

January - 10

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Indian government, the Government of West Bengal, and the World Bank signed a project of USD 105 million for improving the inland water transport infrastructure in Kolkata of West Bengal.
- ❖ The Delhi Government recently issued guidelines to reduce the weight of school bags of students in the National Capital Region.
 - The weight of the school bag of students between Class 1 and Class 10 should not be more than 10% of their body weight.
- ❖ Pablo Caesar of Argentina was announced as the head of the international jury of 51st International Film Festival of India.
- ❖ The World Bank recently released the Global Economic Prospects report.
 - According to the report the Indian economy is to contract by 9.6% in 2020-21.
- ❖ Union Education Minister Ramesh pokhriyal nishank and the Union Minister of textiles and women and child development Smriti Irani launched Toycathon 2021.
 - It will promote the manufacturing of indigenous toys.
- ❖ UNICEF recently announced that more than 371,504 babies were born in the World on January 1.
 - At 59,995, India records highest number of births on New Year's Day.
- ❖ The Union petroleum minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated the India's first migrant worker cell at Surat in Gujarat.
 - It is to help Odia migrant workers working in different industries of the city.

TAMIL NADU

PH Pandian Memorial

- ❖ Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami inaugurated the statue and Deputy Chief Minister O Panneerselvam opened the Mani mandapam of former Assembly Speaker PH Pandian at Govindhaperi in Cheranmahadevi in Tirunelveli District.
- ❖ He served as the Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly from 1985 to 1989.

- ❖ He was instrumental in establishing Manonmaniam Sundaranar University in 1990 at Tirunelveli.



A Madhavan

- ❖ Tamil writer A. Madhavan (87) recently passed away in Thiruvananthapuram of Kerala.
- ❖ He won the Sahitya Akademi award in 2015 for his collection of essays Ilakkiya Chuvadukal.
- ❖ He was also a recipient of Kalai Mamani Award in 2009.
- ❖ It is the highest recognition bestowed on writers and artists by the Tamil Nadu Government.



Unemployment rate

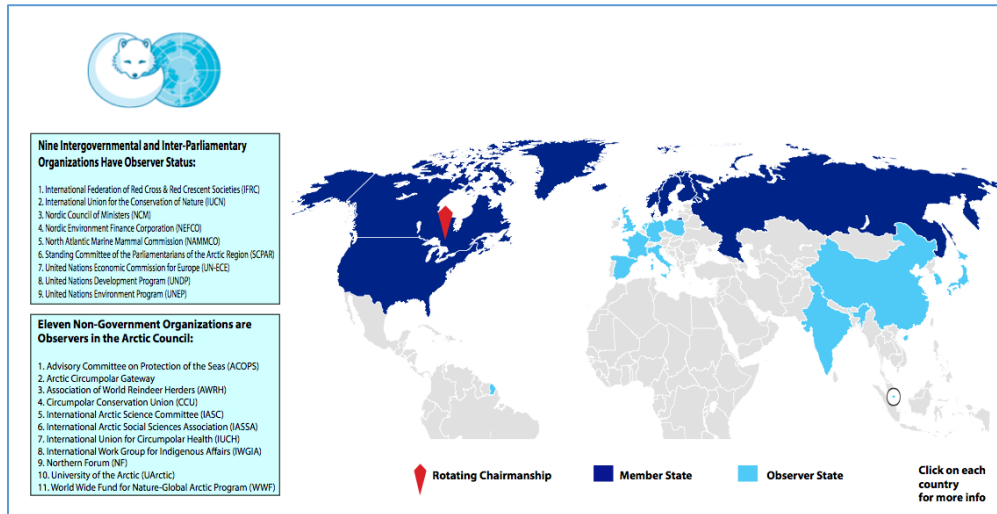
- ❖ It was a data from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE).
- ❖ India's unemployment rate in December 2020 stands at 9.06%.
- ❖ This is also the first time that rural unemployment rate was higher than urban in the entire year of 2020.
- ❖ The country saw very high unemployment rates during April (23.5%) - June (10.18%) in 2020 due to lockdown impact.
- ❖ In terms of states, Haryana (32.5%) and Rajasthan (28.2%) had the highest unemployment rates in December 2020, while Odisha (0.2%) and Tamil Nadu (0.5%) saw the least.
- ❖ The unemployment rate in Tamil Nadu declined to a five-year low of 0.5% in December 2020.
- ❖ The unemployment rate in Tamil Nadu showed a direct correlation to the unlock guidelines.
- ❖ When the state was under complete lockdown in April, the rate was 49.8%.
- ❖ It was greater than national unemployment rate of 23.5% at that time.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu had 41-million-person days of employment under the scheme in October 2020, the highest among states and an increase of 151% year on year.

Unemployment Rate (%) Dec 2020			
Andhra Pradesh	6.7	Maharashtra	3.9
Assam	7.6	Meghalaya	6.6
Bihar	12.7	Odisha	0.2
Chhattisgarh	7.2	Puducherry	2.7
Delhi	7.6	Punjab	4.4
Goa	13.2	Rajasthan	28.2
Gujarat	3.0	Sikkim	0.7
Haryana	32.5	Tamil Nadu	0.5
Himachal Pradesh	7.9	Telangana	7.0
Jammu & Kashmir	16.6	Tripura	18.2
Jharkhand	12.4	Uttar Pradesh	14.9
Karnataka	1.4	Uttarakhand	5.2
Kerala	6.5	West Bengal	6.0
Madhya Pradesh	4.0		

NATIONAL

Draft Arctic Policy

- ❖ The Government of India recently released the Draft Arctic Policy.
- ❖ The National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research that operates under the Ministry of Earth Sciences will serve as the nodal agency in implementing the Arctic Policy.
- ❖ The policy envisages to connect the Arctic residents, especially the indigenous communities with those living in the Himalayan regions.
- ❖ The policy ensures that the Arctic resources are explored and used sustainably.
- ❖ Under its policy, India will make sure that it abides by rules and regulations of Arctic Council.
- ❖ India became the observer of Arctic Council in 2013.
- ❖ Its membership as an observer was renewed in 2018 for another five years.
- ❖ India under British rule had signed the Svalbard Treaty in 1920.
- ❖ In 2008, India established a research base called Himadri at Ny Alesund, Svalbard, Norway.

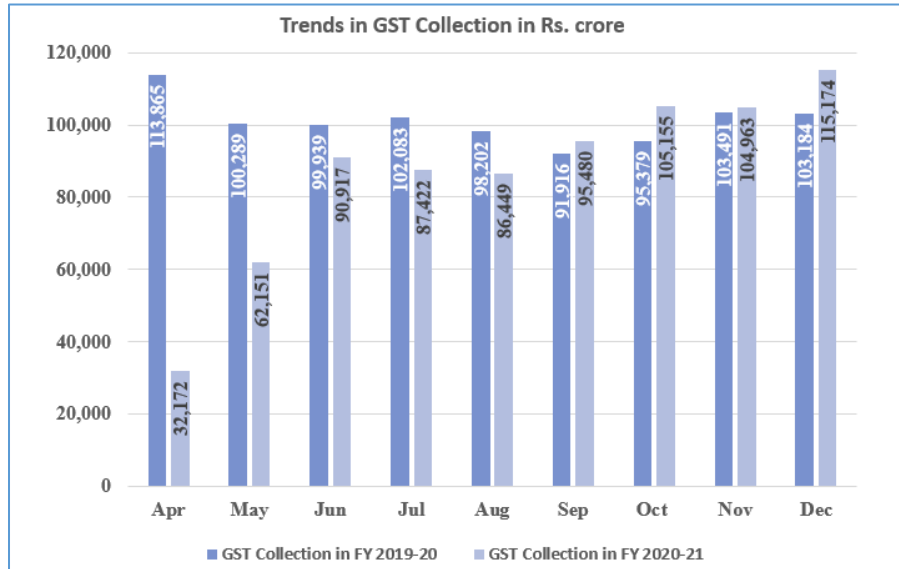


ECONOMY

GST collections

- ❖ The GST collection in December hit an all-time high with over Rs 1.5 lakh crore collected as revenue.

- ❖ The collection in December 2020 is almost 12 per cent higher than the same period a year ago.
- ❖ It must be mentioned here that GST for November transactions is collected in December.



ENVIRONMENT

Climate of India in 2020

- ❖ The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) recently released its Statement on Climate of India during 2020.
- ❖ IMD mainly monitors formation of cyclones and issues warnings to the Northern Indian Ocean region.
- ❖ The Northern Indian Ocean including Malacca Straits, Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal, Persian Gulf.
- ❖ According to IMD, 2020 was the eight warmest year on record since 1901.
- ❖ The past decade, 2019-20 was the warmest decade on record.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh and Bihar were the hardest hit states due to adverse weather.
- ❖ Thunderstorm and Lightning caused 815 deaths in India during 2020.
- ❖ The annual mean land surface air temperature averaged over India during 2020 was above normal.
- ❖ According to the World Meteorological Organization, the Global mean surface temperature anomaly was recorded as +1.2 degrees Celsius.
- ❖ The rainfall as a whole during South West Monsoon was above normal.



- ❖ It was 109% of the Long Period Average calculated between 1961 and 2010.
- ❖ There were five cyclones formed in the North Indian Ocean in 2020.
- ❖ They were amphan, burevi, nisarga, nivar and gati.
- ❖ Of these cyclones, Nisarga and Gati formed over Arabian Sea and the remaining formed in Bay of Bengal.

