



June - 05

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Former Supreme Court judge Arun Kumar Mishra will be the new chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC).
 - The selection panel consisted of Prime Minister, Home Minister, Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, Lok Sabha Speaker and the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha.
- ❖ The Largest warship (Kharg) of Iranian navy caught fire and sank in the Gulf of Oman (near Iranian port of Jask).
 - Kharg used to resupply other ships in fleet and conduct training exercises.
- ❖ UNICEF has signed an agreement with vaccine manufacturer Moderna on vaccines supply for its international vaccination efforts against SARS-COV-2 virus.
 - Under the supply agreement, UNICEF will get access to up to 34 million doses of covid-19 vaccine.

TAMIL NADU

Government's announcement on June 3rd

- ❖ A multi super-speciality hospital in Chennai's King Institute of Preventive Medicine and Research will be constructed at the cost of ₹250 crore.
- ❖ Kalaigal Memorial Library, spread across 2 lakh square feet, will be constructed in Madurai at a cost of ₹70 crore.
- ❖ A new award, Illakiya Mamani, will be instituted to honour three Tamil writers annually with a citation and cash award of ₹5 lakh.
- ❖ Housing will be provided for the writers who are recipients of renowned literary awards either in their district or whichever district in which they wish to reside.
- ❖ At the cost of ₹24.30 crore, a 16,000-tonne capacity warehouses will be built in Thiruvarur district.
- ❖ The scheme of free bus transport has been extended to people with disabilities and the transgender.

T.M. Kalliannan Gounder

- ❖ T.M. Kalliannan Gounder recently died at the age of 101.

- ❖ He was the last surviving former member of the Indian Constituent Assembly.
- ❖ He served as a Member of the Legislative Council in Tamil Nadu and also as an MLA thrice, between 1952 and 1967.
- ❖ He was reportedly the youngest member in the Constituent Assembly then and also a member of India's first provisional parliament.



NATIONAL

Model Tenancy Act

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved “Model Tenancy Act” for circulation to all States and Union Territories.
- ❖ Model Tenancy Act, 2019, a tenancy law in India, was designed to rebuild tenancy market.
- ❖ The Creation of this Act was first announced in budget speech of 2019 by finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman.
- ❖ It seeks to replace archaic rental laws of India and to solve housing availability deficit.
- ❖ This Act will help in achieving the target of “Housing for All by 2022”.



MoC on Sustainable Urban Development

- ❖ Union Cabinet approved Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) on Sustainable Urban Development between India and Japan.
- ❖ To implement and strategize programmes on cooperation under MoC, a Joint Working Group (JWG) will be constituted.
- ❖ JWG will meet once in a year in Japan as well as in India, alternately.
- ❖ The Cooperation under MoC will continue for a period of 5 years, which can be auto-renewed for 5 years at a time.
- ❖ It is expected to create employment opportunities in listed areas of sustainable urban development like Urban Planning, affordable housing, rental housing, Smart Cities Development etc.

Cabinet approves SCO Agreement on Mass Media cooperation

- ❖ The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister approved the agreement on 'Cooperation in the field of Mass Media' between all the Member States of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).
- ❖ The Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization consists of eight countries: India, China, the Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Russia, and Uzbekistan
- ❖ The Agreement will
 - Provide an opportunity for the Member States to share new innovations and best practices in the field of Mass Media.
 - Boost equal and mutually beneficial cooperation between associations in the field of Mass Media.

RDSO joins 'One Nation, One Standard' scheme

- ❖ The Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO) has become the first standards body in the country to join the 'One Nation, One Standard' scheme of the central government.
- ❖ RDSO, the sole R&D wing of the Railways Ministry, sets standards for the Indian Railway Sector
- ❖ The RDSO has now been recognised as a 'Standard Developing Organisation' by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), for a three years period.

Note

- ❖ BIS is the implementing agency for the 'One Nation, One Standard' scheme.



- ❖ RDSO and BIS will be now jointly defining the parameters to ensure quality goods and services for the Railways.
- ❖ The 'One Nation, One Standard' scheme was launched in 2019.
- ❖ Its objective is to develop one template of standard for one given product in the country, instead of having multiple agencies set it.
- ❖ This helps building a 'Brand India' identity in the long run.

INTERNATIONAL

"Mixing and matching" of Covid-19 vaccines

- ❖ Canada has recommended "mixing and matching" of AstraZeneca, Pfizer and Moderna Covid-19 vaccines.
- ❖ National Advisory Committee on Immunization has advised Canadians to combine either "AstraZeneca-Oxford, Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna shots" interchangeably for specific situations.
- ❖ Research highlights, mixing shots of AstraZeneca and Pfizer vaccines were safe and effective in preventing the disease.
- ❖ It recommended first shot of AstraZeneca vaccine can be followed by shots of Moderna or Pfizer.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

SWASTIIK technology

- ❖ CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory (CSIR-NCL), Pune has launched a new technique called SWASTIIK technology.
- ❖ It helps to disinfect water by using natural oils.
- ❖ It was launched because, water-borne diseases have increased India's disease burden.
- ❖ This technology was developed in backdrop of National Jal Jeevan Mission (NJJM).
- ❖ NJJM recently issued an advisory for states and Union territories to monitor and survey water quality and ensure potable water amid rising covid-19 cases.

STATES

Indimimus jayanti

- ❖ Recently, a new species of Cricket named 'Indimimus jayanti' was found in the Kurra caves of Chhattisgarh.
- ❖ The new species was named after Professor Jayant Biswas, one of the leading cave explorers in the country.
- ❖ The new species of cricket has been identified under the genus Arachnomimus Saussure, 1897.
- ❖ Jayanti has led to the new subgenus 'Indimimus'.
- ❖ Males of the new Jayanti subgenus cannot produce sound and their females don't have ears.



MISCELLANEOUS

Pesticides - leading cause of poisoning in India

- ❖ 'Toxicoepidemiology of poisoning exhibited in Indian population from 2010 to 2020: A systematic review and meta-analysis' was the study published by the British Medical Journal.
- ❖ It revealed that pesticides were the main cause of poisoning in India, with an overall prevalence of 63 per cent.
- ❖ It is due to widespread use of pesticides for agricultural and household activities.
- ❖ According to the study, the prevalence of pesticide poisoning in the adult population was 65 per cent and 22 per cent in children.
- ❖ An analysis of the region-wise distribution of the prevalence of poisoning showed that it was
 - the highest in north India at 79 per cent



- followed by south India (65.9 per cent),
- central India (59.2 per cent),
- west India (53.1 per cent),
- north east India (46.9 per cent) and
- east India (38.5 per cent).

Centre for World University Rankings 2021-22

- ❖ Harvard University has topped the ranking globally followed by Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Stanford University, University of Cambridge, and Oxford University respectively.
- ❖ As many as 68 Indian institutes have made it to the list of the top 2000 higher education institutes across the world.
- ❖ IIM-Ahmedabad has bagged 415th rank, followed by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) at 459th rank.

