

November - 16

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ On the occasion of Children's Day, Tamil children's writer Devi Nachiappan and poet Sabarinathan was awarded the Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2019 award.
  - Devi Nachiappan (aka Deivanai) was awarded for her life-time contribution to children's literature and Sabarinathan was awarded for his poem collection 'Vaal (tail)'.
- ❖ DRDO has announced that a night-time arrested landing of light combat aircraft (LCA) Tejas, Navy variant was carried out at Shore based test facility, Goa.
- ❖ Ultima Thule, the farthest cosmic body ever visited by a spacecraft, has been renamed by NASA as Arrokoth or 'sky' in the Native American Powhatan language.
  - The previous name 'Ultima Thule' had racist connotations and is popular in Nazi circles and among Aryan-supremacy conspiracy theorists.
- ❖ West Bengal celebrated 'Rosgolla Day' on November 14, 2019. It was to commemorate the second anniversary of granting of GI Tag to rosgollas.
- ❖ India's wholesale inflation (WPI) eased to 0.16% in October which is the lowest ever recorded, in more than three years.
- ❖ The IUCN's 7<sup>th</sup> 'Asia Regional Conservation Forum' was held at Islamabad, Pakistan.
  - Nearly 170 delegates from Asian countries had attended the event entitled 'Greening Asia for Nature and People' to discuss different adaptation and mitigation measures to curb adverse impacts of climate change.
- ❖ In a bid to ensure that customers receive authentic goods when shopping on Amazon, it has announced a measure called "Project Zero" to India.
  - It is a step to identify, block and remove counterfeit products on sale.
- ❖ The Bolivian president Evo Morales resigned after civil protests following the disputed election results of October 2019. The opposition senator Jeanine Áñez assumed the office of president on 11 November 2019.

## TAMIL NADU

### **Nel Jeyaraman – Paddy Research Centre, Kudavasal**

- ❖ Paying tribute to organic farming crusader Nel Jayaraman, an organic farm and traditional paddy research centre named after him was inaugurated.

- ❖ The NGO CREATE has established it near Kudavasal, Tiruvarur district to honour him.
- ❖ Nel Jayaraman, who had revived more than 160 traditional paddy seeds, died on December 6, 2018, of cancer.
- ❖ He initially collected 15 varieties and organised the first Nel Vizha (paddy seed festival) in 2006.



## **NATIONAL**

### **Geochemical Baseline Atlas of India**

- ❖ To assess environmental damages, the CSIR-National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI) has released the 'Geochemical Baseline Atlas of India'.
- ❖ The atlas consists of 45 maps of metals, oxides and elements present in top and bottom soils across India.
- ❖ These maps help in finding out future contamination caused by industries or other bodies which cause pollution.
- ❖ Example: Tanneries release chromium.
  - By using map of chromium, policy makers know regions with high concentration of chromium and can not allow tanneries in those regions.

### **39th International Trade Fair**

- ❖ The 39th India International Trade Fair got underway at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.
- ❖ The theme of the event this year is 'Ease of Doing Business'.

- ❖ In the event, the status of 'Partner Country' has been accorded to Afghanistan while South Korea will be the 'Focus Country'.

### **Tiger TRIUMP exercise**

- ❖ Tiger TRIUMP is the first-ever Tri-Services Amphibious Exercise between India and United State (US).
- ❖ It is scheduled from November 13 to November 21 near Visakhapatnam and Kakinada, in Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ Exercise Tiger TRIUMP is being organised under the aegis of Headquarters of Integrated Defence Staff.
- ❖ This unique exercise will include events and field training for a humanitarian assistance and disaster relief force from ship to shore.



**SHOW OF COMBINED STRENGTH:** The harbour phase of Tiger Triumph— India-US joint tri-services HADR exercise began on board INS Jalashwa on Thursday. The exercise, which will go on for a week, is intended to represent the growing strategic partnership between the two countries



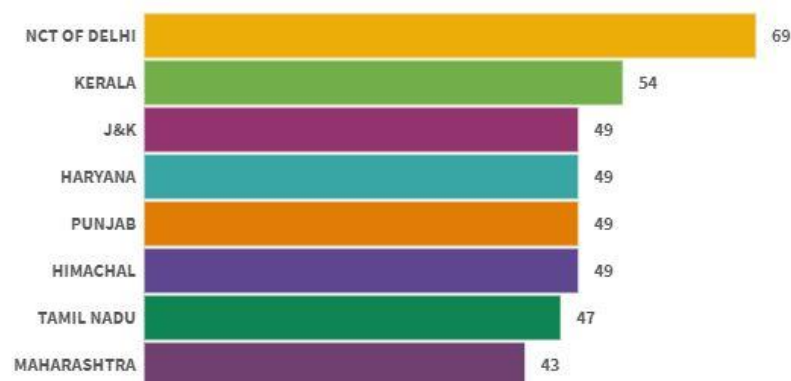
## ACEM 2019

- ❖ 10th Asian Conference on Emergency Medicine (ACEM 2019) was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ The 2019 Conference is jointly organized by the Asian Society for Emergency Medicine (ASEM) and the Society for Emergency Medicine, India (SEMI).
- ❖ The theme of the Conference “Affordable Care, Bridging Gaps, Creating Impact of emergency medicine”.

## India Internet 2019

- ❖ Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) released the report “India Internet 2019”.
- ❖ Internet penetration is defined as number of individuals aged above 12 per 100 population who accessed the Internet during a particular period.
- ❖ According to the report, Internet penetration rate is highest in Delhi NCR (69%) followed by Kerala (54%).
- ❖ The lowest penetration rate was in Odisha (25), Jharkhand (26) and Bihar (28).
- ❖ It also notes that Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Delhi have the highest proportion of female Internet users.
- ❖ Kerala is among States with a huge gap between the number of rural and urban Internet connections.

Internet penetration, 2019



## QUAD meeting 2019

- ❖ The foreign ministers of the Quad countries - India, US, Australia and Japan - met on the sidelines of the UNGA meeting in Bangkok.

- ❖ The Ministers met to discuss cooperation on counter-terrorism, mentoring, assistance in disaster relief, airspace security, cooperation, development, finance and cybersecurity efforts etc.

### QUAD

- ❖ The Quadrilateral security dialogue or Quad was first mooted by the Japanese Prime Minister in 2007.
- ❖ In November 2017, India, the US, Australia and Japan gave shape to the long-pending "Quad" Coalition
- ❖ It aims to develop a new strategy to keep the critical sea routes in the Indo-Pacific free of any influence (especially China).
- ❖ Members of the Quad, barring Australia, are currently engaged in the annual Malabar exercises – military exercises that started between India and the U.S. in 1994 and became trilateral (with Japan) in 2015.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **Signal Fish Discovered in Kerala**

- ❖ Scientists from the University of Kerala and the Ocean Science Foundation, USA have reported the discovery of the new species of signal fish.
- ❖ It has been discovered in the deep waters of the Lakshadweep sea off the Kerala coast.
- ❖ It is called *Pteropsaron indicum* and is the first one of the genus recorded in Indian waters.
- ❖ The signal fish has unusual colour pattern and communicates with others of the same species by flipping its highly specialised dorsal fins.



## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### BRICS-Young Innovator Prize

- ❖ Ravi Prakash, a PhD scholar from Bengaluru, has won the BRICS-Young Innovator Prize for inventing an affordable indigenous milk-chilling unit for smaller and marginal rural dairy farmers.
- ❖ The temperature of raw milk could be brought from 37°C to 7°C within 30 minutes by using nano-fluid based phase change materials.
- ❖ The award was given at the 4th BRICS-Young Scientist Forum (YSF), 2019 held at Brazil.

### Vashishtha Narayan Singh

- ❖ Mathematical genius Vashishtha Narayan Singh, who was famous for his 1969 PhD dissertation at University of California, Berkeley, USA has passed away.
- ❖ He had challenged Einstein's theory and earned worldwide recognition.
- ❖ He was an associate professor at Washington University and worked at IIT Kanpur, IIT Bombay and ISI Kolkata.
- ❖ He suffered from Schizophrenia for 40 years.



## SPORTS

### Anti-Match-fixing Bill – Sri Lanka

- ❖ Sri Lanka has become the first South Asian nation to criminalise several offences related to match-fixing.
- ❖ It has passed the "Prevention of Offences Related to Sports" which deals with offences related to corruption in sports.



- ❖ The bill also criminalises "acts of omission", which includes failure to report corrupt approaches.

