

November - 03

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamilnadu Municipal Administration ministry officially initiated the use of Bandicoot spider-robot which will be used by sanitation workers to clean manholes.
 - The robotic arm could travel through a manhole for up to 30 feet and collect the accumulated sludge.
- ❖ An organic blue cheese named Rogue River Blue made in Oregon, USA has been named as the world's best cheese in the annual World Cheese Awards.
- ❖ The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has proposed India's first four-deck transport structure to be built at Nagpur, Maharashtra.
- ❖ Former Maharashtra Director General of Police (DGP) D.D. Padsalgikar has been appointed as the Deputy National Security Advisor.
- ❖ International acclaimed Sand Artist, Padmashri Sudarsan Pattnaik who belongs to Odisha has been selected for the prestigious Italian Golden Sand Art Award 2019.
 - He will be felicitated during the International Scorrana Sand Nativity festival in Italy.
- ❖ The Philippine Army has announced that it is keen on buying the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile, which was jointly developed by India and Russia.
 - Indian and Philippines officials had discussed the possible sale of the BrahMos missile to the Philippine Army during a visit by the INS Sahyadri, an Indian Navy warship, to Manila.
- ❖ Novak Djokovic won the fifth Masters Title of the season – Paris Masters title, playing against Canadian youngster Denis Shapovalov.
 - This was Djokovic's fifth trophy of the season — after Wimbledon, US Open, the Madrid Open and Tokyo Open.

TAMIL NADU

Temple Prasadam – BHOG Certificate

- ❖ Prasadam such as laddu, murukku, vadai and other food offered to devotees at Tamil Nadu's temples will soon have to be of better quality.
- ❖ The State Food Safety and Drug Administration has told temples under the Hindu Religious & Charitable Endowments (HR &CE) department to obtain the BHOG quality certificate.



- ❖ Blissful Hygiene Offering to God (BHOG) certificate is issued by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).
- ❖ Prasadam and eatables offered at temples also come under Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

Red Atlas and CFLOWS-Chennai – Early Flood Warning

- ❖ The Vice President of India has recently launched the ‘Red Atlas Action Plan Map’ and Coastal Flood Warning System App (CFLOWS-Chennai) in Chennai.
- ❖ Red Atlas is a first of its kind ready reckoner, prepared by the Ministry of Earth Sciences to aid Tamil Nadu government in effective flood mitigation in Chennai.
- ❖ The atlas, with probable scenarios for different rainfall periods, aims at flood mitigation, preparedness, operations and management aspects.
- ❖ The CFLOWS-Chennai is a complete web GIS-based decision support system that can be used both for mitigation planning operations before flooding and in real-time for aspects like relief work.

NATIONAL

Food Safety Mitra & Eat Right Jacket

- ❖ Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare Dr Harsh Vardhan on the occasion of World Food Day has launched an “Eat Right” Jhola and an “Eat Right” jacket.
- ❖ The theme for this World Food day (October 16) was ‘Healthy Diets for a Zero Hunger World’.
- ❖ To mark the occasion, Dr Harsh Vardhan also launched the ‘Food Safety Mitra (FSM)’ scheme, along with the ‘Eat Right Jacket’, and ‘Eat Right Jhola’ to strengthen food safety administration.

Real time Train Information System

- ❖ About 500 passenger locomotives of the South-Central Railway (SCR) have been fitted with the newly developed Real-time Train Information System (RTIS).
- ❖ RTIS will be used to monitor their precise speeds and movement throughout the journey.
- ❖ It has been developed by the Centre for Railway Information Systems with the help of ISRO-Airports Authority of India’s GAGAN-GPS aided geo-augmented navigation.

Dustlik - 2019: First India-Uzbek Joint Exercise

- ❖ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and his Uzbekistan counterpart presided over the Curtain Raiser of the first ever India Uzbekistan Joint Exercise Dustlik 2019.
- ❖ The joint military exercise focused on counter-terrorism starts on November 4 and will continue till November 13, at Chirchiq Training Area near Tashkent.
- ❖ Defence Minister is in Uzbekistan on a three-day visit.
- ❖ This is the first visit by an Indian Defence Minister to Uzbekistan in about 15 years.

First Cargo Movement on National Waterway - 2 (NW - 2)

- ❖ A landmark container cargo consignment will sail on inland waterways from Haldia Dock Complex (HDC) to the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) terminal at Pandu in Guwahati on 4 November, 2019.



- ❖ The 12-15 days voyage will be an integrated Inland Water Transport (IWT) movement via
 - National Waterway - 1 (river Ganga)
 - National Waterway - 97 (Sunderbans)
 - Indo-Bangladesh Protocol (IBP) route and



- National Waterway - 2 (river Brahmaputra)
- ❖ This is the first ever containerised cargo movement on this IWT route i.e. NW-2.

About IBP

- ❖ The Protocol on Inland Water Transit and Trade (PIWTT) between India and Bangladesh was signed in 2018.
- ❖ It allows mutually beneficial arrangements for the use of their waterways for movement of goods between the two countries by vessels of both countries.
- ❖ The IBP route extends from Kolkata (India) on NW-1 to Silghat (Assam) on NW-2 (River Brahmaputra) and Karimganj (Assam) on NW-16 (River Barak).

INTERNATIONAL

Saudi Aramco – Biggest IPO

- ❖ Saudi Arabia's giant state-owned oil company finally kick-started its initial public offering (IPO).
- ❖ The company is valued around 1.5 trillion dollars and it aims to raise \$20 billion-\$40 billion.
- ❖ The IPO is designed to turbo-charge economic reforms in Saudi by raising billions to build non-energy industries and diversify revenue streams.
- ❖ The record for largest ever money raised through is held by China's e-commerce giant Alibaba (USD 25 billion in New York, 2014).

New IAEA Director General

- ❖ The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board has appointed Rafael Grossi as Director General.
- ❖ He is currently Argentina's Ambassador to Austria and the country's Permanent Representative to the Vienna-based International Organizations, including the IAEA.
- ❖ The new Director General will be the IAEA's sixth head since it was founded in 1957.

STATES

Odisha – Social Registry

- ❖ To create a ‘single source’ of authenticated family details for all welfare programmes, the Odisha government has proposed to come up with a Social Registry.
- ❖ The state aims for better beneficiary identification by accessing the socio-economic data of citizen to strategise new scheme and target beneficiary.
- ❖ The registry is expected to identify target beneficiaries and weed out ghost and ineligible beneficiaries.
- ❖ The move assumes significance as 3.41 lakh fake beneficiaries were provided ₹170 crore recently under the State’s flagship ‘KALIA’ scheme for farmers.

Buddhist structure collapses in Vizag - Thotalakonda, AP



- ❖ The Mahastupa of the 2000 year old Buddhist heritage site of Thotalakonda at Andhra Pradesh near Vizag collapsed during torrential rainfall.
- ❖ It belongs to the Satavahana period.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Vegan Day – November 1

- ❖ World Vegan Day is an annual event celebrated by vegans around the world every 1 November.
- ❖ World Vegan Day raises awareness about animal rights and advocates the widespread adoption of a vegan lifestyle.



- ❖ The day was created in 1994 by British animal rights activist, Louise Wallis, as a way to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of The Vegan Society in the United Kingdom.
- ❖ Adherents of veganism refrain from using anything that may have been made from animals, such as meat, eggs, milk, and honey.

