



November - 05

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Nuclear Power Corporation of India (NPCIL) has confirmed the presence of malware in its system at the Kudankulam nuclear plant. The NPCIL is a body under the Department of Atomic Energy, which in turn comes under the purview of the prime minister's office.
- ❖ Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has released a special commemorative coin on Paramahansa Yogananda to mark his 125th Birth Anniversary. He was known as Father of Yoga in the West.
- ❖ Puskar Fair was recently held at Rajasthan. It is an annual multi-day livestock fair and cultural fête held in the town of Pushkar (Rajasthan, India). It is one of India's largest camel, horse and cattle fairs.
- ❖ The stone scribblings more than 2000-year-old were recently discovered at Veppana Halli near Krishnagiri. It was considered the oldest and biggest one of Tamilnadu history.
- ❖ The District administration of Mulugu of Telangana has initiated the process of collection of 1 kg plastic waste for 1 kg rice.
- ❖ The 2019 Sharjah International Book Fair (SIBF) 2019 was held at Sharjah in UAE. It is recognized as one of the world's top publishing events, and is the largest in the Arab world.
- ❖ 'Sangam 2019-20' held in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district with an aim to "promote peace and prosperity in the Chenab Valley region".
 - This year's theme: Let's Build Our Nation.
- ❖ Union Territory of Ladakh gets New Regional Centre of GB Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development.
 - The institute has headquarters at Kosi-Katarmal (Uttarakhand).
- ❖ The Indian army plans to have the first Dhanush regiment by March 2020 and to get all 114 guns by 2022.
 - Dhanush is the indigenously upgraded variant of the Swedish Bofors gun imported in the 1980s.



NATIONAL

National Symposium on Lymphatic Filariasis

- ❖ The National Symposium on the theme 'United to Eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis' was inaugurated by Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Harsh Vardhan.
- ❖ The Union Minister also signed the 'Call to Action to eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis by 2021'.
- ❖ Lymphatic filariasis, commonly known as elephantiasis and is considered as a neglected tropical disease.
- ❖ It is a vector-borne disease, caused by infection with parasites classified as nematodes of the family Filariodidea.

National Research Institute of Unani Medicine

- ❖ The Union Minister of State (independent charge) for AYUSH Shripad Naik inaugurated the National Research Institute of Unani Medicine for Skin Disorders.
- ❖ The institute was upgraded from Central Research Institute of Unani Medicine of Hyderabad.
- ❖ AYUSH includes 6 Indian systems of medicine that includes Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy.

INTERNATIONAL

Council of Heads of Government of SCO

- ❖ The Defence Minister Rajnath Singh addressed the 18th meeting of Council of Heads of Government of SCO at Tashkent in Uzbekistan.
- ❖ He represented as a Special Envoy of PM Modi at the conference.
- ❖ During the meet, it was decided that the next meeting of Council of Heads of Government in 2020 is to be conducted in India.
- ❖ The military exercise "CENTER 2019", SCO joint military exercise that was held by Russia was congratulated at the summit.
- ❖ The SCO has eight full members, six nations as "dialogue partners" and four as "observer" status.



CoP 25 of UNFCCC

- ❖ Spain has offered Madrid to replace Chile as host of this year's United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) or UN climate conference.
- ❖ This year will be 25th United Nations Climate Change Conference.
- ❖ Last year's UN climate conference held at Katowice, Poland.
- ❖ Facing unrest, Chile's government has also abandoned hosting November's Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) economic summit.

The key events of the conference will include:

- The 25th Conference of the Parties to UNFCCC.
- The 15th meeting of parties for the Kyoto Protocol (CMP15).
- The second meeting of parties for the Paris Agreement (CMA2).

ECONOMY

New NPS rules

- ❖ Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) will now be allowed to invest into NPS or National Pension Scheme
- ❖ National Pension System (NPS) is a voluntary defined contribution pension system in India.
- ❖ NPS started with the decision of the Government of India to stop defined benefit pensions for all its employees who joined after 1 January 2004.
- ❖ While the scheme was initially designed for government employees only, it was opened up for all citizens of India between the age of 18 and 60 in 2009.



- ❖ The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), a statutory body, is the pension regulator of India which was established by Government of India on 23 August 2003.
- ❖ PFRDA is regulating and administering the National Pension System (NPS) along with administering the Atal Pension Yojana (APY) which is a defined benefits pension scheme for the unorganized sector, guaranteed by the Government of India.

Nirvik Scheme

- ❖ The Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC) has introduced the Export Credit Insurance Scheme (ECIS) called NIRVIK to enhance loan availability and ease the lending process.
- ❖ It is an insurance cover guarantee that will cover up to 90% of the principal and interest.
- ❖ The cover will include both pre and post-shipment credit.
- ❖ ECGC is wholly owned by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Economic Outlook for Southeast Asia

- ❖ The Economic Outlook for Southeast Asia, China and India is a bi-annual publication on regional economic growth, development and regional integration in Emerging Asia.
- ❖ It is published by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
- ❖ According to this report, India's gross domestic product (GDP) could grow 6.6% in 2020-24, lower than its 2013-17 average of 7.4%.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

L2Pro India - mobile application

- ❖ L2Pro India [Learn to Protect, Secure and Maximize Your Innovation] mobile application is on Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs).
- ❖ L2Pro has been successfully implemented in Germany, United Kingdom, Italy and France.



IndiGen – CSIR Programme

- ❖ It is a programme managed by the CSIR for a free mapping of whole genomes of a person.
- ❖ CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (IGIB) and the CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) are part of this.
- ❖ The human genome has about 3.2 billion base pairs.

TechSagar

- ❖ TechSagar is a dynamic national repository of India's cyber tech capabilities.
- ❖ It is launched by National Cyber Security Coordinator's office in partnership with Data Security Council (DSCI) of India.
- ❖ DSCI is a not-for-profit, industry body on data protection in India, setup by NASSCOM.

ENVIRONMENT

29th BASIC Ministerial Meet on Climate Change

- ❖ 29th ministerial meeting of the BASIC (Brazil, South Africa, India, China) countries on Climate Change held at Beijing, China.
- ❖ They urged developed countries to fulfill their climate finance commitments of providing USD 100 billion annually by 2020 for developing countries in a transparent and grant-based manner.
- ❖ India is to host the 30th BASIC Ministerial Meeting.

About BASIC

- ❖ The BASIC countries are a bloc of four large newly industrialized countries – Brazil, South Africa, India and China – formed by an agreement on 28 November 2009.
- ❖ The four committed to act jointly at the Copenhagen climate summit 2009, including a possible united walk-out if their common minimum position was not met by the developed nations

STATES

Tipu Sultan – Out of syllabus

- ❖ Karnataka state government has removed the chapters of Tipu Sultan from its state school syllabus.



- ❖ The State government has already decided to cancel Tipu Jayanti celebrations this year, which was started in 2015.
- ❖ Tipu Sultan, also known as Mysore Tiger was the ruler of the erstwhile Mysore Kingdom from 1782 to 1799.

Bamboo Tech parks

- ❖ The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Council (NEC) will set up new Bamboo Technology parks in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh Union Territories.
- ❖ The nodal agency CBTC (Cane and Bamboo Technology Centre) under the Ministry of NEC will implement the project.
- ❖ There will be three new Bamboo Technology Parks in Jammu, Srinagar and Leh.

6 Lakh Diyas

- ❖ New history was created in Ayodhya as over six lakh diyas light up Sarayu's river banks.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh government broke its own Guinness World Record for the largest display of oil lamps.
- ❖ This year's count of the earthen lamps lit on the river bank far surpassed the three lakh-plus number of 'diyas' lit last year.

Gottiprolu at Andhra Pradesh

- ❖ The ASI (Archaeological Survey of India) recently discovered that the present-day state of Andhra Pradesh had a maritime center near the banks of Swarnamukhi river around 2,000 years ago.
- ❖ The sizes of the bricks were common in the Satavahana/Ikshvaku period of the Krishna valley.
- ❖ Also, the team unearthed four armed sculptures of Lord Vishnu. The sculpture belongs to Pallava period according to the analysis of headgear and drapery.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

2019 SEED Awards

- ❖ Fourteen start-ups were selected for 2019 SEED (Science For Equity Empowerment and Development) Awards.

- ❖ SEED was founded by the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg.
- ❖ This year's categories include SEED Low Carbon, SEED Africa Awards, SEED South Africa Climate Adaptation Awards and SEED Gender equality award.
- ❖ Under the SEED Low Carbon category, an organisation called Aikya Organics, located in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, has won the award from India.
- ❖ Apart from Aikya, four more finalists have been selected from India which include Stonesoup, Aarohana Ecosocial Development, Ecozen Solutions and Farmers Fresh Zone.



Special Operation Medal for 2019

- ❖ Teams of Delhi Police Special Cell and Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) were awarded Union Home Minister's Special Operation Medal for 2019.
- ❖ The prestigious Home Minister's Special Operation Medal was instituted in June 2018.
- ❖ It aims to promote high professional standards of Investigation of Crime in State and Union Territory Police and Central Investigating Agencies (CIAs) in India.

Vyas Samaan

- ❖ Noted Hindi poet Leeladhar Jagoori, received the 28th Vyas Samman Award of 2018 for his collection of poems, Jitne Log Utne Prem.
- ❖ The Vyas Samman is a literary award in India, first awarded in 1991.
- ❖ It is awarded annually by the K.K. Birla Foundation for an outstanding literary work in Hindi authored by an Indian citizen published during the last 10 years.

SPORTS

FIFA U-17 Emblem

- ❖ The official emblem of the FIFA U-17 womens World Cup was unveiled.
- ❖ It will be the 7th edition of the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup, the biennial international women's youth football championship.
- ❖ The tournament will be held in India in November 2020.
- ❖ It will mark the first time that India has hosted a FIFA women's football tournament.



IMPORTANT DAYS

Coal India Foundation Day – November 1

- ❖ Coal India Limited (CIL) celebrated 45th Foundation Day on November 1.
- ❖ On this occasion, the Minister for Coal and Mines Pralhad Joshi said that the Coal India Limited (CIL) will produce 750 million tonnes of coal by the Financial Year 2020-21 and would further produce one billion tonnes of coal in the financial year 2023-24.
- ❖ The CIL is currently given the target of producing 660 million tonnes of coal amounting to 82% of the country's coal output.
- ❖ Recently the Union Government has allowed 100% FDI under automatic route in Coal sector.

MISCELLANEOUS

Pakistan's Coin on the 550th Prakash Parv Of Guru Nanak

- ❖ Pakistan government has issued a silver coin in memory of the 550th Prakash Parv of Guru Nanak.



- ❖ The value of this coin is 50 rupees.

Kartarpur Sahib Corridor Agreement

- ❖ India has signed the Agreement with Pakistan recently for operationalisation of the Kartarpur Sahib Corridor at Zero Point, International Boundary, Dera Baba Nanak.
- ❖ It is now conceived as a visa-free corridor for Sikhs from India.

- ❖ It will be developed from Dera Baba Nanak village in Gurdaspur, Punjab (India) to Gurdwara Darbar Sahib, Kartarpur (Pakistan).
- ❖ Kartarpur Sahib is revered as Guru Nanak's final resting place until his death in 1539.

