

February - 22

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Indian-origin Rishi Sunak has been appointed as the Chancellor of the Exchequer of the United Kingdom by PM Boris Johnson.
 - Rishi Sunak is the son-in-law of Infosys co-founder Narayana Murthy.
- ❖ Honorary Doctorate was given to 5 years old archery world champion Sanchana (Tamil Nadu).
 - she is the youngest person who got Honorary Doctorate.
- ❖ India's Koneru Humpy won the Cairns Cup chess tournament held at St.Louis, US (United States).
- ❖ First autonomous human flight took place in Dubai.
 - Jetman Vince Reffet took off and reached 1000 metres in 30 seconds at an average speed of 130 knots.
- ❖ Sri Srinivasan became the first ever Indian-American to be appointed as Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit.
 - The DC circuit is considered more powerful as it is only next to the US Supreme Court.

NATIONAL

Women Army officers eligible for permanent commission – SC judgement

- ❖ Recently, in a landmark judgment, the Supreme Court (SC) has upheld a Delhi High Court order of 2010 that seeks to grant permanent commission to women officers at par with their male counterparts.
- ❖ The women officers will also be eligible for command posts in non-combat areas.
- ❖ A woman can rise to the rank of Colonel and above based on merit like their male counterparts.
- ❖ The judgment upheld the right to equality in the Constitution.

Background:

- ❖ The induction of women officers in the Army started in 1992.
- ❖ They were commissioned for a period of five years in certain chosen streams under the Women Special Entry Scheme (WSES).
- ❖ In 2006, WSES was replaced by the Short Service Commission (SSC) scheme.

- ❖ Under the scheme, women were commissioned into the Army for a period of 10 years extendable up to 14 years.
- ❖ Thus, women officers were kept out of any command appointment and could not qualify for government pension which starts only after 20 years of service as an officer.

Ladakh and J&K to come under CAT

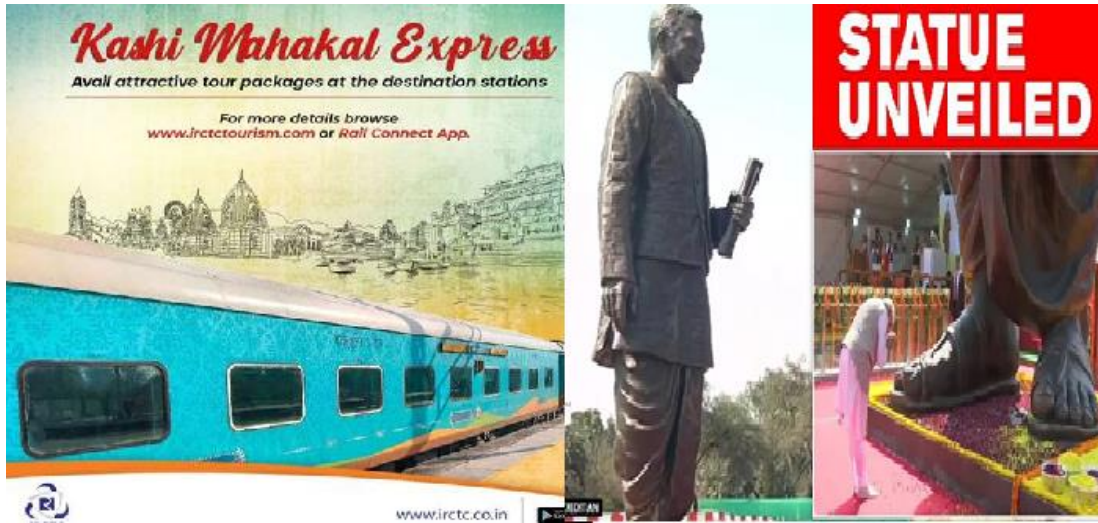
- ❖ Union Territory of Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir are to be brought under the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT).
- ❖ The announcement was made at the annual Conference of the tribunal in New Delhi.
- ❖ Till the Government of India sets up a CAT exclusively for J&K, the Chandigarh bench is to serve the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

Provisions of CAT

- ❖ It works towards adjudicating disputes that arise in case of recruitment or service of persons in public services.
- ❖ The provisions of CAT are included in Article 323A.
- ❖ The provisions of CAT are not applicable to armed forces, Supreme Court employees, members of Paramilitary forces and the staffs of Secretariats.

PM Modi's Varanasi visit

- ❖ Modi had gone to Jangamwadi Mutt and released translated version of 'Shri Siddhant Sikhamani Granth' in 19 languages.
- ❖ He also launched 'Shri Siddhant Sikhamani Granth' mobile application.
- ❖ He dedicated a memorial to Deendayal Upadhyaya to the nation and unveiled a 63-feet tall statue of the Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS) thinker.
- ❖ He dedicated 36 developmental projects including
 - a 430-bed super-speciality government hospital and
 - a 74-bed psychiatry hospital at Banaras Hindu University (BHU).
- ❖ The super-speciality hospital will serve about 200 million people from seven neighbouring states and Nepal.
- ❖ He also flagged off India's third private train named as Kashi Mahakal Express.
- ❖ The train will connect the three "jyotirlinga pilgrim centres" of Varanasi, Ujjain and Omkareshwar.



4th National Conference - PMFBY

- ❖ The fourth National Conference of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima yojana (PMFBY) was held in Udaipur, Rajasthan.
- ❖ The Conference was organized by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- ❖ The Conference was attended by more than 140 members.
- ❖ It included members from NABARD (National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development), RBI (Reserve Bank of India), insurance companies, etc.

National Ground Water Management Improvement Programme

- ❖ The World Bank and the Government of India signed a loan agreement to support the national programme that aims on strengthening ground water institutions.
- ❖ National Ground Water Management Improvement Programme is to be implemented in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Haryana.
- ❖ It is a centrally sponsored scheme.
- ❖ Under the scheme the World Bank will provide Rs 6,000 crores for sustainable management of groundwater.
- ❖ The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

INTERNATIONAL

Vision Zero approach for Road safety

- ❖ The Vision Zero approach got a lot of attention and appreciation in the two-day Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety in Stockholm, Sweden.
- ❖ Aim of Vision Zero is that no one should be killed or suffer lifelong injury in road traffic.
- ❖ The concept of Vision Zero was decided by the Swedish Parliament in 1997.
- ❖ Sweden halved road deaths by Vision Zero approach.



SPORTS

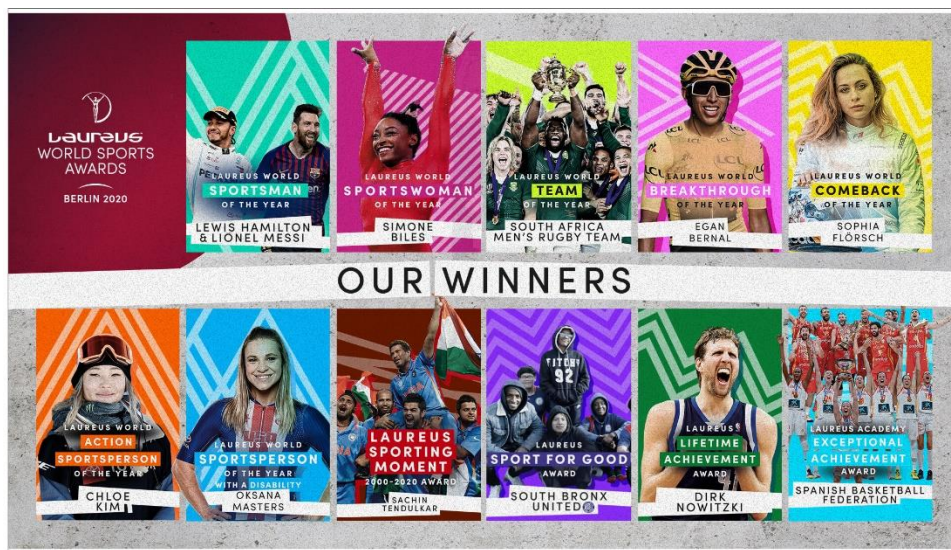
Laureus Sports Awards 2020

- ❖ Sachin Tendulkar has won the Laureus Sporting Moment Award (2000-2020).
- ❖ The Laureus Sports Awards 2020 titled Sachin Tendulkar's picture, 'Carried on the shoulders of a nation'.
- ❖ The jury selected a picture of Team India carrying Sachin Tendulkar on shoulders for the best sporting moment award.



- ❖ The Laureus World Sports Awards is an annual award ceremony honouring individuals and teams from the world of sports.
- ❖ It was established in 1999 by Laureus Sport for Good Foundation.
- ❖ The event was held in Berlin, Germany.

Year	Sportsman	Sportswoman	Team	Breakthrough	Comeback	Disability	Action	Moment
2020	Lewis Hamilton & Lionel Messi	Simone Biles	South Africa national rugby union team	Egan Bernal	Sophia Flörsch	Oksana Masters	Chloe Kim	Sachin Tendulkar



IMPORTANT DAYS

World Day of Social Justice – February 20

- ❖ World Day of Social Justice is observed to promote gender equality, indigenous peoples and migrants' rights.
- ❖ The theme of this year is "Closing the Inequalities Gap to Achieve Social Justice".
- ❖ On September 2008, the General Assembly declared that February 20 will be celebrated annually as the World Day of Social Justice.
- ❖ The first World Day of Social Justice was observed on 20 February 2009.

Statehood Day of Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh – February 20

- ❖ On 20th February 1987 two new States of Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh came into being as the 23rd and 24th states of the Indian Union respectively.

Mizoram

- ❖ Mizoram became a Union Territory with the implementation of North-Eastern Reorganization Act, 1972.
- ❖ Mizoram was granted statehood by the State of Mizoram Act, 1986.
- ❖ Capital: Aizawl
- ❖ Sex Ratio: 975 females per 1000 male (National: 943/1000)
- ❖ Literacy: 91.58 % (National: 74.04%)
- ❖ Mizoram shares the International Border with Myanmar and Bangladesh.
- ❖ According to the India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2019, Mizoram has the maximum forest cover as a percentage of their own geographical area at (85.4%).

Arunachal Pradesh

- ❖ The area was upgraded to the Union Territory of Arunachal Pradesh in 1972.
- ❖ It was granted statehood by the State of Arunachal Pradesh Act, 1986 in 1987.
- ❖ Capital: Itanagar
- ❖ Sex Ratio: 938 females per 1000 male (National: 943/1000)
- ❖ Literacy: 65.38 % (National: 74.04%)
- ❖ Arunachal Pradesh shares an international border with Bhutan, China and Myanmar.
- ❖ It is the largest state area wise in the north-eastern region, even larger than Assam.



Statehood Day of Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh
February 20

