

March - 16

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the Kindle version of Swami Chidbhavananda's 'Bhagavad Gita'.
 - Swami Chidbhavanandaji is the founder of Sri Ramakrishna Tapovanam Ashram at Thirupparaithurai, Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The Sangay volcano of Ecuador was recently erupted.
- ❖ The BRICS Contact Group on Economic and Trade Issues (CGETI) leaders held their first meeting under India's Chairship.
 - The theme of BRICS this year is "BRICS@15: Intra BRICS Cooperation for Continuity, Consolidation, and Consensus".
- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh government ordered the removal of all religious structures on public roads.
- ❖ The Jharkhand cabinet has approved the employment policy of mandating the private sector units to reserve 75 per cent of jobs for local people.
 - Before Jharkhand, Haryana government had also approved a similar policy.

TAMIL NADU

Gowsalya Shankar

- ❖ The U.S. Consulate honoured Tamil Nadu-based anti-caste activist and human rights defender Gowsalya Shankar with the International Woman of Courage (IWOC) Award.
- ❖ Gowsalya was U.S. Mission India's nominee for the 2021 U.S. Secretary of State's IWOC Award.

NATIONAL

4th Global Ayurveda Festival 2021

- ❖ It showcases Ayurveda as a global treatment programme.
- ❖ The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries is the festival and industry partner.
- ❖ International Ayurveda Seminar will be organised under the Theme "Strengthening Host Defence System – Ayurveda A Potential Promise".



- ❖ The International Delegate Assembly will be organised under the Theme “Globalizing Ayurveda – Scope, Challenges and Solutions”.
- ❖ The “International Business Meet” will be organised under the Theme “Global Ayurveda Pharmacy – Practices, Possibilities and Policies”.

Sahitya Akademi Award 2020

- ❖ Sahitya Akademi have announced the names for the “Sahitya Akademi Award 2020”.
- ❖ The award is conferred to the most outstanding books of literary merit.
- ❖ It is given for the works published in any 24 major Indian languages.
- ❖ The languages include Hindi and other 22 languages of the Eighth Schedule of Constitution along with English.
- ❖ Subramaniam have won the award for her poetry collection called “When God is a Traveller” in English.
- ❖ Veerappa Moily has been named for his epic poetry called “Sri Bahubali Ahimsa Digvijayam” in Kannada language.
- ❖ Tamil writer Imayam won the Sahitya Akademi Award for 2020 for his novel Sellatha Panam.
- ❖ He calls himself a writer of the Dravidian movement.
- ❖ He is the first writer from ‘Nadu Nadu’ — Cuddalore, Villupuram and Arcot districts — of Tamil Nadu to win the award.

INTERNATIONAL

China’s New Five-Year Plan

- ❖ China formally approved the outline of its 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-2025).
- ❖ It includes the first dam in Tibet on the lower reaches of the Yarlung Zangbo or Brahmaputra and a Sichuan-Tibet railway line near the India border.
- ❖ It aims to develop the Polar Silk Road as a component of the wider Belt and Road Initiative.



ECONOMY

Global Survey of Chief Executive Officers

- ❖ The findings are part of leading consultancy PwC's 24th Annual Global CEO Survey.
- ❖ India has emerged as the fifth most attractive growth destination
- ❖ The United States is the number one market.
- ❖ China is at the second spot.
- ❖ Germany and United Kingdom captured 3rd and 4th Spots respectively.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Johnson & Johnson's COVID-19 vaccine

- ❖ The World Health Organization (WHO) issued emergency use authorization for Johnson & Johnson's coronavirus vaccine
- ❖ Johnson & Johnson's coronavirus vaccine is the first single-dose vaccine to be listed by the WHO.
- ❖ This vaccine needs to be stored at -20 degrees.
- ❖ The WHO had earlier listed the Pfizer/BioNTech, AstraZeneca-SK Bio and Serum Institute of India vaccines for emergency use.

STATES

Kalanamak Rice Festival

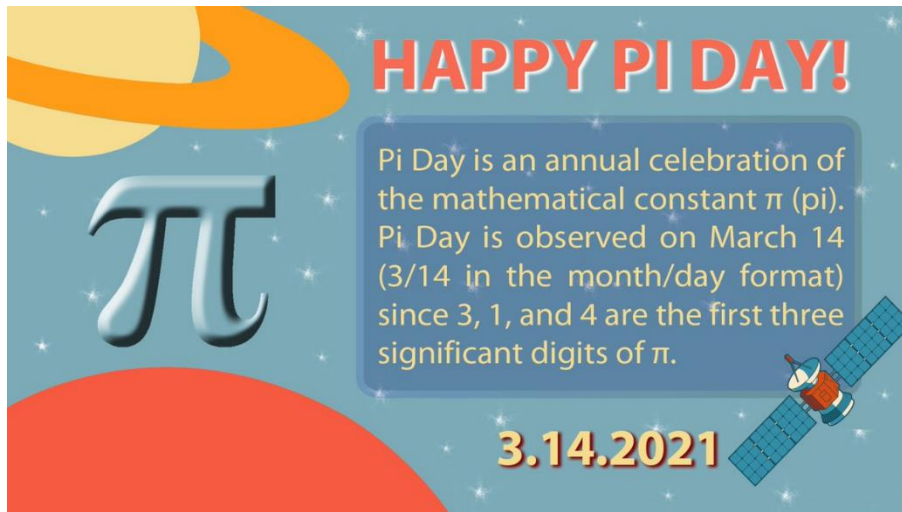
- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh government organised "Kalanamak Rice Festival" in the Siddharth Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ The Kala Namak Rice is grown in this region.
- ❖ The rice is a geographical indication (GI) tagged rice.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Pi Day – March 14

- ❖ Pi is the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter.
- ❖ The value of Pi is 3.14 and the initial of the number is 3.
- ❖ Thus, it is observed in March as it is the third month in the annual calendar.

- ❖ The symbol of Pi was discovered by William Jones in the year 1706.
- ❖ The value of the Pi was first calculated by Mathematician, Archimedes of Syracuse.
- ❖ UNESCO started observing Pi Day as 'International Day of Mathematics' from the year 2019.
- ❖ Pi Approximation Day is observed on July 22 (22/7 in the day/month format).



World Consumer Rights Day – March 15



- ❖ The 2021 theme is "Tackle Plastic Pollution".
- ❖ The history of World Consumer Rights Day starts with the USA President John F Kennedy.
- ❖ On March 15, 1962, he sent a special message to the US Congress to address the consumer rights issue.
- ❖ He was the first world leader to do so.



❖ The first World Consumer Rights Day was observed on 15 March 1983.

