

November - 10

NATIONAL

One Rank One Pension

- ❖ The one rank one pension scheme of armed forces has completed 5 years of successful journey.
- ❖ Currently uniform pension is given to the retiring defence personnel irrespective of their rank and the length of service.
- ❖ This is 50% of their last drawn salary.
- ❖ The Armed personnel who retired on or after June 30, 2014 are covered under the scheme.

New Chief Information Commissioner

- ❖ The President of India Ram Nath Kovind appointed Yashvardhan K Sinha as the new Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) of India.
- ❖ He was short-listed for the post by a three-member committee headed by PM Modi.
- ❖ Besides the Prime Minister, the opposition party leader in Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and Home Minister Amit Shah were the members of the panel.
- ❖ The post was lying vacant over two months after Bimal Julka completed his term in August, 2020.
- ❖ Later, Uday Mahurkar (Journalist), Heera Lal Samariya (former labour secretary) and Saroj Punhani (former Deputy CAG) were appointed as Information Commissioners by President.
- ❖ The roles and responsibilities of the Chief Information Commissioner are defined by the right to Information Act, 2005.
- ❖ He will hold office for three years as per the Right to Information (Amendment) Act, 2019.
- ❖ Earlier it was five years.
- ❖ Central Information Commission was constituted in 2005 under the 2005 Act.



CENTRAL INFORMATION COMMISSION : CONSTITUTION AND POWERS		
01	02	03
10 MAXIMUM MEMBERS INCLUDING Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) other Central Information Commissioners	APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT RECOMMENDED BY 01 PRIME MINISTER 02 LEADER OF OPPOSITION 03 A UNION CABINET MINISTER NOMINATED BY PM	REMOVED BY THE PRESIDENT GROUNDS FOR REMOVAL PROVED MISBEHAVIOUR INCAPACITY PROCEDURE SAME AS IN CASE OF UPSC CHAIRMAN OR MEMBERS ARE REMOVED

SC/ST Priests

- ❖ In a historic first, the Kerala government is set to appoint a priest from Scheduled Tribes (ST) category in Travancore Devaswom Board.
- ❖ The Travancore Devaswom Board manages over 1,200 temples in Kerala including Sabarimala Temple.
- ❖ It has decided to appoint priests from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes community as a part time priests.

INTERNATIONAL

US Elections 2020

- ❖ The USA 59th Quadrennial Presidential Election was held on November 3, 2020.
- ❖ Joe Biden wins US Presidency with 290 electoral votes.
- ❖ He will be the 46th President of USA.
- ❖ He will be administered by the Chief Justice of Supreme Court.
- ❖ He is to assume office on January 20, 2021.
- ❖ Joe Biden from the Democratic Party won by beating Donald Trump from the Republic party.
- ❖ The election results make Trump the first one term president since 1990.
- ❖ Joe Biden (78) will become the oldest president of the USA.
- ❖ Joe Biden served as the 47th vice president of the USA from 2009 to 2017.
- ❖ Obama and Biden were first elected in 2008 and then re-elected in 2012.
- ❖ Kamala Harris from the Democratic party beat Mike Pence from the Republic Party for the post of Vice President of USA.

- ❖ She will become the first woman, first Indian American and first Black woman to become Vice President of the USA.
- ❖ Her mother is an Indian American born at Thulasenthirapuram village near Mannarkudi in Tamilnadu.



Process

- ❖ The US constitution doesn't allow for one president to hold office for more than two terms.
- ❖ It is an indirect election in which citizens of the United States who are registered to vote in one of the fifty U.S. states or in Washington, D.C.
- ❖ They cast ballots not directly for those offices, but instead for members of the Electoral College.
- ❖ These electors then cast direct votes, known as electoral votes, for president, and for vice president.
- ❖ The candidate, who receives an absolute majority of electoral votes (at least 270 out of 538), is then elected to that office.
- ❖ In the US, the responsibility of conducting the elections falls on the secretary of the state.
- ❖ The secretary in some states are appointed by the Governor and in others is directly elected by the people.
- ❖ Most of the States in the US allow electronic methods.
- ❖ However, paper ballots are the norm across the country.
- ❖ All the three elections in the US, that is, for the federal, local and state are directly organised by the ruling governments of the individual state.
- ❖ Before counting, there is a stage called Processing.



- ❖ Processing involves verifying documentation, checking signatures and scanning ballots.
- ❖ Later comes the counting of votes.
- ❖ The US President and Vice President are not elected directly by the people.
- ❖ Instead, they are chosen by “electors” through a process called the “Electoral College”.
- ❖ A candidate should be
 - A natural-born citizen of the USA.
 - A resident of the USA for 14 years.
 - At least 35 years old.
 - The election for the President of USA is held once in four years.
 - A person cannot run for US President election more than two times.

US electoral college system

- ❖ The USA uses the electoral college system to elect its President.
- ❖ Under the US electoral college system, each state is given a number of votes
- ❖ Each state gets a certain number of electors based on its population
- ❖ Each elector casts one electoral vote in the general election.
- ❖ Overall, a total of 538 electoral college votes are up for grabs.
- ❖ So, a candidate needs to hit 270 to win.

STATES

Hazira-Ghogha Ro-Pax ferry service

- ❖ It will work as a Gateway to South Gujarat and Saurashtra region.
- ❖ It will reduce the distance between Ghogha and Hazira from 370 Kilometres to 90 Kilometres.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

World Travel Mart London Award

- ❖ The World Travel Mart London bestowed Kerala Tourism with the coveted 'Highly Commended' Award.
- ❖ Kerala Tourism was recognised for its remarkable activities for promoting Responsible Tourism (RT).

