Goswami Mahanta
Bengali	Ghumer Darja Thele (Essays)	Chinmoy Guha
Bodo	Akhai Athumniphrai (Poetry)	Phukan Ch. Basumatary
Dogri	Bandraitla Darpan (Essays)	Om Sharma Jandriari
English	An Era of Darkness (Non-Fiction)	Shashi Tharoor
Gujarati	Mojma Revu Re (Essays)	Ratilal Borisagar
Hindi	Chheelate Hue Apne Ko (Poetry)	Nand Kishore Acharya
Kannada	Kudi Esaru (Autobiography)	Vijaya
Kashmiri	Akh Yaad Akh Qayamat (Short Story)	Abdul Ahad Hajini
Konkani	The Words (Poetry)	Nilba A. Khandekar
Maithili	Jingik Oriakon Karait (Poetry)	Kumar Manish Arvind
Malayalam	Achan Piranna Veedu (Poetry)	V. Madhusoodanan Nair

### Sahitya Akademi Award 2019

Language	Title and Genre	Name of the Author
Manipuri	Ei Amadi Adungeigi Eethat (Novel)	L. Birmangol Singh (Beryl Thanga)
Marathi	Kadachit Ajoonahi (Poetry)	Anuradha Patil
Odia	Bhaswati (Short Stories)	Tarun Kanti Mishra
Punjabi	Antheen (Short Stories)	Kirpal Kazak
Rajasthani	Bareek Baat (Short Stories)	Ramsawroop Kisan
Sanskrit	Prajnachakshusham (Poetry)	Penna Madhusudan
Santali	Sisirjali (Short Stories)	Kali Charan Hembram
Sindhi	Jeejal (Short Stories)	Ishwar Moorjani
Tamil	Sool (Novel)	Cho. Dharman
Telugu	Septabhoomi (Novel)	Bandi Narayana Swamy
Urdu	Sawaneh-E-Sir Syed: Ek Bazdeed (Biography)	Shafey Kidwai

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### Goa Liberation Day – December 19, 2019

- ❖ It is celebrated to honour the Indian armed forces who freed the state from the Portuguese in 1961.
- ❖ 'Operation Vijay' (1961) ended 451 years of rule by the Portuguese on Goa.
- ❖ Goa was given statehood status on 30 May 1987.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Belgium's Carnival of Aalst

- ❖ UNESCO has removed the 'Carnival of Aalst' of Belgium from its Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity List.
- ❖ The carnival was added to the Intangible Cultural Heritage list in 2010.
- ❖ The carnival of Aalst is held annually in the Belgium city of Aalst.
- ❖ It was recognized by UNESCO as a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity.

