

February - 09

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Union Minister of Defence Rajnath Singh has announced to create 10 more defence attaches (DA) posts to 10 different countries.
 - This has been done to strengthen India's defence diplomacy.
- ❖ The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has sanctioned 39 Mega Food Parks and 298 Integrated Cold Chain Projects in India.
 - The food parks and the cold chain projects have been sanctioned under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY).
- ❖ G7 countries has announced to work with the World Health Organisation (WHO), the European Union (EU) and People's Republic of China, in order to tackle the recent outbreak of Novel Coronavirus (nCoV).
- ❖ Steel producer of India, JSW steel has appointed Indian cricketer Rishabh Rajendra Pant as its brand ambassador.
- ❖ American Greek economist and Chief Economist of the World Bank (WB) Pinelopi Koujianou Goldberg (57-years) announced her resignation.
- ❖ Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Bal Thackeray presented an award for lifetime achievement to senior journalist Dinkar Keshav Raikar for his contribution to journalism.
- ❖ Jeff Weiner became the Executive Chairman (EC) of LinkedIn.
 - LinkedIn is the professional networking company owned by Microsoft.
- ❖ Duff & Phelps published the celebrity brand evaluation report for 2019.
 - Indian cricket Captain Virat Kohli has retained the top position for the third consecutive time.

TAMIL NADU

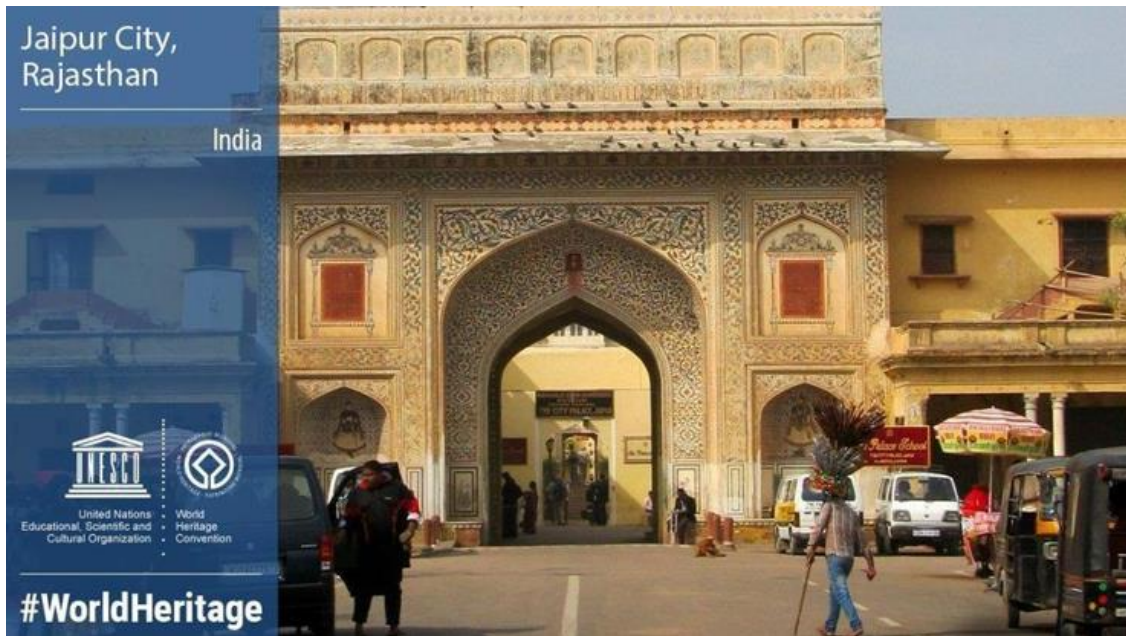
Short film on Safe banking practices

- ❖ Chennai city police along with Axis Bank released a short film "Vaaikku podunga poottu" emphasising the need for safe banking practices.
- ❖ Almost 80 per cent of cases in cybercrime division are related to revealing ATM passwords, OTPs and details of bank account.

NATIONAL

Jaipur receives World Heritage Certificate from UNESCO

- ❖ Pink City of Rajasthan, Jaipur, received World Heritage Certificate from the UNESCO.
- ❖ The UNESCO Director General Audrey Azoulay visited India to present the certificate.
- ❖ Jaipur is known for its palaces, architecture, forts.
- ❖ The architecture in the city reflected inclusion of Mughal, Persian and Hindu designs.
- ❖ In order to preserve this cultural mixture of the city, UNESCO and the Rajasthan Tourism Department have signed an agreement.



Prison Reforms

- ❖ Supreme Court panel recommends several prison reforms.
- ❖ In 2018, the Supreme Court had constituted a three-member committee headed by former Supreme Court Judge Justice Amitava Roy to look into issues of reforms in prison administration and management.
- ❖ 'Prisons/persons detained therein' is a State subject under List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India.

Recommendations



- ❖ Every new prisoner should be allowed a free phone call a day to his family members.
- ❖ Modern cooking facilities, canteens to buy essential items.
- ❖ There should be use of video-conferencing for trial.
- ❖ There should be at least one lawyer for every 30 prisoners.
- ❖ Special fast-track courts should be set up to deal exclusively with petty offences.

National Conference on e-Governance (NCeG), 2020

- ❖ The 23rd National Conference on e-Governance (NCeG), 2020 is being held in Mumbai.
- ❖ The conference is being organised by the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG) and Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) in association with the State Government of Maharashtra.
- ❖ Theme: India 2020: Digital Transformation.

Periodic Labour Force Survey - Report

- ❖ As per the new Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)
 - Labour force participation is 36.9 %.
 - Rate of unemployment for 2017-18 is 6.1%.
- ❖ The survey was conducted by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MosPI).

Global Report on Medical Data Leak

- ❖ A German cybersecurity firm, Greenbone Sustainable Resilience has published its second report related to medical data leaks.
- ❖ According to the report, medical details of over 120 million Indian patients have been leaked and made freely available on the internet.
- ❖ It also classifies countries in three categories of good, bad and ugly, based on the action taken by the governments after its first report was released.
- ❖ The first report was published in October 2019.
- ❖ India ranks second in the “ugly” category, after the U.S.
- ❖ The state of Maharashtra is placed at the top of the list of states that are affected by the data leak, followed by Karnataka and West Bengal.

INS Karanj

- ❖ INS Karanj will be delivered to the Indian Navy by December 2020.
- ❖ INS Karanj is a part of Project-75I.
- ❖ It is the third submarine of the first batch of six Kalvari-class submarines for the Indian Navy.
- ❖ The submarine has been designed by French naval defence and manufactured by Mazagon Dock Limited, an Indian shipyard in Mumbai.



INTERNATIONAL

Railway Line between India and Bangladesh project

- ❖ The 15.6km long railway line between Agartala, India (Tripura) - Akhaura in Bangladesh will be completed by September 2021.
- ❖ These railway routes will improve connectivity between Indian Railways and Bangladesh Railways and will boost trade between the two countries.
- ❖ The project started in January 2010 during the Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheik Hasina's visits to India.
- ❖ The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) is bearing the cost for laying the track on the 5.46km Indian side.
- ❖ The cost of laying the 10.6 km-long track on the Bangladesh side is being Funded by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.



India & Russia ties on crude oil

- ❖ Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Shri Dharmendra Pradhan and the Chairman of Rosneft signed the first ever term contract.
- ❖ Rosneft is the Russia's largest oil producing company.
- ❖ The term contract is between State-Owned Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) and Rosneft for Importing crude oil.
- ❖ India is the 3rd largest Energy Consumer in the world, India imports globally 83% of oil to meet its oil need.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Vaccine against Corona virus

- ❖ Research team in Australia has grown the first batch of the virus at a laboratory in CSIRO to create a vaccine against the deadly novel coronavirus (nCov).
- ❖ Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) is Australia's leading scientific agency.
- ❖ That research team led by an Indian-origin scientist in Australia SS Vasani.

STATES

Vadhavan port in Maharashtra

- ❖ Union Cabinet approved to set up the Vadhavan port in Maharashtra.
- ❖ The Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust will act as the lead partner in developing the port.
- ❖ With the development of Vadhavan port, India will enter into the category of countries with top 10 container ports in the world.
- ❖ The Jawaharlal Nehru Port (JNP) is the biggest container port in India and 28th in the world.

SPORTS

Hockey High-Performance Centers

- ❖ Sports Authority of India (SAI) and Hockey India announced the establishment of the High-Performance Centres in 7 places across the country.



- ❖ The 7 High Performance Hockey centres will be set up under the Khelo India scheme.
- ❖ These centres are for the young hockey players (14 to 24 years of age) & will train them to participate in 2024 and 2028 Olympic games.

35th Senior Women's National Weightlifting Championships

- ❖ Rakhi Halder of Bengal has bagged gold in the 64kg category of the 35th edition of Senior Women's National Weightlifting Championships.
- ❖ The championship was held in Kolkata.
- ❖ She had clinched the gold with a total lift of 214-kg at the Commonwealth Championship in June 2019.

