

February - 27

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Maharashtra government has scrapped the Jalyukta Shivar - the flagship water conservation project.
- ❖ Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot announced a 'No-Bag Day' on Saturdays for students of government schools across the state.
 - The activities related to happiness therapy, literature and culture, sports, personality development, moral values, scout, tips to stay healthy etc shall be organised for the students on that days.

NATIONAL

International Judicial Conference

- ❖ It was held recently in New Delhi.
- ❖ The Conference discussed the changes being introduced by the Government of India to bring Gender Equality in recruiting women in military services, selection process of fighter pilots.
- ❖ It also discussed on freedom of women to work in mines at night.
- ❖ The theme named Gender Just World was introduced at the conference.
- ❖ The Conference introduced the “Just World” concept in the Judicial System of India.



National Organic Food Festival

- ❖ The Ministry of Food Processing and Ministry of Women and Child Development jointly inaugurated the National Organic Food Festival in New Delhi.
- ❖ It is the first of its kind in India.
- ❖ Theme: Unleashing India's Organic Market Potential.
- ❖ It was announced at the festival that the organic sector in India is growing at a speed of 17% per year.
- ❖ With 9th largest organic agricultural land in the world and the largest number of producers, India is fast growing in the organic food segment.
- ❖ India produced around 1.70 million MT (2017-18) of certified organic products.
- ❖ As per the Indian Organic Sector – Vision 2025 report, India's organic business is expected to reach Rs.75,000 Crores by 2025.
- ❖ Jaivik Kheti Portal has been included in the agricultural budget.
- ❖ It is a National Project on Organic Farming.
- ❖ Under the scheme, the GoI aims to strengthen organic farming. It was launched in 2004.
- ❖ Sikkim is the first organic state in the world.



Thal Sena Bhawan

- ❖ The Defence Minister Rajanath Singh recently laid foundation stone to construct a new Army Headquarters in Delhi Cantontment.
- ❖ The building has been named "Thal Sena Bhawan".

- ❖ The building is designed as a rising sun.



INTERNATIONAL

Blue Dot Network (BDN)

- ❖ Led by the US along with Japan and Australia BDN was formally announced on November 2019 at Thailand.
- ❖ It is meant to be a multi-stakeholder initiative that aims to bring governments, the private sector and civil society together to promote “high quality, trusted standards for global infrastructure development”.
- ❖ The proposal for the BDN is part of the US’s Indo-Pacific strategy, which is aimed at countering the Chinese Belt and Road initiative.
- ❖ India may join the US-led BDN in future.

China’s Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)

- ❖ BRI is an ambitious programme to connect Asia with Africa and Europe via land and maritime networks.
- ❖ The BRI comprises of
 - Silk Road Economic Belt - a trans-continental passage that links China with south east Asia, south Asia, Central Asia, Russia and Europe by land.
 - 21st century Maritime Silk Road - a sea route connecting China’s coastal regions with south east and south Asia, the South Pacific, the Middle East and Eastern Africa, all the way to Europe.



ECONOMY

PM-KISAN Samman Nidhi Scheme

- ❖ It completes one year on February 24, 2020.
- ❖ PM Kisan Mobile app was launched by the Minister of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar.
- ❖ The Scheme initially provided income support of 6000 rupees to small and marginal farmers that hold land up to 2 hectares.
- ❖ Later, it was extended to all farmers irrespective of the size of their land holdings.
- ❖ It is being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare.

Hunar Haat

- ❖ It was held recently in New Delhi.
- ❖ It was organised by ministry of minority affairs under “USTTAD” scheme.
- ❖ It is an exhibition of handicrafts and traditional products made by artisans from the minority communities.
- ❖ USTTAD is known as Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development scheme.
- ❖ It aims to preserve heritage of traditional arts and crafts of minority communities and build capacity of traditional crafts persons and artisans and establish linkages of traditional skills with the global market.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Added-Fat Consumption

- ❖ The Indian Council of Medical Research conducted study on the food habits of the citizens of the country.
- ❖ The study said that vegetarians consume more fat than that of non-vegetarians.
- ❖ Also, among the metropolitan cities of India, Delhi and Ahmedabad topped the list in average consumption of added fat.
- ❖ The highest intake of added fat was in the age group of 36 to 59 years and the least intake was in children under the age of five.
- ❖ India is a signatory of the resolution “Transforming our World: 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”.
- ❖ Achieving Inclusive Growth is one of the main targets of Sustainable Development Goals.

ENVIRONMENT

New Cave Fish

- ❖ Scientists have discovered a new cave fish in Meghalaya.
- ❖ It is similar in anatomy to an endangered mahseer species.
- ❖ It is "by far the largest known subterranean fish in the world.
- ❖ All previous discoveries of cave fish from India have been of small fish, and this is the largest of the cave fish discovered in the country, and probably from anywhere in the world.
- ❖ Widely consumed in India, mahseer live mostly in "fast-flowing streams and rivers and also large reservoirs.
- ❖ The new species is similar to the golden mahseer, its unusual underground home in Meghalaya's Jaintia Hills.



STATES

Fit India initiative – Delhi

- ❖ The Indian Railways has installed a squat machine at the Anand Vihar Railway Station in New Delhi.
- ❖ In a first-of-its-kind scheme, a person who performs 30 squats in three minutes will not have to pay the fees for a platform ticket.



Lingayat Mutt in Karnataka

- ❖ A Muslim youth is all set to head a Lingayat math in Gadag district of north Karnataka.
- ❖ The Matha is one of the 361 maths of Sri Jagadguru Murugharajendra Matha of Chitradurga.
- ❖ Diwan Sharief Rahimansab Mulla will be incepted as the head, or Mathadheesha of the Murugharajendra Koraneshwara Shantidhama Matha in Asuti village in the Gadag district.
- ❖ It is linked to the 350-year-old Koraneshwara Sansthan Math in Khajuri village in Kalaburagi.
- ❖ One strong truth in the heart beat of all the organisations/ Mutts there is only one prophet that is Guru Basaveshwara, all most all strive to propagate the Lingayat religion and believe in the Vachana literature.
- ❖ Basavanna was a 12th-century philosopher of Lingayat saint in the Shiva-focussed Bhakti movement, and social reformer during the reign of the Kalyani Chalukya/Kalachuri dynasty.
- ❖ Basavanna literary works include the Vachana Sahitya in Kannada Language.
- ❖ He is also known as Bhaktibhandari, Basavanna or Basaveswara.

SPORTS

2022 Commonwealth Games

- ❖ Birmingham 2022 shooting and archery is to take place six months early in India.
- ❖ The Commonwealth Games Federation announced that the competitions would take place in Chandigarh in January of that year, with the main Games in Birmingham starting in July.
- ❖ Earlier India had threatened to boycott the games if shooting was dropped.
- ❖ Birmingham decided not to include shooting or archery in its sports programme for 2022.
- ❖ However, India has an excellent record in shooting and won 16 medals at the Gold Coast Games in 2018.

