

January - 07

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Pakistan has become the second highest audience for Doordarshan and All India Radio.
- ❖ Britain became the first nation in the world to roll out the low-cost and easily transportable Oxford-AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine.
- ❖ The Miss World 2017 winner Manushi Chillar has been roped in by United Nations Women for a global initiative called #OrangeTheWorld to raise awareness on gender-based violence.

NATIONAL

Meteorological Centre in Ladakh

- ❖ The Union Minister of Earth Science Dr Harsh Vardhan recently inaugurated a Meteorological centre in Union Territory of Ladakh.
- ❖ This is the first Meteorological Centre in Ladakh.
- ❖ The Meteorological Centre is the highest centre in India located at a height of 3,500 metres.
- ❖ The Indian Meteorological Department has six regional meteorological centres such as Kolkata, Guwahati, Mumbai, New Delhi, Chennai and Nagpur.



Sagarmala Seaplane Services Project

- ❖ The Government of India is to initiate the project of Sagarmala Seaplane Services on selected routes.

- ❖ The sea plane service between kevadiya and Sabarmati riverfront in Ahmedabad is already in Operation.
- ❖ It was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 31, 2019.
- ❖ Currently this is the only seaplane service that is operational in the country.
- ❖ The proposed routes are
 - Andaman and Nicobar Islands
 - Lakshadweep Islands
 - Mumbai
 - Dwarka, Gujarat
 - Kandla, Gujarat
 - Yamuna riverfront, Delhi
 - Guwhati riverfront, Assam
 - Umrangso reservoir, Assam
 - Khindsi dam, Maharashtra
 - Erai Dam, Maharashtra.



Kochi-Mangaluru Natural Gas Pipeline

- ❖ The Prime Minister Narendra Modi has dedicated this pipeline on January 5th.
- ❖ The pipeline is 444 kilometres long.
- ❖ The pipeline passes through Ernakulum, Thrissur, Palakkad, Malappuram, Kozhikode, Kannur and Kasaragod districts and ends at Mangaluru in Dakshina Kannada district of Karnataka.

- ❖ It is implemented by the Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL).

**KOCHI-MANGALURU
NATURAL GAS PIPELINE**

Harbinger of clean fuel-led development in Kerala and Karnataka

- The 450 Kms long pipeline passing from Kochi in Kerala to Mangaluru in Karnataka will supply environment-friendly PNG and CNG to 10 districts along the pipeline.
- The pipeline will offer clean and sustainable fuel to several industries in the petrochemical, and fertilizer sector and also promote other gas-based industries.
- Lead to socio-economic and health dividends for the people of Kerala and Karnataka.
- Spur economic growth and create employment opportunities in the southern region of the country.
- A big step towards achieving self-reliance in energy.

The map shows the pipeline route starting from Mangaluru in Karnataka, passing through Kasargod, Kannur, Kozhikode, Kottanad, Kochi, and ending at the LNG Terminal in Kochi. The route is marked with a red line and labeled 'KMG Pipeline'.

Delhi Tamil Academy

- ❖ The Delhi government has set up a Tamil Academy to protect the Tamil language and culture.
- ❖ It also appointed Ex-MCD councillor and current member of Delhi Tamil Sangam N Raja as the Vice-Chairman of the academy.
- ❖ Tamil became the first language to be classified as a classical language in India in 2004.
- ❖ The Delhi government already runs Sanskrit, Urdu, Hindi, Punjabi, Maithili and Bhojpuri Academies.
- ❖ The official languages of Delhi are Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi and English.

National Metrology Conclave 2021

- ❖ It is held on the 75th foundation day of CSIR, January 4, 2021.

- ❖ It is organised at Delhi by the Council of scientific and Industrial Research-National Physical Laboratory (CSIR-NPL).
- ❖ Theme for this conclave is Metrology for the Inclusive Growth of the Nation.
- ❖ On this occasion Prime Minister dedicated 'Bhartiya Nirdeshak Dravya' and 'National Atomic Timescale' to the nation.
- ❖ The National Atomic Time Scale will generate Indian Standard Time- IST with an accuracy of 2.8 nanoseconds
- ❖ He also laid the foundation stone of the 'National Environmental Standards Laboratory'.

Agri-hackathon 2020

- ❖ It is the largest virtual gathering to create dialogues and accelerate innovations.
- ❖ It was organised by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare in association with the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), Pusa, New Delhi.
- ❖ This 2-month long event is the first of its kind & the largest virtual event in the history of Indian agriculture.

4th global Ayurveda festival

- ❖ The 4th Global Ayurveda Festival will be held at Kochi, Kerala in May, 2021.
- ❖ The theme of the event is Ayurveda Medical Tourism: Actualizing India's credibility.
- ❖ It will be the largest Ayurvedic event ever to be held anywhere across the world.





INTERNATIONAL

Malala Yousafzai Act

- ❖ The United States recently passed this Act for Pakistani Women.
- ❖ The Act requires the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to award at least 50% of scholarship to Pakistani women between 2020 and 2022.
- ❖ Malala is a Pakistani activist for female education.
- ❖ She is also the Youngest Nobel Prize Laureate in 2014.

Maitre Setu bridge

- ❖ It is the bridge over the River Feni.
- ❖ It connects South Tripura with Ramgarh of Bangladesh.
- ❖ It provides access to the Chittagong seaport of Bangladesh.
- ❖ Currently, the only sea trade access point of North eastern states is the Haldia port of West Bengal.

ECONOMY

Standard Travel Insurance Policy

- ❖ The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) recently proposed the “Standard Travel Insurance Policy”.
- ❖ The Policy aims to ensure insurance coverage during domestic as well as international travel.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Wooden satellites

- ❖ Japanese researchers are to launch wooden satellites by 2023.
- ❖ It will solve the problem of space debris.
- ❖ All the satellites that re-enter the earth atmosphere burn and create tiny Alumina particles.
- ❖ These particles float in upper atmosphere for many years.
- ❖ But These new satellites are made of wood.

- ❖ They will burn up without releasing harmful substances into the atmosphere when they plunge back to the earth.
- ❖ With this the satellite will not leave out any waste in space after it completes its service or when it becomes de functional.



ENVIRONMENT

Ice Age Woolly Rhino



- ❖ A perfectly preserved woolly Rhinoceros was found by scientists in Yakutia of Siberia in Russia.



- ❖ The age of the carcass has been dated as 20,000 to 50,000 old.
- ❖ It was revealed due to the melting of permafrost in Russia.
- ❖ Around 65% of Russia is covered by permafrost.
- ❖ Permafrost is the ground that remains completely frozen for at least two years.
- ❖ Permafrost is defined based on temperature and duration.
- ❖ The permafrost is found in Russia, Canada and USA (Alaska).

