



**November - 20**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ Vice President inaugurated the International Conference of Global Mothers - 2019 at New Delhi. The conference was conducted on the theme “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam – Family System and Role of Mother”.
- ❖ Manipur-based, former World and Asian Boxing champion, L Sarita Devi has been elected as member of the newly constituted International Boxing Association's (AIBA) Athletes' Commission.
  - In the six-member body, Sarita Devi is the sole representative of Asian continent.
- ❖ As chair of the Kimberley Process (KP), India hosted the Plenary meeting of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) at New Delhi.
  - Based on Flower Report, UN General Assembly established KPCS process in 2003 to prevent "conflict diamonds" from entering the mainstream rough diamond market.
- ❖ Pakistan has successfully test-fired a nuclear-capable surface-to-surface ballistic missile Shaheen-I, which can strike targets up to 650 kilometres. It brings many Indian cities under its range.

## **NATIONAL**

### **Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index (TTCI)**

- ❖ The World Economic Forum has released the Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index (TTCI) which ranked 140 countries on their relative strengths in global tourism and travel.
- ❖ Top 5 countries – Spain, France, Germany and Japan and United States.
- ❖ India is ranked 34th (up from 40 in 2017) and is the most preferred destination in South Asia.
- ❖ Japan remains Asia's most competitive travel and tourism economy.
- ❖ China is the largest travel and tourism economy in Asia-Pacific.

### **World Talent Ranking Report**

- ❖ According to the latest edition of IMD World Talent Ranking, India is ranked 59th out of 63 countries (earlier 53rd rank).



- ❖ Reasons for fall in India's rankings - low quality of life, expenditure on education, negative impact of brain drain and low priority on attracting and retaining talents.
- ❖ Switzerland retained its title as the world's top talent hub followed by Denmark and Sweden.
- ❖ The countries at the top of the rankings share strong levels of investment in education and a high quality of life.

### **Climate Resilience in Coastal States – UNFCCC**

- ❖ India has received USD 43 million under the Green Climate Fund, established within the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- ❖ The project will be implemented in three coastal states - Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Odisha.
- ❖ It will be used to
  - Build climate-resilient livelihoods for 1.7 million people
  - Offset 3.5 million tonnes of carbon
  - Protect vulnerable ecosystems
  - Benefit 10 million people with improved shoreline protection
- ❖ The project aligns with National Action Plan on Climate Change, the State Action Plans, and the nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement.

### **NITI Aayog's Report on Health Systems in India**

- ❖ NITI Aayog has recently released the report titled 'Health Systems for a New India: Building Blocks — Potential Pathways to Reforms'.
- ❖ It mainly focuses on
  - Shifting healthcare expenses of people from out of pocket to insurance companies,
  - Unfinished public health agenda,
  - Power of digital health.
- ❖ The report was released in the name of New India: Building Blocks - Potential Pathways.
- ❖ The book is based on the data collected and provided by
  - ACCESS Health International for the public sector,
  - PWC India for private sector.



### **Child Abuse Prevention and Investigation Unit**

- ❖ The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has set up an Online Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (OCSAE) Prevention/Investigation Unit at its headquarter in New Delhi.
- ❖ The unit will function under the CBI's Special Crime Zone.
- ❖ The unit's territorial jurisdiction would be throughout the country.
- ❖ It will probe offences covered under
  - Various provisions of the Indian Penal Code (IPC)
  - The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act
  - The Information Technology (IT) Act, apart from other relevant laws
- ❖ It will collect and disseminate information on online child sexual abuse and exploitation.

### **Lancet Countdown Report 2019 on Health and Climate Change**

- ❖ According to the Lancet Countdown Report 2019 on Health and Climate Change, Climate change in India may further increase malnutrition levels and exacerbate infections caused due to cholera.
- ❖ The report states that the average yield potential of maize and rice declined almost 2 per cent in India since the 1960s.
- ❖ The average yield potential for both soybean and winter wheat has declined by over 1 per cent.

#### **Diseases**

- ❖ Increased sea surface temperature may cause a spike in various infections in India — cholera, gastroenteritis, wound infections and several others.
- ❖ Mortality due to vector-borne disease like dengue will also rise.
- ❖ Pollution and heat stress may affect the productivity of Indian workers.

#### **Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) measurement**

- ❖ WBGT is a measure of the heat stress in direct sunlight and includes temperature, humidity, wind speed, sun angle and cloud cover (solar radiation).
- ❖ Increased WBGT will result in reduced labour productivity around the globe.
- ❖ Elderly will be more affected due to heat waves.

#### **Wildfires**

- ❖ The report states that 21 million Indians were exposed to wildfires.



- ❖ It is highest among 152 countries.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **Dhaka Global Dialogue**

- ❖ The first edition of Dhaka Global Dialogue was held in Bangladesh and inaugurated by PM Sheikh Hasina.
- ❖ More than 150 delegates from 50 countries participated in the conference to discuss issues specific to Indo-pacific region.
- ❖ The programme was jointly organised by New Delhi based Observer Research Foundation (ORF) and Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS).
- ❖ It will act as a platform for countries in this region to achieve environmentally sustainable peace and prosperity.
- ❖ Participants also agreed upon that peace and stability in the maritime domain will be critical to Asia's rise.

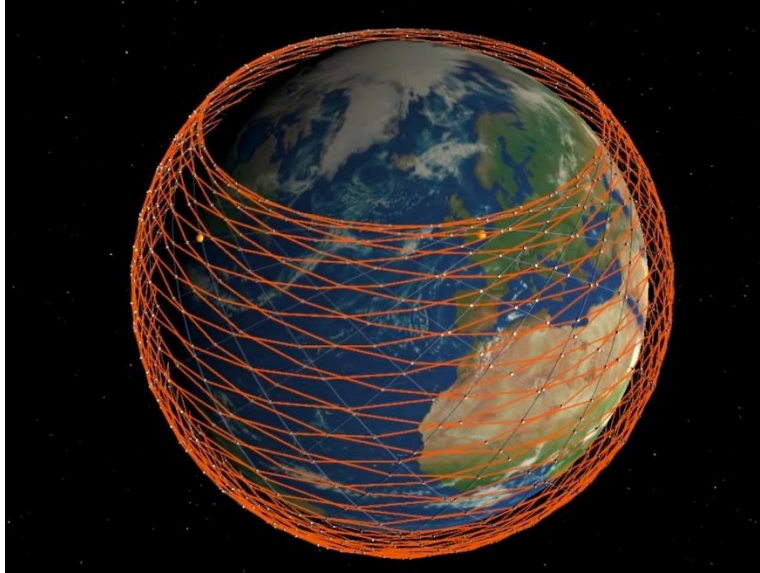
### **Bazeera City – Northwest Pakistan**

- ❖ In a joint excavation in northwest Pakistan, Archaeologists from Pakistan and Italy have discovered a 3000-year-old city named Bazeera, believed to be the remains of Alexander the Great.
- ❖ Bazeera is located in Swat District of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, famous for 5,000 years old civilisation and its artefacts.
- ❖ The discovery also found traces of Hindu temples, coins, stupa, pots and weapons of that period.

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **Starlink Network**

- ❖ By 2027, the SpaceX company plans to put a network of 42,000 satellites around the globe to provide high-speed internet services.
- ❖ It has named the network "Starlink" and has launched 60 internet satellites recently.



- ❖ Due to Starlink project, fears of space debris, collision and cut off of access to space are also raised.

## STATES

### **Shishu Suraksha App – Assam**

- ❖ Assam CM Sarbananda Sonowal has launched a mobile app called "Shishu Suraksha".
- ❖ It is an initiative of Assam State Commission for Protection of Child Rights.
- ❖ The app enables users to file complaints against child rights violation instantly.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### **International Students Day – November 17**

- ❖ International Students' Day is an international observance of the student community, held annually on November 17.
- ❖ The date commemorates the anniversary of the 1939 Nazi storming of the University of Prague, Czechoslovakia and the killing of 9 students.
- ❖ The first such day was observed in 1941.
- ❖ It celebrates student activism around the world.



celebrates



### **First Naturopathy Day – November 18**

- ❖ The Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy (Ayush) ministry celebrated the first Naturopathy Day on November 18.
- ❖ The day is celebrated to promote the drug-less system of medicine to prevent diseases by altering the diet and lifestyle.

