

March - 05

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The World Day of the fight against sexual exploitation is observed every year on March 4th since 2009.
- ❖ The Foundation stone was laid for Krishnagiri medical college and hospital on March 4th.
- ❖ BCCI Appoints Former India spinner Sunil Joshi as New Chief Selector of Indian Men's Cricket Team.
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh government has decided to go with the 2010 questionnaire for the National Population Register (NPR).

TAMIL NADU

All Women Bench

- ❖ The Chief Justice of Madras High Court Amreshwar Pratap Sahi has made oncoming International Women's Day this year a memorable by constituting its first-ever all-women Full Bench.
- ❖ Bench consists of 3 judges namely Justices Pushpa Sathyanarayana, Anita Sumanth and P.T. Asha.
- ❖ About a year ago, the Madras High Court had the distinction of having had the highest number of 11 women judges.

War Medal

- ❖ The Medal used by the war heroes about 500 years ago has been found in Kulithalai in Karur district.



Buddhist tower near Sankarankoil

- ❖ The 100-foot-tall World Peace Buddhist Tower built in Veeriruppu village near Sankarankoil (Tenkasi district) was opened on March 4.
- ❖ This Buddhist Tower built in Veeriruppu near the Western Ghats is the first Buddhist tower built in South India.
- ❖ Buddhist monks from various countries participated on this occasion.



NATIONAL

QS World Ranking

- ❖ Five institutions from India have been ranked among the top 100 this year according to subject-wise QS World Ranking.



- ❖ IIT-Bombay's mineral & mining engineering and Delhi University's Development Studies are the top-ranked programmes from India.

Institution	Rank
IIT Kanpur	96
IIT Madras	88
IIT Kharagpur	86
IIT Delhi	47
IIT Bombay	44

Janaushadhi week

- ❖ Janaushadhi week is being celebrated across the country from 1st of this month through Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras.
- ❖ Jan Aushadhi Kendra owners are organising different types of activities for making awareness about health and hygiene.
- ❖ On the fourth day of the week, an event for empowering the women of the country with the theme of 'Suvidha Se Sammaan' was held.
- ❖ Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana is a noble initiative of the Government.
- ❖ It is now making an impact on masses in its endeavour to provide quality medicines at an affordable price.

MoUs to implement Agro Export Policy

- ❖ Agricultural and Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA) has been signing MoUs with a number of organisations for implementation of the Agro Export Policy.
- ❖ The Agriculture Export Policy was framed with a focus on agriculture export-oriented production, export promotion, better price realization to farmer and synchronization within policies and programmes of Government of India.
- ❖ It focuses on "Farmer's Centric Approach" for improved income through value addition at source itself to help minimize losses across the value chain.

Cryptocurrencies

- ❖ In April 2018, the RBI had issued a circular barring banking and financial services from dealing in transactions involving virtual currency or Cryptocurrency such as Bitcoin.
- ❖ The Supreme Court now frees trade in Cryptocurrencies as RBI circular is violating the law by interfering into the trade of the country.

- ❖ Cryptocurrency is a digital currency for which encryption techniques are used to regulate its use and generate its release.
- ❖ It is not regulated or controlled by any bank, government or centralized financial authorities.



Security Ink

- ❖ The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) - National Physical Laboratory has developed a bi-luminescent security ink which glows in red and green colours when illuminated.
- ❖ The ink developed could help to stop counterfeit rupee notes.
- ❖ The formulation can be used to check the authenticity of passports, government documents, identity cards, etc.





Cabinet approves merger of PSBs

- ❖ The Union cabinet approved the consolidation of 10 public sector banks (PSBs) into four entities.
- ❖ This move aims to have fewer but stronger lenders in India.
- ❖ At present, India has 18 state-owned banks compared with 27 in 2017.
- ❖ After the merger, the number will further come down to 12.

INTERNATIONAL

Free public transport

- ❖ Luxembourg became the world's first country to offer entirely free public transport.
- ❖ This is an attempt made to help less-well-off workers and reduce road traffic.

ECONOMY

100% FDI on civil aviation

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has given approval to permit foreign investment up to 100% by NRIs in case of Air India.
- ❖ Previously 100% FDI is permitted under automatic route for NRIs in Scheduled Air Transport Service/Domestic Scheduled Passenger Airline.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Super Earth

- ❖ K2-18 b is a super Earth exoplanet that orbits a M-type star.
- ❖ A research team from the University of Cambridge has announced that K2-18b could have liquid water and habitable conditions.
- ❖ K2-18b is an exoplanet a bit more than twice the size of Earth.

2020 AV2 Asteroid

- ❖ Gianluca Masi, an astrophysicist has announced the confirmation of 2020 AV2 as the first asteroid orbiting entirely within the orbit of Venus.
- ❖ 2020 AV2 was discovered by the Zwicky Transient Facility on 4 January 2020.

ENVIRONMENT

Global Coalition for Biodiversity

- ❖ The European Commission has launched a new global coalition in Monaco.
- ❖ The Commission is calling for stronger mobilisation in raising awareness about the need to protect biodiversity.
- ❖ Ahead of the Fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 15), meeting of the Convention on Biological Diversity in October 2020, the Commission is aiming to boost public awareness about the nature crisis.
- ❖ During CoP 15, the 196 Parties to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity are expected to adopt a new global framework to protect and restore nature.



Sukhna Lake

- ❖ The Punjab and Haryana High Court observed that Sukhna Lake is required to be declared as a legal entity for its survival, preservation and conservation.
- ❖ The Chandigarh administration has been directed to declare Sukhna lake a wetland within a period of three months.
- ❖ The Court also ordered demolition of buildings in catchment area in Chandigarh, Punjab, Haryana.

Second phase of the Swachh Bharat Mission

- ❖ The Centre approved the second phase of the Swachh Bharat Mission.

- ❖ The second phase will focus on Open Defecation Free Plus (ODF Plus), which includes
 - ODF sustainability and
 - Solid and liquid waste management (SLWM)
- ❖ The second phase will be implemented on a mission mode between 2020-21 and 2024-25.

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Safety Day - March 04

- ❖ The National Safety Council (NSC) observes a National Safety Week to raise awareness for “safety”.
- ❖ Here safety refers it in any concern regarding life to prevent accidents and mishaps due to carelessness or recklessness.
- ❖ This year's theme is "Enhance Health & Safety Performance by Use of Advanced Technology".
- ❖ The first observance of National Safety Day took place in 1966, on the day when the National Safety Council (NSC) was founded.
- ❖ Its headquarters is situated in Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra.



World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development - March 04

- ❖ World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development will be celebrated on 4th March every year as a UNESCO international day of engineers and engineering starting from 2020 onwards.



- ❖ Engineers and engineering will be celebrated each year, as well as the important contributions of the profession to sustainable development and modern life.

