

July - 07

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) published the report “COVID-19 and Tourism: Assessing the Economic Consequences”.
- ❖ The French President Emmanuel Macron appointed Jean Castex as the new Prime Minister of government, replacing Edouard Philippe.
- ❖ Delhi Government launched an e- portal, ‘Learning through E-Resources Made Accessible for Delhi’ (LEAD) for its students to strengthen the children’s online education.

TAMILNADU

Basalt Stone at Keeladi

- ❖ Four weighing stones made of basalt were unearthed 3 during the sixth phase of excavation at the ancient archaeological site of Keezhadi
- ❖ It is on the banks of the Vaigai River in Tamil Nadu's Sivaganga district.
- ❖ The spherical objects are black in colour with a flat base and polished surface.
- ❖ Charcoal was commonly found in all.
- ❖ A furnace was noticed at a depth of 0.61 metres, which shows traces of fire activity.
- ❖ All these findings indicate the possibility of the existence of trading activity in the industrial site of Keezhadi.
- ❖ The discovery points to possible trading activity in this site, dating to between the sixth century BCE and first century CE.
- ❖ In June, skeletal remains of a child were excavated from Konthagai.
- ❖ The sixth phase of excavations are taking place at Keeladi, Konthagai, Manalur and Agaram villages in Sivaganga district.



NATIONAL

Aatmanirbhar Bharat App

- ❖ For building an Aatmanirbhar Bharat using Digital Technologies, an App Innovation Challenge was launched.
- ❖ In partnership with NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission, it is an initiative by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
- ❖ It is with an objective to support and build a strong ecosystem for Indian Apps.



Sanskrit Saptahiki

- ❖ All India Radio (AIR) FM news channel is broadcasting its first-ever news programme in Sanskrit language.
- ❖ The news programme is named as 'Sanskrit Saptahiki'.

Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) in India

- ❖ The infant mortality rate (IMR) in Madhya Pradesh records the country's worst rate for years now.
- ❖ IMR in MP has surged by a single point over the previous year to 48 in 2018.
- ❖ The country's average stands at 36 deaths for rural and 23 for urban areas.
- ❖ Infant mortality is the death of young children under the age of 1 per 1000 live births.



INTERNATIONAL

World Bank's Country Classification

- ❖ Every year, the World Bank classifies countries into four income groups - (i) Low (ii) Lower-Middle (iii) Upper-Middle (iv) High Income.
- ❖ World Bank is using the Atlas Method since 1993 to estimate the size of an economy.
- ❖ Under the Atlas Method, Gross National Income (GNI) of a country is converted into the current U.S. Dollars.
- ❖ As per the 2020 Classification, India remains a Lower-Middle Income country.

ENVIRONMENT

Global e-waste report

- ❖ The global e-waste will increase by 38% in the decade between 2020 and 2030.
- ❖ It was revealed according to a recent United Nations University (UNU) report.
- ❖ The name of the report is "The Global E-waste Monitor 2020 report-Quantities, flows, and the circular economy potential".
- ❖ China is the biggest contributor to e-waste with 10.1 million tonnes.
- ❖ It is followed by the United States (US) with 6.9 mt and India with 3.2 mt at 2nd and 3rd rank respectively.
- ❖ This report is jointly prepared by the Global E-waste Statistics Partnership (GESP), formed by UN University (UNU), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), and the International Solid Waste Association (ISWA), in close collaboration with the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).
- ❖ UNU is a global think tank and postgraduate teaching organization headquartered in Japan.
- ❖ The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notified the E-Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- ❖ For the first time, these rules brought the producers under Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), along with targets.

Climate Assessment Report

- ❖ Assessment of Climate Change over the Indian Region Report has been released by the Ministry of Earth Sciences for the first time.

- ❖ According to the report, West Bengal is one of the most climatically vulnerable states of India.
- ❖ It has a history of high number of severe cyclones in the Bay of Bengal coast.

Ophicordyceps nutans Fungus

- ❖ Researchers have found a fungi Ophicordyceps nutans for the first time in central India.
- ❖ The fungus was found on its specific host insect Halyomorpha halys.
- ❖ Morphological studies showed that it was Ophicordyceps nutans which has been reported in India only from the Western Ghats.



SPORTS

Target Opium Podium Scheme

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports will launch Target Opium Podium Scheme (TOPS) for the junior athletes.
- ❖ The scheme will groom the junior athletes for 2024 and 2028 Olympics.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Zoonoses Day – July 6

- ❖ It is observed to commemorate the scientific achievement of administering first vaccination against a zoonotic disease.
- ❖ It was on July 6, 1885, when Louis Pasteur successfully administered the first vaccine against Rabies virus, a zoonotic disease.

- ❖ He reduced mortality from puerperal fever, and created the first vaccines for rabies and anthrax.
- ❖ He is best known to the general public for his invention of the technique of treating milk and wine to stop bacterial contamination, a process now called pasteurization.
- ❖ Zoonoses are infectious diseases caused by bacteria, viruses and parasites that spread between animals and humans.
- ❖ Zoonoses can spread from direct contact with animals or indirectly, vector-borne or food-borne.

