

July - 11

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ China has banned construction of tallest skyscrapers following the safety concerns over quality of some projects.
 - This ban covers buildings taller than 500 metres.
- ❖ Kerala government has proposed to have its own over-the-top (OTT) platform.
 - Government has planned to launch it by November 1.
- ❖ A new COVID-19 strain called 'Lambda' is much more dangerous than the Delta variant.
 - This is according to the UK Health Ministry.

NATIONAL

INS Tabar

- ❖ The Indian Naval Ship (INS) Tabar recently participated in military exercises with frontline frigate of Italian Navy.
- ❖ INS Tabar joined Italian Navy and entered Port of Naples as part of ongoing deployment in Mediterranean.
- ❖ While returning, Tabar also undertook a Maritime Partnership Exercise with ITS Antonio Marceglia in Tyrrhenian Sea.

Bhalia wheat

- ❖ The first shipment of Geographical Indication (GI) certified Bhalia variety of wheat was exported to Kenya and Sri Lanka from Gujarat.
- ❖ This wheat variety has high protein content and is sweet in taste.
- ❖ The crop is grown mostly across the Bhal region of Gujarat.
- ❖ It is grown in rainfed conditions without irrigation and cultivated in around two lakh hectares of agricultural land in Gujarat.
- ❖ Bhalia variety of wheat received GI certification in July, 2011.
- ❖ Registered proprietor of GI certification is Anand Agricultural University in Gujarat.

GUAREX and SOYDEX

- ❖ The National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange (NCDEX) launched India's 1st sectoral indices in agricultural-commodities space.
- ❖ NCDEX is India's agricultural commodity exchange.
- ❖ The indices are GUAREX and SOYDEX.
- ❖ These indices will represent the performance of Guar complex and Soy complex.
- ❖ GUAREX – It is the return based index.
- ❖ It tracks the change in the price of the futures contracts of Guar Seed and Guar Gum Refined Splits on a real-time basis.
- ❖ SOYDEX – It will also trace the price changes in futures contracts of Soybean and Refined Soy Oil.
- ❖ Both the indices will be useful for hedgers to identify low-cost products.
- ❖ It will also offer trading strategies and risk management exercises.
- ❖ Futures Contract is a standardized legal agreement to buy or sell something at a predetermined price at a specified time in the future.
- ❖ A hedger is any individual or firm that buys or sells the actual physical commodity.



INTERNATIONAL

World's tallest sandcastle

- ❖ A sandcastle in Denmark has entered into new Guinness World Record for being the tallest sandcastle in the world.

- ❖ Dutch creator, Wilfred Stijger, was assisted by 30 of the world's best sand sculptors to build this.
- ❖ The triangular-shaped sandcastle has been built in the town of Blokhus in Denmark.
- ❖ It stands at a height of 21.16 metres (69.4 feet).
- ❖ The previous record was held by sandcastle measuring 17.66 m in Germany in 2019.



Jovenel Moise

- ❖ Haiti President, Jovenel Moise was assassinated in his house.
- ❖ The incident has further inflicted more chaos on the unstable Caribbean country.
- ❖ The interim Prime Minister of Haiti, Claude Joseph confirmed the killing of the President.
- ❖ Haiti is the poorest country in the North American continent.

Agricultural Outlook report

- ❖ OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook presents production, consumption, trade and price trends for the coming decade.
- ❖ According to the report, governments need to step up their efforts to meet global food security and environmental targets for achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- ❖ Global demand for agricultural commodities is projected to grow at 1.2 percent per year over the coming decade.

- ❖ Productivity improvements will be key to feeding a growing global population - projected to reach 8.5 billion by 2030 - sustainably.
- ❖ Globally, aggregate food availability is projected to grow by 4 percent over the next decade
- ❖ In low-income countries, food availability is projected to increase by 3.7 percent.



STATES

Spiders from Assam

- ❖ Two species of spiders have been found in Jharbari range of western Assam's Chirang Reserve Forest.
- ❖ Both the species have been sharing same space.
- ❖ Gravelyia boro is a newly discovered burrow spider.
- ❖ Dexippus kleini is an oriental jumping spider.
- ❖ Both the spiders were discovered from Bodoland Territorial Region.
- ❖ Gravelyia boro belongs to Nemesiidae family.
- ❖ Dexippus kleini belongs to Salticidae family.
- ❖ Salticidae family is the largest family of all spiders on earth.

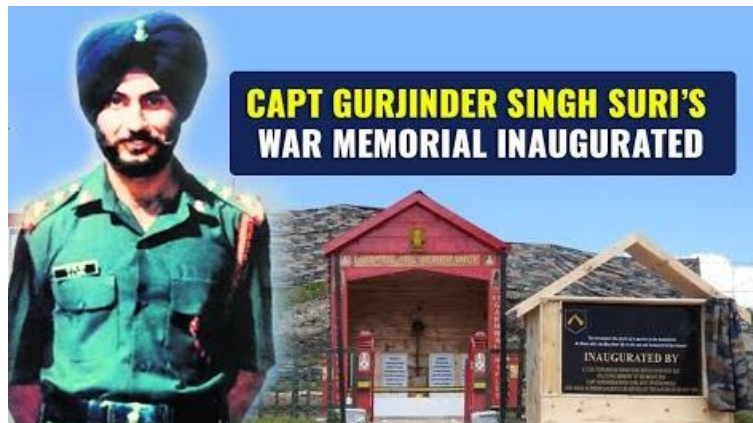
PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Humboldt Research Award for Economics

- ❖ The Indian economist Kaushik Basu has been awarded the Humboldt Research Award for Economics.
- ❖ The Humboldt Research Award honours scientists and economists from across the world for their work.
- ❖ A former chief economist of the World Bank, Basu is currently a professor of Economics at Cornell University.
- ❖ He also served as the Government of India's chief economic advisor from 2009 to 2012.
- ❖ Basu is also a recipient of the Padma Bhushan, the third-highest civilian award in India.

War Memorial of Captain Gurjinder Singh Suri

- ❖ The Indian Army inaugurated a war memorial in memory of Captain Gurjinder Singh Suri in Gulmarg near the Line of Control (LOC).
- ❖ This was inaugurated on the occasion of the birthday of Captain Gurjinder Singh Suri.
- ❖ Captain Gurjinder Singh Suri died during the operation "Birsa Munda" in 1999.



SPORTS

Hockey legend Keshav Datt

- ❖ Two-time Olympic gold medallist in hockey, Keshav Datt passed away.

- ❖ He was part of India's historic feat at the 1948 Olympics where they beat home team Britain 4-0.
- ❖ It was held at the Wembley Stadium in London.
- ❖ This made to win the first gold post-Independence.



Asian Football Confederation Women's Asian Cup

- ❖ The AFC Women's Asian Cup in India will be held in Mumbai and Pune.
- ❖ This decision was taken after the Asian Football Confederation dropped Bhubaneswar and Ahmedabad as venues.
- ❖ This decision was taken to minimise the travelling time for participants and ensure an "optimum environment" for a bio-secure bubble.
- ❖ The Mumbai Football Arena at the Andheri Sports Complex and the Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex in Balewadi, Pune have been chosen as the new venues.

MISCELLANEOUS

NewsOnAir Radio Live-stream Global Rankings released

- ❖ It ranked countries where All India Radio (AIR) live-streams on NewsOnAir app are most popular.
- ❖ United States still maintains its ranking at 1.
- ❖ All India Radio's Telugu and Tamil live-stream services are popular in United States.
- ❖ AIR Punjabi service is popular in United Kingdom.



- ❖ In global rankings of top AIR streams (excluding India), AIR News 24*7 has moved one position up from 7 to 6.
- ❖ On the other hand, AIR Tamil has slipped from spot 6 to 10.
- ❖ AIR officially known as Akash Vani since 1957.

