

March - 22

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Hindu has brought out a compilation on the life and thoughts of Swami Vivekananda titled 'The Monk Who Took India to the World'.

TAMIL NADU

Veterinary college at Theni

- ❖ A new veterinary college will be opened in Theni district.
- ❖ Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami made this announcement in the State Assembly.
- ❖ He also said the veterinary hospital at Nagercoil would be upgraded to a super speciality veterinary hospital.

Amma mini marts

- ❖ The government will open 189 more Amma Mini Cooperative Supermarkets in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami made this announcement in the State Assembly.
- ❖ Over 300 non-controlled products are being sold at 5% lesser than MRP in the existing Amma Mini Cooperative Supermarkets.
- ❖ These supermarkets are aimed at providing quality products to consumers at a reasonable price and to control the price of commodities in the open market.

NATIONAL

Indira Gandhi Matritva Poshan Yojana

- ❖ The scheme was recently announced by the Rajasthan Government on pilot basis in 4 districts.
- ❖ The scheme will be implemented in Udaipur, Pratapgarh, Banswara and Dungarpur, where nutrition indicators among children and anaemia levels among mothers are worse than the average for the State.
- ❖ It is a maternity benefit scheme.
- ❖ Under the scheme ₹ 6,000 will be offered for the birth of the second child.



- ❖ The State scheme will complement the Central government's Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) which offers ₹ 5,000 for the birth of the first child.

About PMMVY

- ❖ The scheme is a conditional cash transfer scheme for pregnant and lactating women.
- ❖ It provides a partial wage compensation to women for wage-loss during childbirth and childcare and to provide conditions for safe delivery and good nutrition and feeding practices.

Atal Beema Vyakti Kalyan Yojana

- ❖ The Government of India announced that it will provide unemployment benefits to the section of unorganized workers under Atal Beema Vyakti Kalyan Yojana.
- ❖ These workers include persons who have lost their jobs due to the impact of the Corona Virus Pandemic.
- ❖ The workers who become unemployed due to the impact of corona virus will receive cash for 3 months.

About the Scheme

- ❖ The scheme provides unemployment insurance to those workers enrolled in ESI scheme.
- ❖ ESI is Employee State Insurance State.
- ❖ Under the scheme, the workers receive cash of 25% of their salary that they were receiving in the last 2 months.
- ❖ The scheme is operation since 2018.
- ❖ It provides compensation to those who become unemployed for three months.

India - Third largest producer of Electricity

- ❖ The Ministry of Power quoted International Energy Agency ranking in the Parliament.
- ❖ According to the ranking, India is the third largest producer of electricity in the world.
- ❖ Also, it is ranked 106th in terms of per capital consumption.
- ❖ India has now become power surplus from power deficit.
- ❖ Therefore, it is currently focusing on supply of quality power to consumers.
- ❖ India's power production is dominated by coal.



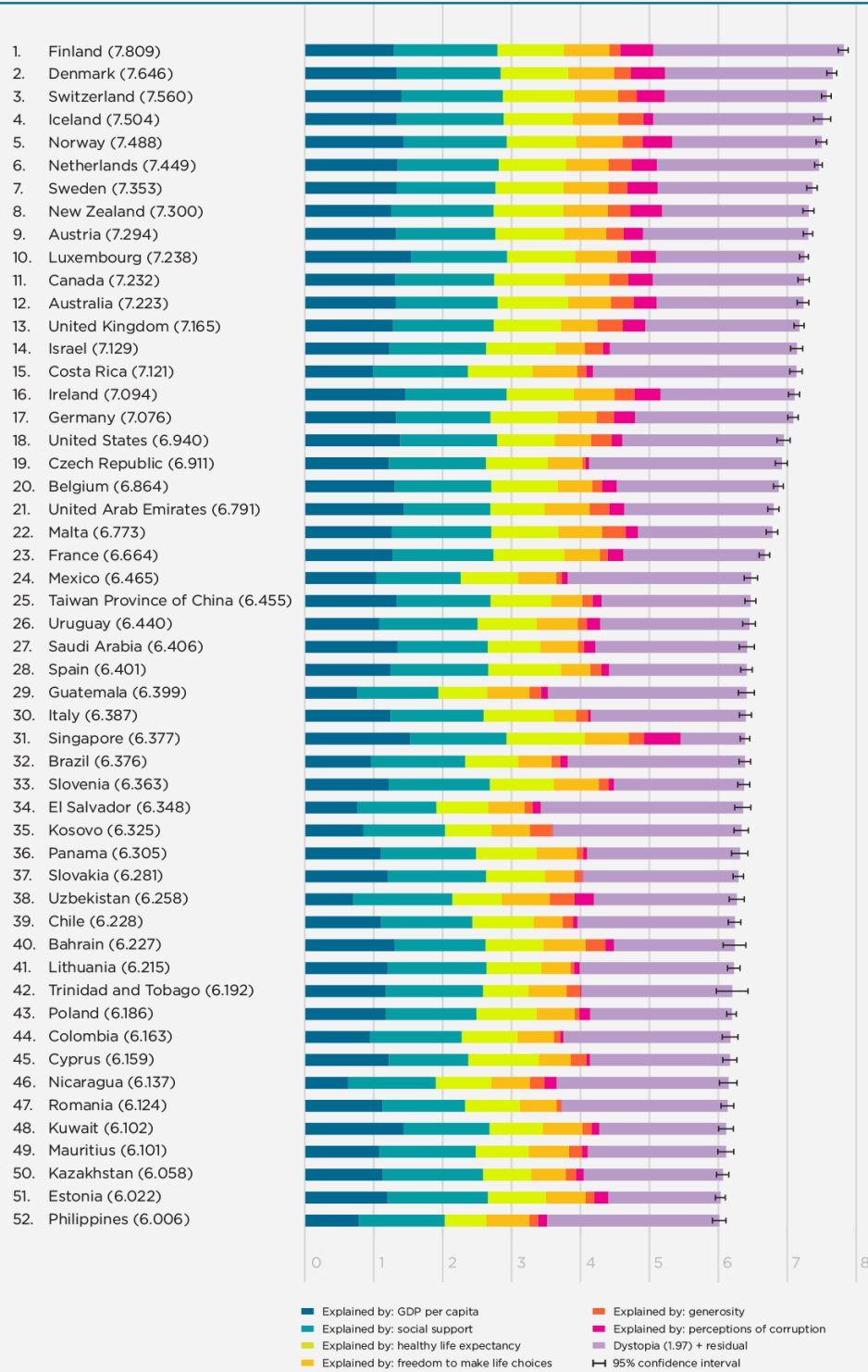
- ❖ As of May 2019, 72% of India's electricity was generated from coal-based power plants.
- ❖ However, several energy institutes predict that dependence of India on coal is to reduce.
- ❖ India is slowly shifting towards other sources of energy, especially solar energy.
- ❖ India has set a target of achieving 175 GW of renewable energy in 2022.
- ❖ Of this, 100 GW is to be solar power.

INTERNATIONAL

Finland – World's happiest Country

- ❖ Finland's residents enjoy a high quality of life, security and public services, with rates of inequality and poverty among the lowest of all OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) countries.
- ❖ Experts at the United Nations declared Finland to be the world's happiest nation for the third year running.
- ❖ Researchers for the World Happiness Report asked people in 156 countries to evaluate their own levels of happiness.
- ❖ Measures such as GDP, social support, personal freedom and levels of corruption were taken into account to give each nation a happiness score.
- ❖ The report is released by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network for the United Nations by the UN General Assembly.
- ❖ India ranked 144 among 156 countries.
- ❖ OECD is an intergovernmental economic organisation with 36 member countries
- ❖ It was founded in 1961 to stimulate economic progress and world trade.

Figure 2.1: Ranking of Happiness 2017–2019 (Part 1)





Technology to detect Corona

- ❖ The International Atomic Energy Agency plans to help developing countries carry out tests to detect the new coronavirus by utilizing nuclear-derived technology.
- ❖ Scientists from various countries will undergo the first training course in detection technologies in a few weeks' time.
- ❖ The participants will learn to handle Real-Time Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction, or RT-PCR, tests.
- ❖ The diagnostic method uses a nuclear-derived technique to accurately detect and identify the coronavirus within hours.
- ❖ The IAEA is the international centre for cooperation in the nuclear field.
- ❖ The Agency works with its Member States and multiple partners worldwide to promote the safe, secure and peaceful use of nuclear technologies.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi Porkili Awards

- ❖ The Booksellers and Publishers' Association of South India has announced writers to be honoured with the Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi Porkili Awards for 2020.
- ❖ The awardees are,

Awardees	Awarded for
N. Murugesu Pandian	Prose
A. Mangai	Drama
Arivumathi	Poetry
Ponneelan	Novel
Siddhalingaiyya	Kannada language
R. Balakrishnan	English language

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Happiness - March 20

- ❖ The theme of 2020 is "Happiness for all, Together".
- ❖ The first International Happiness Day was observed on March 20 in the year 2013.

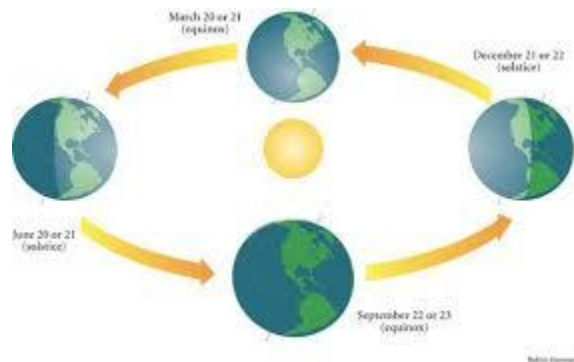
World Sparrow Day - March 20

- ❖ Every year March 20 is observed as World Sparrow Day to raise awareness about the bird.
- ❖ The theme for this year is "I LOVE Sparrows"

I ♥
SPARROWS

Equinox Earth Day - March 20

- ❖ The Equinox Earth Day, like the World Earth Day (April 22nd), is a time to celebrate the progress made by mankind in the preservation of the planet and plan out better strategies for the betterment of the climate.
- ❖ Every year, the Equinox Earth Day is celebrated on the Vernal equinox (This year – 20th of March).
- ❖ The day marks the first day of spring in the northern hemisphere and the first day of autumn in the southern hemisphere.
- ❖ The tradition began since March 21, 1970, when the first Equinox Earth Day and also the first Earth Day was celebrated.
- ❖ This day is also known as "Equinoctial Earth Day"



World Oral Health Day – March 20

- ❖ World Oral Health Day is celebrated to raise awareness about oral health.
- ❖ World Oral Health Day is organised by FDI World Dental Federation and is celebrated across the world.

- ❖ Adults those are healthy should have a total 32 teeth and 0 dental cavities.
- ❖ If expressed in numerical basis the above mentioned can be translated as 3/20 therefore 20th of March is chosen.
- ❖ The theme of World Oral Health day 2020 is "Unite for Mouth Health".

FDI

- ❖ FDI is an international, membership-based organization that serves as the main representative body for more than 1 million dentists worldwide.
- ❖ It was founded in the year 1900.
- ❖ Its headquarters is based in Geneva, Switzerland.

