

November - 21

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Supreme Court has said the armed forces should consider granting Permanent Commission to women officers who joined under the Short Service Commission (SSC) before March 2019.
 - Currently, Army has notified permanent commission to women officers, who join the forces under SSC, after March 2019 only.
- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh government has launched a new app called “e-Ganna” for the convenience of sugarcane farmers. It eradicates middlemen and ensures transparency in procurement.
- ❖ The Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for 2019 will be conferred on renowned naturalist and broadcaster Sir David Attenborough for his tireless work to preserve and protect biodiversity.
 - His name was selected for the prize by an international jury chaired by former president Pranab Mukherjee, the Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust.
- ❖ India captain Virat Kohli was named People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India’s ‘Person of the Year for 2019’ for his animal advocacy efforts.

NATIONAL

ADMM-Plus meeting, Thailand

- ❖ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh represented India at the ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) held at Bangkok, Thailand.
- ❖ He also released a “Handbook on Military Medicine for ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations)” along with Myanmar Defence Minister Lieutenant General Sein Win.
- ❖ In addition to the 10 ASEAN countries, eight countries such as Japan, the U.S. and China also attended the meeting.

Maitree Diwas

- ❖ The Defence Minister visited Arunachal Pradesh to attend the Maitree Diwas celebrations at Tawang.
- ❖ Maitree Diwas (Civil-Military Friendship) was celebrated for two days at Gyalwa Tsangyang Gyatso High Altitude Stadium Tawang.



- ❖ This will be the 11th edition of Maitree Diwas which celebrates civil-military bonhomie in that region.
- ❖ Rajnath Singh also inaugurated Sisseri River Bridge and National Highway-52 in East Siang District.

National Institute for Sowa-Rigpa

- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved the establishment of the National Institute for Sowa-Rigpa in Leh, Union Territory of Ladakh.
- ❖ The Institute will be an autonomous National Institute under the Ministry of AYUSH.
- ❖ Sowa-Rigpa is a Traditional Medical system of the Himalayan belt in India.
- ❖ It has been popularly practiced in Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Darjeeling (West Bengal), Himachal Pradesh and Union Territory of Ladakh.

Water Quality Report

- ❖ According to a report based on sample tests done by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Tap water in Mumbai is the safest for drinking while Delhi's water is the worst among 21 big cities.
- ❖ The samples of tap water taken from 15 out of 21 cities failed to meet one or more safety parameters during tests carried out in laboratories.
- ❖ The water samples were tested on 28 parameters as prescribed for drinking water standards of BIS notified in 2012.
- ❖ Water samples lifted from Chennai had failed quality tests in more than 10 parameters, placing the city near the bottom of country's clean water rank list.

SOUNDING ALARM		Water samples from Jan 2019 to Oct 31, 2019 in corpn zones I-XV														
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII	XIII	XIV	XV	
Unsatisfactory samples	49	12	44	244	129	61	103	90	60	45	55	31	33	15	39	
E.coli present	13	4	25	116	85	44	38	47	41	17	24	13	19	6	25	
Residual Chlorine	0	0	11	18	1	4	25	33	18	24	0	0	6	2	0	
Dissolved Solids	237	125	33	233	12	6	34	11	0	0	11	0	14	14	26	
Total samples	375	311	384	1,479	443	309	460	415	431	369	309	535	552	357	391	



World Conference on Access to Medical Products

- ❖ Union Minister for Health Dr. Harsh Vardhan inaugurated the '2019 World Conference on Access to Medical Products: Achieving the SDGs 2030' at New Delhi.
- ❖ It is being jointly organized by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) and the World Health Organization (WHO).
- ❖ The conference aims to address issues like
 - Universal Health Coverage
 - The SDG 2030 goals
 - Role of intellectual property to promote access to medical products.

2nd South Asia Safety Summit

- ❖ The 2nd edition of South Asia Safety Summit was organized by the Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD) and FACEBOOK in New Delhi.
- ❖ The Summit is being organized to highlight the "issue of safety" while individuals and communities are connected on the digital platform.
- ❖ On the occasion Union Minister of WCD Smriti Irani launched "We Think Digital" website.
- ❖ This website is an online education portal whose topics include privacy, safety, security, digital discourse and knowing your digital footprint.

INTERNATIONAL

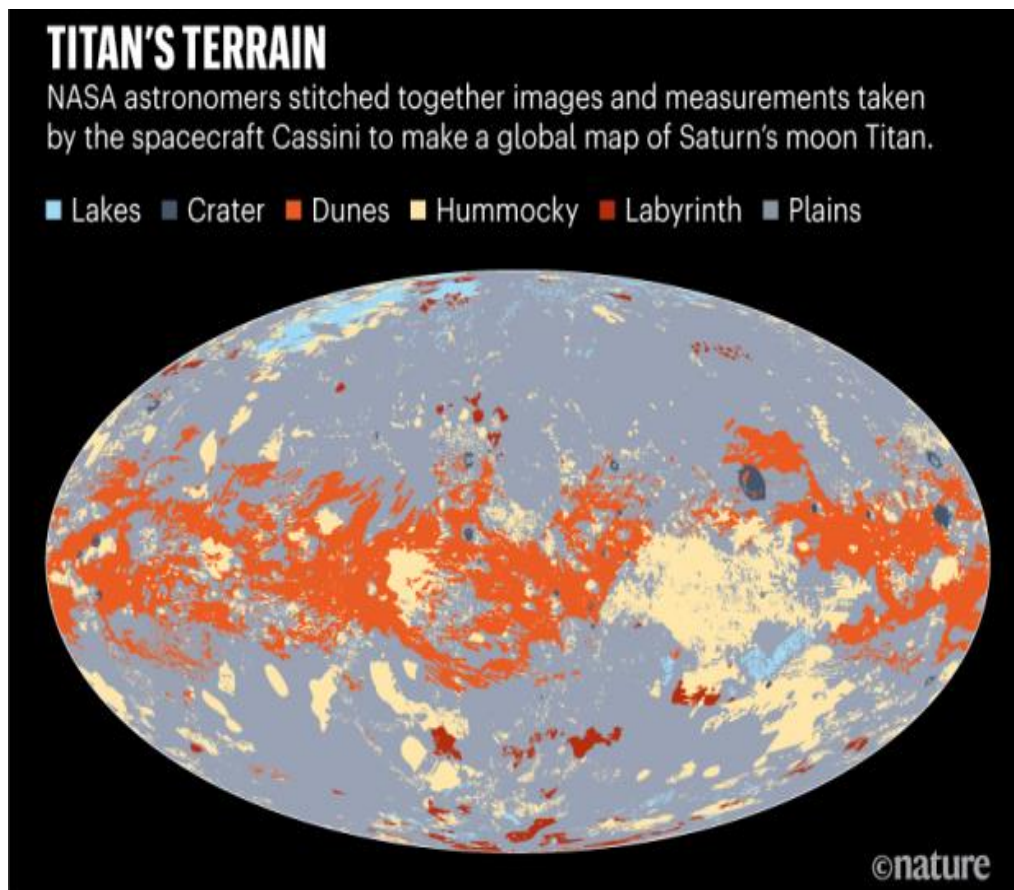
First Country to Introduce Typhoid vaccine - Pakistan

- ❖ Pakistan became the first country in the world to introduce the World Health Organization (WHO)-recommended typhoid conjugate vaccine (TCV) into its routine immunization programme.
- ❖ It is the first typhoid vaccine that can be given to children as young as 6 months of age and confers longer term protection against typhoid.
- ❖ Pakistan launched the campaign in Sindh Province.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Saturn's Moon Titan Mapped

- ❖ Scientists unveiled the first global geological map of Saturn's moon Titan, including vast plains and dunes of frozen organic material and lakes of liquid methane.
- ❖ The map was based on radar, infrared and other data collected by Nasa's Cassini spacecraft.
- ❖ Titan is the only solar system object other than Earth which has stable liquids on the surface.
- ❖ Titan (diameter 5,150km), is the solar system's second-biggest moon, behind Jupiter's Ganymede.
- ❖ It is larger than the planet Mercury.





STATES

NISHTHA launched in Kashmir

- ❖ National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement (NISHTHA) has been launched in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ Earlier, the scheme had been launched all over the country in August 2019.
- ❖ It is a Mission aimed at improving learning outcomes at Elementary level through integrated Teacher Trainings.
- ❖ To build the capacities of 42 lakh participants covering all teachers and Heads of Schools at elementary level in all Government Schools across the country.

RT-PCR Diagnosis Machines @ Kolkatta

- ❖ The Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) has installed first of its kind high-end Reverse Transcription-Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) machines in India.
- ❖ They will be used for quick detection of diseases like dengue, tuberculosis and swine flu.
- ❖ These machines are to serve as a 'third umpire' in situations when medical reports and blood tests reveal contradictory results.
- ❖ The purpose is to give an accurate DNA report on blood tests in order to ascertain the exact cause of illness.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2019

- ❖ The Union Minister of Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat conferred the Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2019 awards to top ranked states, union territories, and districts.
- ❖ Awards were given in the various categories on the occasion of World Toilet Day (November 19).
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has been ranked first among the states followed by Haryana and Gujarat.
- ❖ Peddapalli district in Telangana stood first among districts, followed by Faridabad (Haryana) and Rewari (Haryana).
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh was the state with maximum participation.

SPORTS

Manu Bhaker – Air Pistol Shooter

- ❖ India's Manu Bhaker created history at World Cup Finals in Women's 10m Air Pistol event.
- ❖ She bagged India's first gold medal in the tournament this year.
- ❖ She claimed the top prize in the season-ending tournament of International Shooting Sport Federation at Putian in China.
- ❖ Serbia's Zorana Arunovic won the silver while Quian Wang of China bagged the bronze.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Day – November 20

- ❖ World Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Day (COPD) is observed every year on the third Wednesday of November.
- ❖ COPD is an umbrella term used to describe chronic lung diseases that cause limitations in lung airflow.
- ❖ It is an important awareness day as COPD is the third leading cause of death, claiming an estimated three million lives from 2005 to 2015.

