

February - 11

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The 23rd National Conference on E-Governance was held in Mumbai to transform governance using digital technologies.
 - The conference adopted Mumbai Declaration.
- ❖ An Iranian rocket Simorgh, or 'Phoenix', failed to put the Zafar 1 communications satellite into orbit due to a low speed.
- ❖ The Advanced Institute for Integrated Research on Livestock and Animal Sciences to come up at Thalaivasal in Salem district.
 - This institute is touted to be biggest in south Asia.
- ❖ Vellore city corporation received a Central government's award for better management of solid waste.
 - The award was given for the first time under 'smart city mission for water and sanitation' sector for setting up and successful implementation of 'micro compost centres'.
- ❖ 5th round of India – Russia Military Industrial Conference was held at the DefExpo 2020.

TAMIL NADU

Decennial census of the fisherman community

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has announced the commencement of decennial census of the fisherman community in March 2020.
- ❖ It will also undertake a first-of-its-kind study on the socio-economic status of marine fishermen community in the state.
- ❖ The study aims to identify the marine fishing villages, population dependent on marine fisheries resources and their occupational structure.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has the second longest coastline in the country, with a 1076-km long coastline covering 13 coastal districts.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu ranks fourth in total marine fish production in the country.
- ❖ During the fishing ban period, the state offers a financial aid of Rs 5,000 to each family.



Tamil Nadu Budget 2020 - 21

- ❖ The State Budget for 2020-21 will be presented in the Legislative Assembly at 10 a.m. on February 14, 2020.
- ❖ Deputy Chief Minister O. Panneer Selvam, who holds the Finance portfolio, will present the budget in the Assembly.
- ❖ It will be the last full budget of the AIADMK regime, ahead of the 2021 Assembly elections
- ❖ The budget session of the State Assembly is likely to last till the third week of March 2020.

Renovation of court buildings

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu state government has sanctioned Rs 19.93 crore to renovate the 157- year-old Kuthirai Vandi court building in Coimbatore.
- ❖ Three other heritage court buildings in Salem, Kancheepuram and Nagercoil are also getting renovation.
- ❖ The Public Works Department (PWD) would prepare raw materials such as limestone to carry out the restoration work.

NATIONAL

Ram temple trust

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi- announced the formation of a 15-member autonomous trust for construction of a Ram temple in Ayodhya.
- ❖ The trust will be named as “Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust”.
- ❖ The Supreme Court had earlier set a 90-day deadline for formation of the trust as part of its verdict on November 9, 2019.
- ❖ The Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust will have 15 members, one of whom will be from the dalit community.
- ❖ K Parasaran, former Attorney General and senior advocate is the Head of the trust.

The 15 Trust Members

K Parasaran

Jagatguru Shankaracharya Swami Vasudevanand Saraswati, Prayagraj

Jagatguru Madhvacharya Swami Vishwa Prasanna Theertha Maharaj, Udupi

Swami Paramanand Ji Maharaj, Haridwar

Swami Govind Dev Giri Ji Maharaj, Pune

Vimlendra Mohan Pratap Mishra, Ayodhya royal family

Dr Anil Mishra, Homeopathic Doctor, Ayodhya

Kamleshwar Chaupal, Patna (SC)

Mahant Dinendra Das, Nirmohi Akhara

Two prominent persons who are practising Hindus to be nominated by board of trustees

Two IAS Officers to be nominated by Centre and UP government who are practising Hindus

District Collector of Ayodhya or Additional District Collector – whoever is a practicing Hindu

Trustees to appoint chairman, who will be a practising Hindu



Parking, amenities for pilgrims, arrangements for parikrama, kitchens, gaushalas, exhibitions, museums and resting places to be made in Ayodhya temple complex

YUva Vigyani KAryakram

- ❖ Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) commenced the online process for applications for the second session of 'YUva Vigyani KAryakram' scheduled to be held in May.
- ❖ YUVIKA is a two-week training programme for school students in space activities.
- ❖ Students who have finished VIII standard and currently studying in Class IX (2019-20) will be eligible for the programme.
- ❖ Even Overseas Citizen of India students can also apply for participation in the programme.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Sharang - Artillery gun

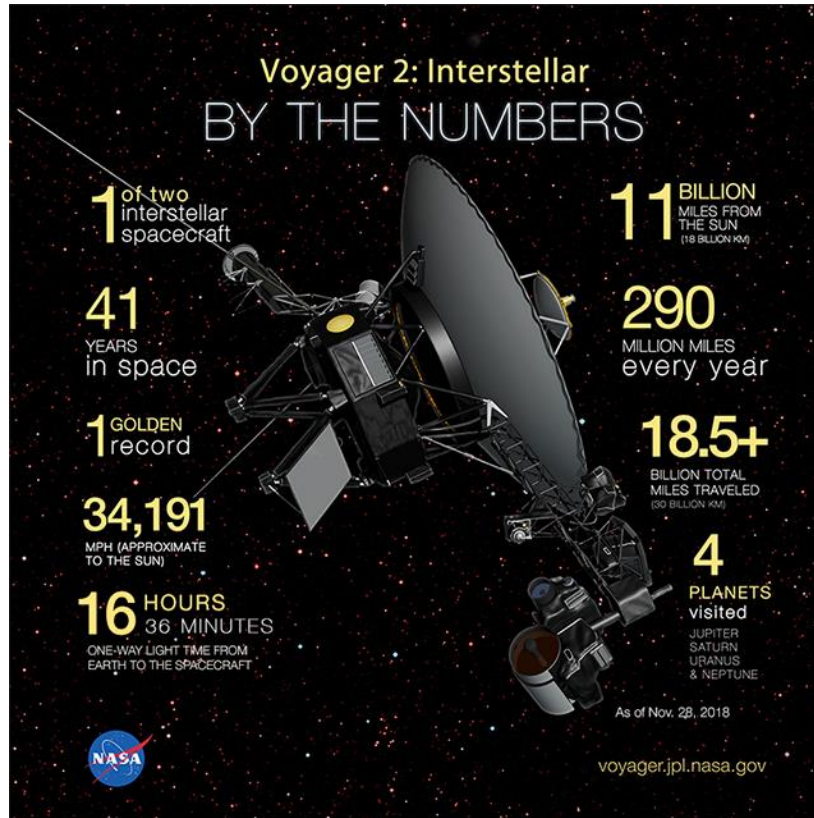
- ❖ The Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) has handed over Sharang, an artillery gun to the Indian Army.

- ❖ OFB is the oldest and largest industrial setup which functions under the Department of Defence Production of the Ministry of Defence.
- ❖ The artillery guns are currently produced at the Kanpur ordnance factory.
- ❖ Sharang is an indigenously upgraded 155 mm calibre artillery gun.
- ❖ The hitting range of the gun system has also been increased from 12km to 39 km.



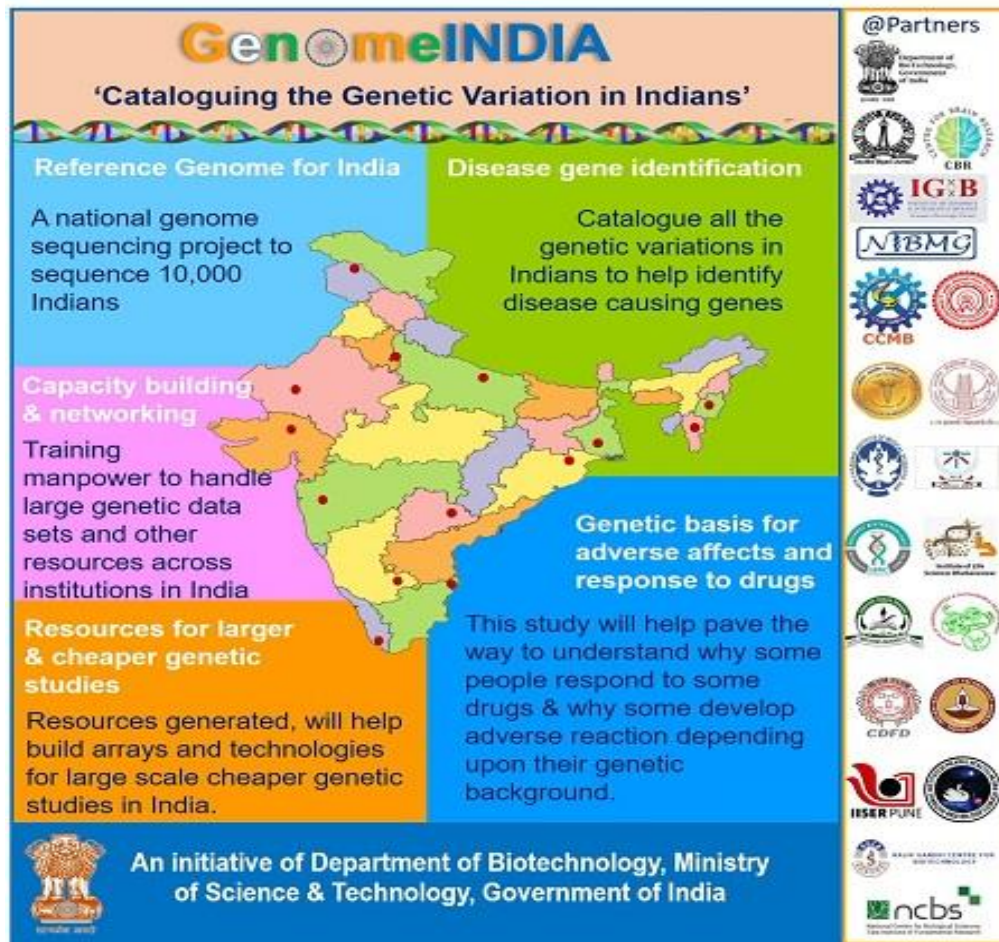
Voyager 2 spacecraft

- ❖ NASA has managed to fix its Voyager-2 probe remotely, almost 11.5 billion miles away from its location.
- ❖ Voyager 2 was launched by NASA in 1977.
- ❖ Voyager 2 is the only spacecraft to study all four of the solar system's giant planets (Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune.) at close range.
- ❖ Voyager 2 discovered a 14th moon at Jupiter.
- ❖ Voyager 2 was the first human-made object to fly past Uranus.
- ❖ At Uranus, Voyager 2 discovered 10 new moons and two new rings.
- ❖ It was the first human-made object to fly by Neptune.
- ❖ Second spacecraft to enter interstellar space (November 2019). The first spacecraft to do so was Voyager 1 in 2012.



Genome India Project

- ❖ The Government of India has cleared an ambitious gene-mapping project called the Genome India Project.
- ❖ Genome refers to an organism's complete set of DNA which includes all its genes.
- ❖ Mapping these genes simply means finding out the location of these genes in a chromosome.
- ❖ It is used to find out genes that are responsible for single-gene inherited disorders such as cystic fibrosis and Duchenne muscular dystrophy.
- ❖ Genome India Project will involve 20 leading institutions including the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in Bengaluru and a few IITs.
- ❖ The IISc's Centre for Brain Research, an autonomous institute will serve as the nodal point of the project.



GenomeINDIA
'Cataloguing the Genetic Variation in Indians'

Reference Genome for India
A national genome sequencing project to sequence 10,000 Indians

Disease gene identification
Catalogue all the genetic variations in Indians to help identify disease causing genes

Capacity building & networking
Training manpower to handle large genetic data sets and other resources across institutions in India

Resources for larger & cheaper genetic studies
Resources generated, will help build arrays and technologies for large scale cheaper genetic studies in India.

Genetic basis for adverse affects and response to drugs
This study will help pave the way to understand why some people respond to some drugs & why some develop adverse reaction depending upon their genetic background.

An initiative of Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India

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Department of Biotechnology, Government of India
CCBR
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STATES

Ban on CFL Lamps – Kerala

- ❖ Kerala will impose a ban on the sale of compact fluorescent lamps (CFL) and incandescent (filament) bulbs starting November 2020 as part of sustainable energy policy.
- ❖ It is in line with 'Filament-free Kerala' envisaged in 2018 as part of the state's Urja Kerala mission.
- ❖ Filament-free Kerala Project is implemented by the Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) and Energy Management Centre, Kerala.
- ❖ Urja Kerala mission is an energy generation and conservation program.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

State Human Rights Commission's acting chairperson

- ❖ Retired district judge D. Jayachandran took over as the acting chairperson of Tamil Nadu State Human Rights Commission (SHRC).
- ❖ He was one of the two members of Tamil Nadu SHRC.

About Tamil Nadu SHRC

- ❖ The State Human Rights Commission was constituted in the state of Tamil Nadu on 17.4.1997.
- ❖ It was established under section-21 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.
- ❖ As per the Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Act 2019, chairperson and members of SHRC will hold office for 3 years or till 70 years of age or whichever is earlier.
- ❖ A person who has been Chief Justice/Judge of High Court will be chairperson of SHRC.

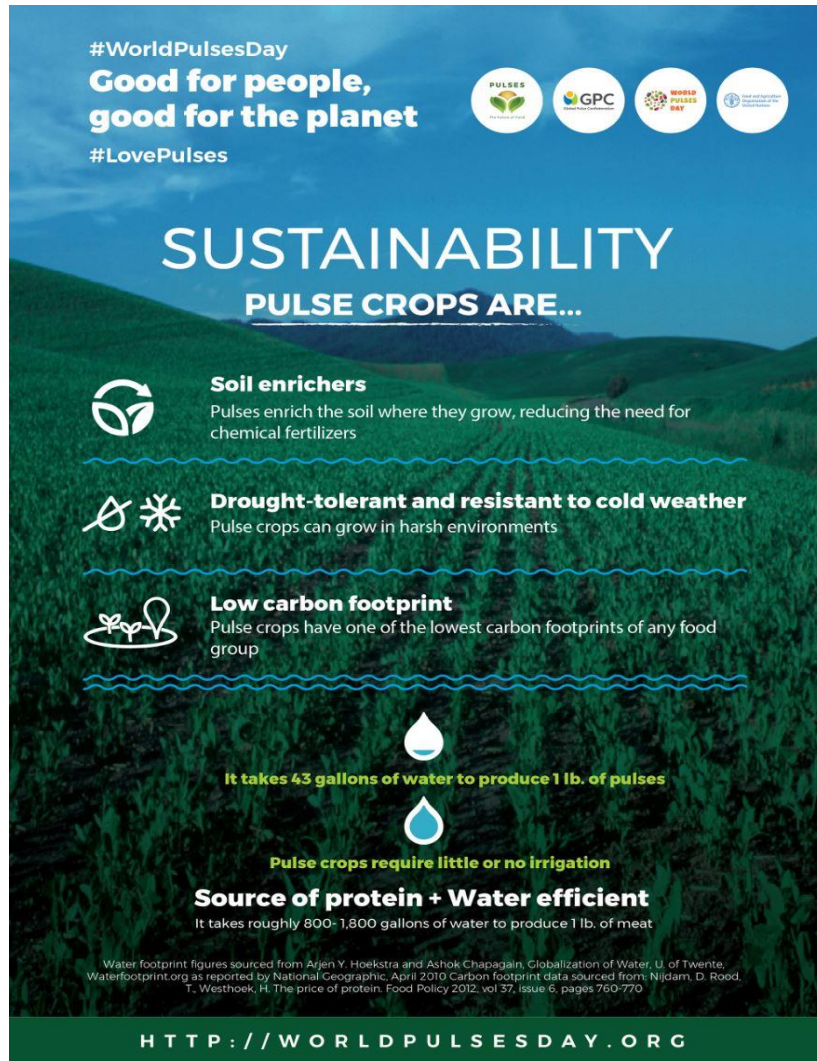


IMPORTANT DAYS





World Pulses Day – February 10

- ❖ Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated the celebrations of World Pulses Day in New Delhi.
- ❖ Pulses are important to improve soil fertility.
- ❖ They also help to promote farm bio diversity by using intercropping methods.
- ❖ The UN Pulses Day resolution was adopted in 2013 claiming the year 2016 as International Pulses Day.
- ❖ The day is being celebrated since 2019.

- ❖ India became self-sufficient in pulses since 2016-17.
- ❖ 2016 was celebrated as International Year of Pulses.





#WorldPulsesDay
**Good for people,
good for the planet**
#LovePulses


   


SUSTAINABILITY


PULSE CROPS ARE...

 **Soil enrichers**
Pulses enrich the soil where they grow, reducing the need for chemical fertilizers

 **Drought-tolerant and resistant to cold weather**
Pulse crops can grow in harsh environments

 **Low carbon footprint**
Pulse crops have one of the lowest carbon footprints of any food group


It takes 43 gallons of water to produce 1 lb. of pulses


Pulse crops require little or no irrigation

Source of protein + Water efficient
It takes roughly 800-1,800 gallons of water to produce 1 lb. of meat

Water footprint figures sourced from Arjen Y. Hoekstra and Ashok Chapagain, Globalization of Water, U. of Twente, Waterfootprint.org as reported by National Geographic, April 2010. Carbon footprint data sourced from: Nijdam, D. Rood, T. Westhoek, H. The price of protein, Food Policy 2012, vol 37, issue 6, pages 760-770.

[HTTP://WORLDPULESDAY.ORG](http://worldpulsesday.org)

