

March - 08

TAMIL NADU

Third World Thirukkural Conference

- ❖ The Third World Thirukkural Conference was started in Thanjavur.
- ❖ It is held on behalf of the World Tamil Research Institute, Bharath College of Science, Australia Melbourne Tamil Association, Ilangadu Natramizh Association and Thanjavur Tamil Thai Foundation.

NATIONAL

National committee

- ❖ The National Committee is set up to commemorate 75 years of India's Independence.
- ❖ It is a 259-member high-level national committee.
- ❖ The committee includes Union Ministers, Chief Ministers, Governors and leaders from different political parties.
- ❖ The 75 years of India's Independence falls on 15th August next year.
- ❖ The celebrations are proposed to be launched 75 weeks prior to this date on 12th of this month.
- ❖ 12th March is the 91st anniversary of the historic Salt Satyagraha led by Mahatma Gandhi.

Red Rice

- ❖ In a major boost to India's rice exports potential, the first consignment of 'red rice' was flagged off to the USA.
- ❖ This rice variety is called 'Bao dhaan' - Integral part of Assamese food.
- ❖ 'Red rice' is grown in Brahmaputra valley of Assam.
- ❖ It is grown without the use of any chemical fertilizer.
- ❖ It is rich in iron.
- ❖ Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has promoting rice exports through the Rice Export Promotion Forum (REPF).

- ❖ REPF has representations from rice industry, exporters, officials from APEDA, Ministry of Commerce.
- ❖ It has directors of Agriculture from major rice producing states - West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh and Odisha.

INTERNATIONAL

International Year of Millets

- ❖ United Nations has unanimously declared 2023 as the International Year of Millets.
- ❖ This was initiated by India with Bangladesh, Kenya, Nepal, Nigeria, Russia and Senegal and was co-sponsored by over 70 nations.

“Freedom in the World 2021: Democracy under Siege” report

- ❖ The report is released by U.S. think tank, Freedom House.
- ❖ It has classified India as ‘partly free’.

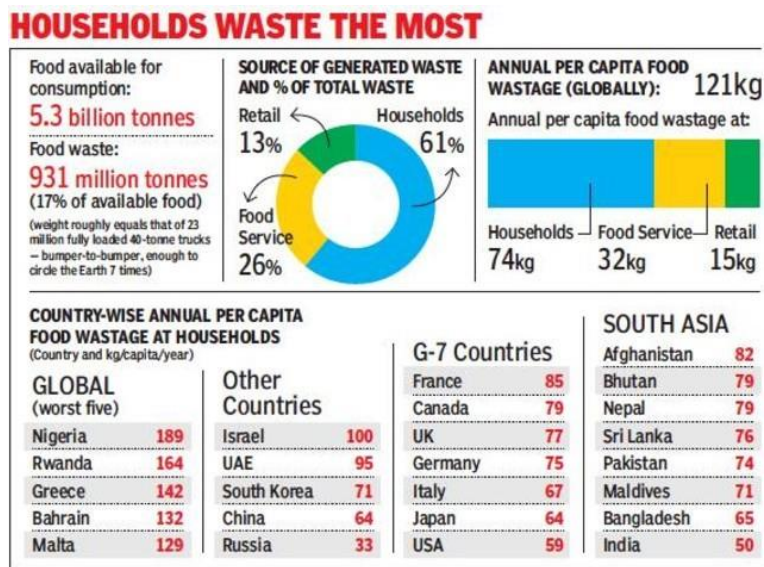
Key points:

- ❖ India’s score was 67.
- ❖ Last year, its score was 71/100 (free category).
- ❖ According to the report, the Indian government and its State-level allies continued to crack down on critics during the year.



Food Waste Index Report-2021

- ❖ It is the most comprehensive food waste data collection, generating a new estimate of global food waste.
- ❖ The index report was published by the UNEP in collaboration with the partner organisation WRAP.
- ❖ UN report shows close to 931 million tonnes of food were wasted globally in 2019.
- ❖ The household waste in India is 50 kg per capita per year which equals 68.7 million tonnes per year.



In other countries

- ❖ The household food waste in USA is 59 kg per capita per year which equals the 19,359,951 tonnes per year.
- ❖ In China, the household waste is 64 kg per capita per year which accounts for 91,646,213 tonnes in a year.
- ❖ Austria produces very low amounts of waste at 39 kg/capita/year.
- ❖ Nigeria is producing waste at 189 kg/capita/year.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

First Arctic-monitoring Satellite

- ❖ Russia has successfully launched its first satellite to monitor the Arctic's climate and environment.
- ❖ A Soyuz-2.1b carrier rocket with the "Arktika-M" satellite on board blasted off from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.



- ❖ The Arktika-M will provide round-the-clock continuous monitoring of the northern territory of Russia and the seas of the Arctic Ocean.
- ❖ The satellite will be able to transmit overview images of the Earth's northern polar region and the adjacent areas at least every 15-30 minutes.
- ❖ This satellite will help to collect information to solve operational meteorology and hydrology problems, and monitoring the climate and environment in the Arctic region.

SFDR Technology

- ❖ The Defence Research and Development Organisation has successfully tested a flight demonstration based on Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet technology (SFDR).
- ❖ It is tested in the Integrated Test Range in Odisha's Chandipur.
- ❖ The SFDR technology will help DRDO with the technological advantage to develop long-range air-to-air missiles.

Ramjet

- ❖ A ramjet is a form of air-breathing jet engine that uses the vehicle's forward motion to compress incoming air for combustion without a rotating compressor.
- ❖ Ramjets work most efficiently at supersonic speeds but they are not efficient at hypersonic speeds.

ENVIRONMENT

First dolphin research centre

- ❖ India's and Asia's first National Dolphin Research Centre will come up on the bank of the Ganges in the premises of Patna University.
- ❖ The dolphin is a highly endangered species under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
- ❖ It was declared the National Aquatic Animal in 2009.
- ❖ The gangetic dolphin is one of the four freshwater dolphins' species in the world.
- ❖ Other three species are said to be found in,
 - Yangtze River,
 - Indus River and
 - Amazon River.
- ❖ The presence of dolphins in the Ganga gives a sign of a healthy ecosystem because dolphins live at least in 5 ft to 8 ft deep water.



STATES

Night Safari

- ❖ Madhya Pradesh introduced night safaris in three of the national parks in the state.
- ❖ The night safaris are expected to boost to the tourism sector of the state.
- ❖ The three national parks are
 - Bandhavgarh National Park,
 - Kanha National Park and
 - Pench National Park.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

30th Bihari Puraskar for 2020

- ❖ The Bihari Puraskar is one of the three literary awards instituted by the KK Birla Foundation in 1991.
- ❖ Mohankrishna Bohara will be awarded the 30th Bihari Puraskar Award for his critical work 'Taslima: Sangharsh aur Sahitya'.
- ❖ The book was published in 2016.
- ❖ The award is named after the famous poet Bihari.
- ❖ The award is given every year for an outstanding work published in the last 10 years by a Rajasthani author in Hindi or Rajasthani.

SPORTS

Third batsman to hit 6 sixes

- ❖ Kieron Pollard became the third batsman in the history of international cricket to hit six 6s in an over.
- ❖ Kieron Pollard hit 6 sixes in Sri Lanka's Akila Dananjaya's over in a T20I in Antigua.
- ❖ The former South Africa opener Herschelle Gibbs achieved the feat first - in a World Cup 2007 match against the Netherlands.
- ❖ Pollard is the only 2nd batsman after Yuvraj Singh to achieve the feat in T20Is.



SIX SIXES IN AN OVER		
IN INTERNATIONAL CRICKET		
BATSMAN	BOWLER	TOURNAMENT
Herschelle Gibbs (South Africa)	Daan van Bunge (Netherlands)	2007 ODI World Cup
Yuvraj Singh (India)	Stuart Broad (England)	2007 T20 World Cup
Kieron Pollard (West Indies)	Akila Dananjaya (Sri Lanka)	2021 West Indies vs Sri Lanka bilateral T20 series (first match)

