

March - 08

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Pune based National Institute of Virology has shared two sequences of novel corona virus with Global Initiative on Sharing All Influenza Data (GISAID).
 - The GISAID promotes international sharing of influenza virus sequences.

TAMIL NADU

Katchatheevu Festival

- ❖ The annual festival of St Antony's Shrine in Katchatheevu Island, Sri Lanka began.
- ❖ It is notable that the citizens of India are not required to possess an Indian passport or Sri Lankan visa for visiting Kachchatheevu, according to an agreement between the two governments.
- ❖ St Antony is worshiped as the patron saint of sea farers.
- ❖ The shrine is the only structure on the island and was built in the early years of the last century.
- ❖ It is an uninhabited island administered by Sri Lanka and was a disputed territory claimed by India until 1976.
- ❖ In 1974 India recognized Sri Lankan ownership of the island on a conditional agreement.

NATIONAL

Nari Shakthi Puraskar

- ❖ President Ram Nath Kovind gave away the Nari Shakti Puraskar to 15 women in Rashtrapati Bhawan on the occasion of International Women's Day (March 8).
- ❖ The National Award is given annually to individuals, groups, institutions in recognition of their exceptional work towards the cause of women empowerment, especially for vulnerable and marginalized women.
- ❖ The award was instituted in the year 1999 by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- ❖ It is given in six institutional categories and two individual categories.

2020 Awards

- ❖ 103-year-old athlete Mann Kaur.
- ❖ Indian Air Force's first women fighter pilots Mohana Singh, Bhawana Kanth and Avani Chaturvedi.
- ❖ Farmers Padala Bhudevi and Bina Devi.
- ❖ Artisan Arifa Jaan.
- ❖ Environmentalist Chami Murmu.



- ❖ Entrepreneur Nilza Wangmo.
- ❖ Automotive research professional Rashmi Urdhwardeshe.
- ❖ Lady Mason Kalavati Devi.
- ❖ Twin Mountaineers Tashi and Nungshi Malik.
- ❖ Classical vocalist Kaushiki Chakroborty.
- ❖ 98-year-old Karthyayini Amma who topped the literacy exam in 2018.



Six Categories

- ❖ Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar Award for Best Private Sector organization/ Public sector undertaking in promoting the well-being and welfare of women
- ❖ Kannagi Devi Award for Best State which has appreciably improved Child Sex Ratio (CSR)
- ❖ Mata Jijabai Award for Best Urban Local body for providing services and facilities to women
- ❖ Rani Gaidinliu Zeliang Award for Best Civil Society organization (CSO)
- ❖ Rani Lakshmi Bai Award for Best Institution for Research & Development in the field of women empowerment
- ❖ Rani Rudramma Devi Awards for two District Panchayats and two Gram Panchayats

Self Help Groups (SHGs)

- ❖ On March 8, 2020, Minister of Rural Development Narendra Singh Tomar announced that more than 17 lakh Self Help Groups (SHGs) are to be developed by 2022.
- ❖ Currently, there are more than 60 lakh self-help groups in the country mobilizing 6 crore women.

About

- ❖ The concept of Self-Help Groups was introduced in 1992 under the guidelines of RBI and NABARD.
- ❖ The “Kudumbashree” project in Kerala is the largest and most successful SHG project in the country that was launched in Kerala.
- ❖ It is a SHG of the State Government.
- ❖ It was launched in 1998.

INTERNATIONAL

Indian Ocean Commission

- ❖ India joined the Indian Ocean Commission as the fifth observer.
- ❖ The other four observers in the grouping are Malta, China, European Union and OIF (International Organization of La Francophonie).
- ❖ The Indian Ocean Commission was created in 1982 at Port Louis, Mauritius.
- ❖ It comprises of 5 African Indian Ocean Nations namely Madagascar, Mauritius, Comoros, Reunion (France) and Seychelles.





United Nations Global Compact Study

- ❖ The United Nations Global Compact conducted a study recently.
- ❖ It found that female labour participation has decreased from 34% in 2006 to 24.8% in 2020.
- ❖ The study also says that out of the 153 countries surveyed, India is the only country where economic gender gap is greater than political gap.
- ❖ Globally 38.7% of employed women are working in forestry, agriculture and fisheries.
- ❖ However, only 13.85 of them are landholders.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Ayush Grid

- ❖ The Ministry of AYUSH released digital platform called AYUSH GRID.
- ❖ The grid provides facilities associated with AYUSH hospitals and laboratories and promote traditional health care.
- ❖ The “AYUSH GRID” platform aims to digitize entire AYUSH sector.
- ❖ The Ministry of AYUSH has developed National Ayurveda Morbidity Codes.
- ❖ These codes classify diseases described in Ayurveda.
- ❖ In the first phase of the initiative 4 disease conditions have been identified namely KAsa, Kushtha, Jwara and Shwasa.
- ❖ Ministry of AYUSH is the backbone of Ayushman Bharat Yojana.

ENVIRONMENT

Environment Related Crimes

- ❖ The Comptroller and Auditor General tabled the report for the year that ended on 31st March 2018 (2017-18).
- ❖ According to the report, between 2014 and 2016, 40% of environmental crimes in India were from Rajasthan.
- ❖ The report pointed out that Wildlife Crime Control units were not established in the state.
- ❖ The Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve and Sariska Tiger Reserve were not regulated due to the absence of Local Advisory Committee.



STATES

Mission Bhagiratha

- ❖ The Mission Bhagiratha is a safe drinking water project that was launched for the state of Telangana.
- ❖ It aims to provide drinking water to every village and city household.
- ❖ It will supply clean drinking water from the rivers Krishna and Godavari.
- ❖ According to Hindu culture, Bhagiratha is an Indian king who brought the holy river Ganga to the earth.
- ❖ River Bhagirathi does not flow in Telangana.
- ❖ It flows through Uttarakhand state.

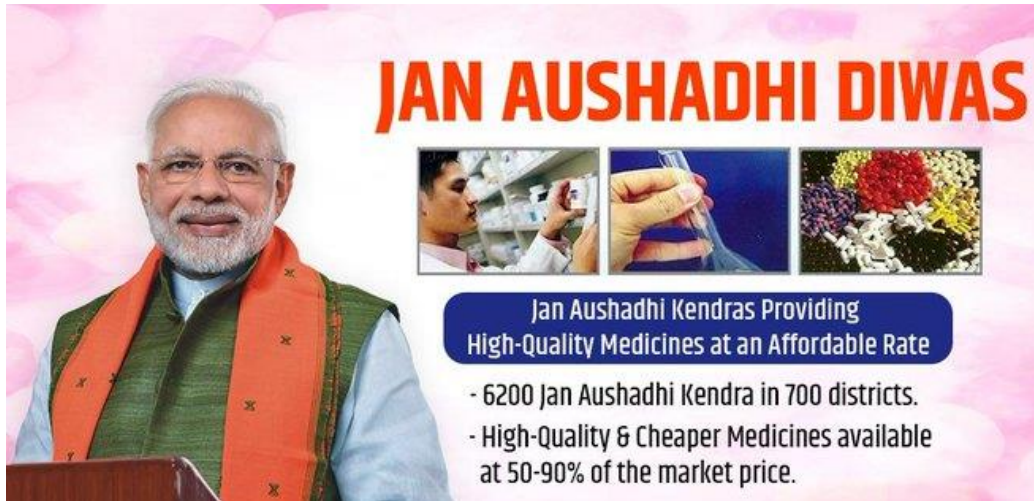
Land Immigration Check Posts

- ❖ Ghojadanga of West Bengal and Agartala of Tripura were designated as land immigration check posts.
- ❖ They are located in Indo-Bangladesh border.
- ❖ India has adopted the policy of “Guarding and Securing” in order to secure its boundary at Bangladesh border.
- ❖ The visas issued by Indian high commission in Bangladesh is the highest of all the Indian missions.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Jan Aushadhi Divas (Generic Medicine Day) – March 7

- ❖ It is observed to create awareness about the use of generic medicines.
- ❖ It was started on March 07, 2019.
- ❖ Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) scheme was announced on July 01, 2015 by the Prime Minister of India.
- ❖ It is initiated by the Department of Pharmaceuticals under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India.



- ❖ The Government aims to have at least 1 PMBJP Kendra in each block of the country by 2020.
- ❖ The prices of high-quality medicines are being reduced by the government below the market price under this scheme.
- ❖ 'Jan Aushadhi Stores' has been set up by the government, where generic medicines are being made available.
- ❖ Generic medicines are much cheaper than branded medicines.

International Women's Day – March 8th

- ❖ This day honours women around the world, celebrates their social, economic, cultural, and political achievements.
- ❖ Theme for this year is "Each for Equal".
- ❖ After women gained suffrage in Soviet Russia in 1917, March 8 became a national holiday there.
- ❖ The United Nations began celebrating the day in 1977.
- ❖ The UN theme for International Women's Day was: 'I am Generation Equality': Realizing Women's Rights'.



International Women's Day 2020
#EachforEqual

