

November - 01

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Poland's Constitutional Tribunal has ruled that an existing law allowing abortion of malformed fetuses is unconstitutional.
- ❖ India–Australia Circular Economy Hackathon (I-ACE) was launched by the Atal Innovation Mission in association with CSIRO of Australia.
- ❖ The new Prime Minister of Japan, Yoshihide Suga announced recently that the country will achieve zero carbon emissions by 2050.
- ❖ International Animation Day was observed on October 28.

TAMIL NADU

Karpom Eluthuvom Movement

- ❖ The school education department has planned to implement a program called 'Karpom Eluthuvom Movement' (கற்போம் எழுதுவோம்) in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ It aims to imparting basic literacy to the illiterate above the age of 15 years.
- ❖ The program will be implemented by the State Non-School and Adult Education Directorate.
- ❖ The project is to be implemented from November entirely by volunteers.
- ❖ According to the 2011 census, 1.24 crore people above the age of 15 are completely illiterate in Tamil Nadu.

Yaadhum Oore Conference

- ❖ TN Chief Minister Edappadi Palanisamy inaugurated the three-day virtual conference named 'yaadhum oore' (யாாதும் ஊரே) conference on 29.10.2020.
- ❖ In this online conference is attended by 10,000 entrepreneurs from 38 countries.
- ❖ Chief Minister introduced the "yaadhum oore" scheme in 2019 to attract foreign investment.



NATIONAL

Child Care Leave

- ❖ The Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) announced that Male employees of the government are also now entitled to Child Care Leave.
- ❖ But it will be available only for those male employees who happen to be “single male parent”.
- ❖ This may include male employees who are widowers or divorcees or even unmarried.

400th birth anniversary of Guru Tej Bahadur

- ❖ The Centre set up a high-level committee headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to commemorate the 400th birth anniversary of Shri Guru Tegh Bahadur.
- ❖ He was the ninth of ten Gurus of the Sikh religion.
- ❖ He was born at Amritsar in 1621 and was the youngest son of Guru Hargobind, the sixth Guru.
- ❖ He was publicly killed in 1675 on the orders of Mughal emperor Aurangzeb in Delhi.

INTERNATIONAL

Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement for Geo-Spatial cooperation (BECA)

| FOUNDATIONAL AGREEMENTS | | |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provide logistic support, refuelling & berthing facilities for each other's warships & aircraft on barter/equal-value exchange basis ➤ Will not involve stationing of US troops on Indian soil. Nor will India extend support if US goes to war with "a friendly country" ➤ Good for US forces re-balancing to Asia Pacific. Indian forces rarely operate far away from their shores but access to Djibouti & Diego Garcia could be useful | <p>Communication Interoperability & Security Memorandum Agreement (CISMOA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Technology enabler to help transfer high-tech avionics, encrypted communication & electronic systems to India ➤ US says CISMOA will boost 'interoperability' as well as ensure secrecy of its C4ISR (command, control, communications, computer, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance) systems ➤ But fears that US will be able to track & snoop on Indian warships/aircraft equipped with such systems | |
| | <p>Basic Exchange & Cooperation Agreement for Geo-Spatial Cooperation (BECA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ US says BECA will help India with advanced satellite & topographical data for long-range navigation & missile-targeting ➤ But India, which has its own satellite imaging capabilities, unwilling for American digital sensors to be positioned on its soil | |

- ❖ India and the U.S. signed the last foundational agreement BECA during the third 2+2 ministerial dialogue.
- ❖ This agreement would facilitate exchange of geospatial information between India and United States for both military and civilian use.
- ❖ Earlier both have signed LEMOA in 2016 and COMCASA in 2018.

Amy Coney Barrett – Associate Justice of US Supreme Court

- ❖ The US Senate voted to confirm the conservative jurist Amy Coney Barrett.
- ❖ She is the President Donald Trump's SC nominee judge as the newest justice of the United States Supreme Court.
- ❖ She will replace the vacant of the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.
- ❖ Ginsburg was the first Jewish woman and the second woman to serve on the US Supreme Court.
- ❖ It has given a 6-3 majority to the conservatives on the US Supreme Court.
- ❖ There are currently nine justices on the Supreme Court.
- ❖ In the USA, each justice has lifetime tenure, meaning they remain on the Court until they resign, retire, die, or are removed from office.



6th BRICS Parliamentary Forum

- ❖ Indian Parliamentary delegation under the leadership of Lok Sabha speaker Om Birla attended the sixth BRICS Parliamentary Forum.
- ❖ It was chaired by the Chairman of State Duma of the Federal Assembly of Russia.
- ❖ Theme is 'BRICS Partnership in the interest of Global Stability, Innovative Growth and General Safety: Parliamentary dimension'.

24th edition of Malabar Exercise 2020

- ❖ Australia will join the India-led Malabar 2020 naval exercise.
- ❖ The exercise will be a first for the so-called “Quad”.
- ❖ The Pacific cooperation ‘Quad’ is between Japan, India, Australia and the U.S.
- ❖ India has hosted the Malabar series with the U.S. Navy since 1992.
- ❖ In 2015 Japan joined into this as an annual participant.
- ❖ The Past non-permanent participant was Singapore.
- ❖ This annual exercise has been conducted off the coast of Guam in the Philippine Sea in 2018, off the coast the Japan in 2019.
- ❖ This year, it is expected to be held in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea.

ECONOMY

PFMS at District Level

- ❖ The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has become the first UT in the country to operationalize Public Financial Management System (PFMS) at the district level.
- ❖ PFMS is a web-based online software application developed and implemented by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA), Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, Government of India.
- ❖ PFMS started during 2009 with the objective of tracking funds released under all Plan schemes of Government of India and real time reporting of expenditure at all levels of Programme implementation.

METLDEX



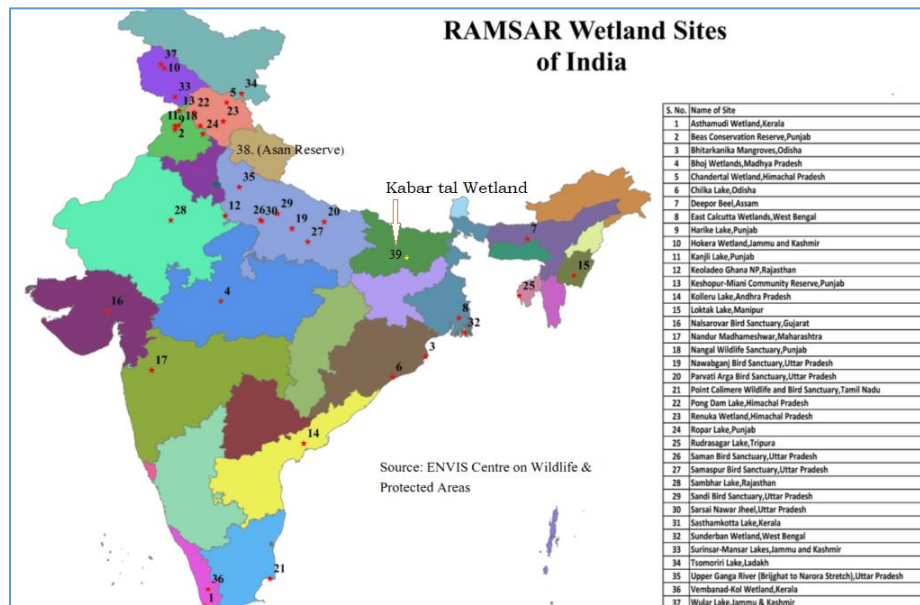
- ❖ The Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX) of India launched Base Metals Index 'METLDEX'.

- ❖ It is India's first real time Base Metal Futures Index.
- ❖ Till now, the domestic metal prices were pivoted to the London Metal Exchange (LME) prices.
- ❖ METLDEX is based on the five base metals - zinc, copper, nickel, lead and aluminium.
- ❖ METLDEX is the short form of Metal Index.
- ❖ MCX is the country's leading commodity bourse.

ENVIRONMENT

Two New Ramsar Sites

- ❖ Recently, Kabar tal Wetland (Bihar) and Asan Conservation Reserve (Uttarakhand) have been designated as Ramsar sites.
- ❖ With 2 more inclusions, the total number of Ramsar sites in India is 39, the highest in South Asia.
- ❖ Those wetlands are of international importance are declared as Ramsar sites.



Sand Dune Park in India

- ❖ Goa is set to be home to the country's first sand dune park with the support from the World Bank.
- ❖ Sand dunes are geological deposits formed by the action of wind.

- ❖ These geomorphic features act as nature's first line of defence from the forces of the ocean.

