

June - 13

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Bharatmala Pariyojana that was scheduled to be completed in 2021-22 is to be completed by 2025-26.
 - The scheme was launched for road construction in India.
- ❖ The Eastern Naval Command (ENC) has inaugurated the Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV) Complex at Vishakhapatnam.

NATIONAL

Operation Desert Chase

- ❖ The Rajasthan Police recently arrested two civil defence employees in Jaipur based on Military Intelligence inputs.
- ❖ The inputs were obtained under Operation Desert Chase.
- ❖ It is an anti-espionage operation that was started by the Military Intelligence in 2019.
- ❖ The men were arrested under Official Secrets Act, 1923.
- ❖ The Operation Tupac is a military intelligence operation by ISI (Inter-Service Intelligence) of Pakistan.
- ❖ The operation has the objective to disintegrate India.

Classification based on Waste water output

- ❖ Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) will classify railway stations under the red, orange and green category based on the quantity of waste water generated.
- ❖ Red: railway stations generating waste water equal to or more than 100 Kilo Litres per Day.
- ❖ Orange: those greater than 10 KLD but less than 100 KLD.
- ❖ Green: less than 10 KLD waste water generation.

5th National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)

- ❖ The Ministry of Human Resource Development released National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) for the educational institutions in the country.
- ❖ The IIT Madras topped the list followed by IISc Bangalore.

- ❖ The third place was secured by IIT Delhi.
- ❖ IIT Madras becomes best engineering college.
- ❖ In the University category, the top rank is IISc Bangalore followed by Jawaharlal Nehru University of Delhi and at third rank is Banaras Hindu University.
- ❖ The first NIRF ranking was released in 2016.
- ❖ The NIRF ranks institutions in 10 categories namely engineering, university, management, college, medical, pharmacy, law, dental and architecture.
- ❖ For the first time, Dental colleges were added this year's list.

NIRF India Ranking 2020

Overall Category

- IIT Madras,
- IISc Bangalore,
- IIT Delhi

University Category

- IISc Bangalore,
- JNU New Delhi,
- BHU Varanasi

Engineering Category

- IIT Madras,
- IIT Delhi,
- IIT Bombay

Management Category

- IIM Ahmedabad,
- IIM Bangalore,
- IIM Calcutta

Pharmacy Discipline

- Jamia Hamdard University,
- Punjab University,
- National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Mohali

Colleges Category

- Miranda House DU,
- LSR for Women DU,
- Hindu College DU

Medical Discipline

- AIIMS, New Delhi,
- PGIMER Chandigarh,
- Christian Medical College, Bangalore

Law Discipline

- National Law School of India University, Bengaluru,
- NLU New Delhi,
- Nalsar University of Law, Hyderabad

Architecture Discipline

- IIT Kharagpur,
- IIT Roorkee,
- NIT Calicut

Dental College

- Maulana Azad Institute of Dental Science,
- Manipal College of Dental Science,
- Dr DY Patil Vidyapith Pune





INTERNATIONAL

International Religious Freedom Report 2019

- ❖ Recently, the US State Department has released this annual report.
- ❖ The report is a survey of the state of religious freedom across the world.
- ❖ The IRF report listed countries for positive developments in religious freedom and negative examples.
- ❖ Nicaragua, Nigeria and China were cited as negative examples.
- ❖ It published a report i.e. the country report for India to highlight the issue of religious freedom in the country.
- ❖ Earlier, the US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF report) downgraded India's religious freedom to the lowest grade — in the 'Country of Particular Concern (CPC)' category.
- ❖ It highlighted the developments that took place in 2019 i.e. the status of Jammu and Kashmir, the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) and the National Register of Citizens (NRC).

ECONOMY

Grants-in-aid

- ❖ The Terms of Reference of the Finance Commission require it to recommend grants-in-aid to the States.
- ❖ These grants include
 - Revenue deficit grants
 - Grants to local bodies
 - Disaster management grants
- ❖ For 2020-21, the Commission has recommended devolution of 41% of the divisible pool of taxes.
- ❖ This is 1% lower than the percentage recommended by the 14th Finance Commission.
- ❖ The 15th Finance Commission used the following criteria while determining the share of states:
 - 45% for the income distance
 - 15% for the population in 2011
 - 15% for the area



- 10% for forest and ecology
- 12.5% for demographic performance
- 2.5% for tax effort.

ENVIRONMENT

Rise in Population of Asiatic Lion

- ❖ Recently, the Gujarat Forest Department has announced an increase in the population of Asiatic lions in the Gir forest region.
- ❖ Total 674 lions were recorded in 2020 compared to the 523 in the Lion Census of 2015.
- ❖ The lion population has grown by almost 29% from the last count in 2015.
- ❖ The count was estimated from a population observation exercise called Poonam Avlokan in place of the 15th Lion Census.
- ❖ Poonam Avlokan is a monthly in-house exercise carried out every full moon.
- ❖ The regular Lion Census is conducted once every five years since 1965.
- ❖ The last Census was conducted in 2015.
- ❖ It was 22,000 square kilo metres in 2015.
- ❖ In 2020, the spread increased to 30,000 square kilo metres.
- ❖ The Asiatic Lion is listed under Endangered in IUCN red list.
- ❖ In India, the Asiatic Lions are listed in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- ❖ The “Asiatic Lion Conservation Project” has been launched by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC).
- ❖ The project has been approved for three financial years from 2018 to 2021.
- ❖ Today they are restricted to Gir Forest National Park.
- ❖ It is located in the Junagadh district of Gujarat.
- ❖ Gir is often linked with "Maldharis".
- ❖ Maldharis are religious pastoral communities living in Gir.

GROWING NUMBERS

Year	Adult		Subadult	Cubs	Total
	Male	Female			
1990	99	95	27	63	284
1995	94	100	39	71	304
2001	101	114	57	55	327
2005	89	124	72	74	359
2010	97	162	75	77	411
2015	109	201	73	140	523
2020	159	262	115	138	674

Source: Gujarat state forest and environment department sources

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Accreditation Day - June 9

- ❖ The initiative of celebrating the day was launched by the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC).
- ❖ Theme of this year is Accreditation, Improving Food Safety.
- ❖ In India, the day was celebrated by the Quality Council of India.
- ❖ The Quality Council of India was established in 1997.
- ❖ It was set up as a public private partnership based on the Netherlands model.
- ❖ It was set up by the Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal trade.





World Day against Child Labour - June 12

- ❖ It was launched in 2002 by the International Labour Organization, a United Nations body.
- ❖ According to the International Labour Organization, Africa has the largest child labours in the world.
- ❖ Nine out of ten children involved in labour works are in Asia, Africa and Pacific.
- ❖ This year, the focus is, "COVID-19/Protect children from child labour now, more than ever".



12 June 2020
4:30-5:45 pm (CET)

► High-level virtual debate

**COVID-19 and
Child Labour:**
► Looking forward
in times of crisis

