

February - 14

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has launched a global campaign calling on people all over the world to cover the distance travelled by refugees each year.
 - This Campaign is known as 2 Billion Kilometres to Safety Campaign.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India extended the deadline for one-time restructuring of GST-registered MSME borrower account, by further one year to March 31, 2021.
 - The restructuring was to be implemented before March 31, 2020, as per the RBI's earlier guidelines.
- ❖ The Puducherry Legislative Assembly has passed a resolution against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) 2019, the National Register of Citizens (NRC) and the National Population Register (NPR).
- ❖ Indian captain Virat Kohli has retained his top position in ICC Men's test ranking 2020.

NATIONAL

SPICe+

- ❖ The Ministry of Corporate Affairs deployed a new Web Form christened 'SPICe+', replacing the existing SPICe form.
- ❖ The initiative is a part of India's effort to improve Ease of Doing Business.
- ❖ SPICe+ would be an integrated Web Form.
- ❖ SPICe+ would offer 10 services by 3 Central Govt Ministries & Departments such as
 - Ministry of Corporate Affairs,
 - Ministry of Labour & Employment
 - Department of Revenue in the Ministry of Finance
 - One State Govt. (Maharashtra), thereby saving as many procedures, time and cost for Starting a Business in India.
- ❖ It would be applicable for all new company incorporations.



SC verdict on demolishing the Construction around Hampi site

- ❖ The Supreme Court confirmed the Karnataka government authorities' decision to demolish the commercial buildings around the Hampi, a World Heritage site.
- ❖ The court concluded that the constructions were in violation of the Mysore Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act of 1961.
- ❖ The entire village of Virupapura Gaddi – where the Heritage site is located, as a protected zone in a verdict of 1988.

Hampi

- ❖ It is the 14th century capital of one of the greatest empires of medieval India called the Vijayanagar Empire
- ❖ It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- ❖ The Vitthala temple in Hampi is an excellent example of Vijayanagar style.
- ❖ 'Kishkindha Kaand' in Ramayana has special significance concerning Hampi.
- ❖ It is located near the Tungabhadra river.
- ❖ By 1500 CE, Hampi-Vijayanagara was the world's second-largest medieval-era city after Beijing, and probably India's richest at that time.

Indian nationals living abroad

- ❖ There are over 1.36 crore Indian nationals living abroad, as per the latest data.
- ❖ The highest number of Indians abroad are living in the United Arab Emirates, where the 34,20,000 Indians comprise about one-fourth of all Indians abroad.

UAE →	→	34.2 lakh
Saudi Arabia →	→	25.9 lakh
US →	→	12.8 lakh
Kuwait →	→	10.3 lakh
Oman →	→	7.8 lakh
Qatar →	→	7.6 lakh
Nepal →	→	5 lakh
UK →	→	3.5 lakh
Singapore →	→	3.5 lakh
Bahrain →	→	3.2 lakh



National Water Conference

- ❖ The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Kamal Nath has inaugurated the National water conference at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ The conference is being held to finalize the guidelines of “Right to Water Act” or “Water Rights Act”.
- ❖ Madhya Pradesh government has announced that it will implement the Right to water act soon, then it will be First state in the country to implement such an Act.

Medical devices under Drugs and Cosmetics Act

- ❖ From 1st April 2020, all medical devices sold in the country would be treated as drugs and would be regulated under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act of 1940.
- ❖ This notification was announced by the Ministry of health and family welfare.
- ❖ The decision was taken after consultation with the Drugs Technical Advisory Board (DTAB).
- ❖ The Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 regulates the import, manufacture, and distribution of drugs in India.

ECONOMY

Top 500 Banking Brands 2020

- ❖ As per the Banker’s ‘Top 500 Banking Brands 2020’ report, India’s IndusInd Bank has topped the list of ‘Highest increase in brand value’ among global banks.
- ❖ As a part of the report, the list “Top 50 By Total Brand Value by Country” has been topped by China, followed by United States, Canada, UK and Japan.
- ❖ India ranked 8th in this list in comparison to 10th place in 2019.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Gagarin Research and Test Cosmonaut Training Centre

- ❖ 4 Indian pilots chosen as candidate-astronauts for Gaganyaan mission began their training at the Gagarin Research and Test Cosmonaut Training Centre (GCTC).
- ❖ The Gagarin Research and Test Cosmonaut Training Centre (GCTC) is a training facility responsible for training cosmonauts for their space missions.
- ❖ It is located in Moscow, Russia.

- ❖ Gaganyaan is India's first Human Space Flight Programme to be launched by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) by 2022.

STATES

Ground water Act 2020

- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh state Cabinet chaired by its Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has approved the Ground Water Act 2020.
- ❖ Its aim is to improve the falling level of ground water.
- ❖ The act makes the registration of submersible pumps mandatory.
- ❖ The farmers and domestic users need not pay fees to use the pumps.
- ❖ The Act makes rain water harvesting mandatory in all private schools, colleges.
- ❖ The Act has also made provision for punishment and fine against the person who contaminate ground water.

SPORTS

National Snooker championship

- ❖ Aditya Mehta from Maharashtra won the National Snooker championship held at Pune.
- ❖ He defeated multiple time world champion Pankaj Advani.
- ❖ In Women's Snooker Finals, Vidya Pillai from Madhya Pradesh won the title.
- ❖ Snooker is a game played on Billiard board.

National Winter Games - Gulmarg

- ❖ The National Winter Games is to be held in Gulmarg in Jammu and Kashmir from March 7, 2020.
- ❖ The games are to be held for five days in Gulmarg, the world-famous Ski destination.
- ❖ It is being held under Khelo India.
- ❖ The main aim of Khelo India event is to hunt grassroot level talent all over India.
- ❖ In 2020, it was held in Guwahati, Assam.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Unani Day - February 11

- ❖ Every year, on February 11, the birth Anniversary of Hakim Ajmal Khan is celebrated as World Unani Day.
- ❖ He was an Indian Unani Physician and a social reformer.
- ❖ The main aim of this day is to spread awareness about Unani medical system, its preventive and curative philosophies.
- ❖ The AYUSH Ministry organized a function to commemorate the day and it was attended by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.
- ❖ The Unani Medicinal system originated in Greece.
- ❖ It was introduced in India by the Arabs and Persians around the eleventh century.
- ❖ Grandfather of Hakim Ajmal Khan was Hakim Sharif Khan and he was a physician to Mughal Emperor Shah Alam II.



International Darwin Day - February 12

- ❖ This day was celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of the father of evolutionary biology, Charles Darwin.
- ❖ He was born 12 February, 1809 at Shrewsbury, Shropshire, England.
- ❖ This day highlights Darwin's contribution to evolutionary and plant science.

World Radio Day - February 13

- ❖ World Radio Day is celebrated on February 13 every year to raise awareness among the public and the media of the importance of radio.
- ❖ The theme of this year's World Radio Day 2020 is 'Radio and Diversity'.

- ❖ In 2011, UNESCO's General Conference, at its 36th session, proclaimed February 13 as World Radio Day.
- ❖ All India Radio (AIR) is one of the largest radio networks in the world, was founded in 1956.

