

March - 01

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Prakash Javadekar, Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change used Sanskrit for the first time in UNSC Debate on climate change.
 - He addressed with the Sanskrit hymn from Sukla Yajurveda.

TAMIL NADU

Retirement age of government staff

- ❖ The retirement age of Tamil Nadu state government employees has been increased from 59 to 60 years.
- ❖ All those who were in service and those who would retire on May 31, 2021, would be covered under this announcement.
- ❖ Last year, the government had increased the retirement age from 58 to 59 years.

NATIONAL

President's rule in Puducherry

- ❖ The President rule is imposed recently in Puducherry after Narayana Samy government resignation.
- ❖ Constitution of India under article 239A provides for legislature and Council of Ministers in Union territories.

Model code of conduct

- ❖ The Election Commission announced the full schedule for Assembly polls in 4 states.
- ❖ The 4 states are West Bengal, Kerala, Assam, Tamil Nadu and 1 UT of Puducherry.
- ❖ Model Code of Conduct (MCC) came into force immediately after the announcement of the election dates.
- ❖ MCC is the set of norms has been evolved with the consensus of political parties.
- ❖ They have consented to abide by the principles embodied in the said code in its letter and spirit.



INTERNATIONAL

Eradicating poverty in China

- ❖ President Xi Jinping declared that China has scored a “complete victory” in its fight against poverty.
- ❖ He said that, the country lifting over 770 million people out of it in the last four decades.
- ❖ With this, China has achieved the U.N. goal of poverty eradication 10 years ahead of the 2030 deadline.
- ❖ China has a population of around 1.4 billion.

Pakistan in grey list

- ❖ The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) announced that Pakistan will continue to remain on its grey list.
- ❖ This is due to failure to comply with all the points of a plan of action set by it to combat terror financing.
- ❖ The Paris-based FATF had placed Pakistan on the grey list in June 2018.

2nd Trilateral dialogue

- ❖ A trilateral dialogue was held among India, France, and Australia recently.
- ❖ It focusses on further enhancing cooperation in the Indo-Pacific.
- ❖ The aim of this trilateral dialogue is to build strong bilateral relation among the three countries.
- ❖ The first India-France-Australia Trilateral Dialogue was held virtually on September 9, 2020.

Conference on Pharmaceutical & Medical Devices

- ❖ The 6th edition of the International Conference on Pharmaceutical & Medical Device sector was inaugurated by Union Minister Piyush Goyal.
- ❖ The conference includes INDIA PHARMA 2021 & INDIA MEDICAL DEVICE 2021.
- ❖ It was to encourage and bring forward the best technology solutions and manufacturing, for the overall growth of the Pharma & Medical Device sector.
- ❖ The theme of India Pharma 2021: ‘Indian Pharma Industry: “Future is Now”’.
- ❖ The theme of India Medical Device 2021 is “India MedTech Future: Innovate & Make in India through Global Alliance”.



ECONOMY

Currency and Finance Report

- ❖ This is released by RBI for the year of 2020-21.
- ❖ The theme of the Report is “Reviewing the Monetary Policy Framework”.
- ❖ As per report, an inflation target of 4 per cent with a +/-2 per cent tolerance band, is appropriate for the next five years.
- ❖ The report also recommends that roll the terms for the members in six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC).

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Silver Antimony Telluride

- ❖ Scientists at the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, have found a new material, Silver Antimony Telluride (AgSbTe_2).
- ❖ It is a nanomaterial compound synthesised from Silver, Antimony and Tellurium.
- ❖ It can help in tapping waste heat produced by all kinds of domestic and industrial appliances.
- ❖ Basically, the material will exploit the benefits of thermo-electric effect.
- ❖ The thermo-electric effect involves the process by which heat is transformed to electrical energy.
- ❖ Typically, not more than 15 to 20% of the waste heat can be utilised.



ENVIRONMENT

State of Environment Report - 2021

- ❖ Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) has released the State of Environment Report- 2021.
- ❖ It is an annual publication by CSE along with Down To Earth.
- ❖ It covers aspects such as forests, wildlife, agriculture, rural development, water and sanitation, and climate change.

Highlights

- ❖ 375 million children (from new born to 14-year-olds) have a long-lasting impact ranging from being underweight, stunting, and increased child mortality.
- ❖ Out of the 500 million children forced out of school globally, India accounts for more than 50%.
- ❖ 115 million additional people might get pushed into extreme poverty and most of them live in South Asia.
- ❖ India's air, water, and land have become more polluted between 2009 and 2018.
- ❖ Tarapur in Maharashtra has emerged as the most polluted cluster.
- ❖ India ranks 117 among 192 nations in terms of sustainable development.
- ❖ It is behind all South Asian nations except Pakistan.
- ❖ Five best performing states in achieving SDGs: Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana.
- ❖ Five worst-performing states in achieving SDGs: Bihar, Jharkhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, and Uttar Pradesh.

SPORTS

400 Test wickets

- ❖ Ravichandran Ashwin became the fastest Indian bowler to pick 400 Test wickets in terms of matches.
- ❖ He reached the milestone in his 77th Test.
- ❖ Muralitharan got there in just 72 matches.
- ❖ Other Indians to have picked more than 400 wickets are Anil Kumble (619), Kapil Dev (434) and Harbhajan Singh (417)



QUICKEST TO 400 TEST WICKETS

Bowler	For	Tests	Time Taken
Muralitharan	SL	72	9 yrs 137 days
R Ashwin	Ind	77	9 yrs 110 days
R Hadlee	NZ	80	17 yrs 0 days
D Steyn	SA	80	10 yrs 225 days
R Herath	SL	84	18 yrs 6 days
A Kumble	Ind	85	14 yrs 58 days

