

November - 24

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Rajasthan's flagship free medicine scheme, launched in 2011-12, has once again secured the first rank from the National Health Mission.
 - National Health Mission under its Free Drug Service Initiative, started giving rankings to the states.
- ❖ The International Conference on Yoga for Heart care was organized at Mysuru.
- ❖ The 4th edition of India International Cherry Blossom Festival, 2019 was celebrated in Shillong, Meghalaya.
 - This year the Republic of Korea was the partner country in the festival.

NATIONAL

National Agro Chemical Congress

- ❖ The National Agro Chemical Congress was conducted in New Delhi.
- ❖ The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare hosted the event.
- ❖ It was the first of its kind.
- ❖ It is to be conducted once in three years.
- ❖ The theme was - Country's Status on various fronts of Agro chemicals.

Bharatiya Poshan Krishi Kosh

- ❖ It was launched by Women and Child Development Minister Smriti Irani along with Bill Gates in New Delhi.
- ❖ The Union Ministry of Women and Child Development has partnered with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for the Bharatiya Poshan Krishi Kosh project.
- ❖ It is a repository of diverse crops across 128 agro-climatic zones to help enable better nutritional outcomes.
- ❖ The Kosh aims to reduce malnutrition among women and children across the country, through a multi-sectoral results-based framework, including agriculture.
- ❖ In most cases, malnutrition is the cause of death of children below the age of five years.



Cyclone Bulbul

- ❖ The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued an orange alert in Indian states of West Bengal and Odisha over Cyclone Bulbul in the Bay of Bengal.
- ❖ The landfall of the cyclone was between Sagar Islands (West Bengal) and Khepupara (Bangladesh).
- ❖ The cyclone has been named by Pakistan.
- ❖ It is the seventh named storm of the unusually active 2019 North Indian Ocean cyclone season.
- ❖ It is the highest in the last 34 years.
- ❖ It will also be the second storm to form in the Bay of Bengal this year after extremely severe Cyclone Fani in April-May.
- ❖ The Arabian sea, usually not known to be prone to cyclones, has had four major cyclones this year — very severe cyclone Vayu, very severe cyclone Hikaa, super cyclone Kyarr and extremely severe cyclone Maha.
- ❖ This equals the record for the highest number of severe cyclones in the Arabian sea in the last 117 years.

Stage of warning	Colour code
Cyclone Alert	Yellow.
Cyclone Warning	Orange.
Post landfall out look	Red.

INTERNATIONAL

8th International Conference on Agricultural Statistics (ICAS) - Delhi

- ❖ It is a series of conferences, sponsored by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), World Bank (WB), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and other international development agencies.
- ❖ It is held every three years to address issues of agricultural statistics (information/data) development.
- ❖ The theme is Statistics for Transformation of Agriculture to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- ❖ The Department of Agricultural Research and Education under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is the hosting agency.

Operation Kayla Mueller

- ❖ The Barisha raid, officially codenamed Operation Kayla Mueller was a United States military operation.
- ❖ It conducted at Barisha of Syria to capture or kill Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the then-leader and self-proclaimed "caliph" of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terror organization.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

SeeTB

- ❖ SeeTB is a new device to diagnose Tuberculosis.
- ❖ It is developed by a research team from Jamia Hamdard University in New Delhi.
- ❖ The device looks promising to scale up a faster diagnosis of TB and start treatment.
- ❖ India is the leading country in tuberculosis deaths of the World.
- ❖ The World Health Organization has aimed at eliminating TB by 2035.
- ❖ The Indian government has vouched to do this by 2025.



Pneumonia and SAANS

- ❖ The UN's report named Pneumonia as "Forgotten Epidemic".



- ❖ Around half of pneumonia deaths are associated with air pollution.
- ❖ Pneumonia is caused by bacteria, viruses or fungi, and leaves children fighting for breath as their lungs fill with pus and fluid.
- ❖ India has the second largest deaths of children under the age of five due to Pneumonia in 2018.
- ❖ The five countries that were responsible for more than half of child deaths due to Pneumonia were Nigeria (162,000), India (127,000), Pakistan (58,000), the Democratic Republic of Congo (40,000) and Ethiopia (32,000).
- ❖ It is now responsible for 15 per cent of deaths in children under the age of five across the World.
- ❖ The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched a campaign in Gujarat named Social Awareness and Action to Neutralise Pneumonia Successfully (SAANS).

STATES

Nadu Nedu programme

- ❖ The Andhra Pradesh government has launched the 'Nadu-Nedu' programme.
- ❖ It seeks to transform all government schools with required infrastructure and up-gradation of skills besides setting up English labs.
- ❖ Under the programme English medium will be introduced in Classes 1 to 6.
- ❖ It also seeks to provide basic amenities such as clean water, furniture, compound wall, toilets etc.

Living Root Bridge

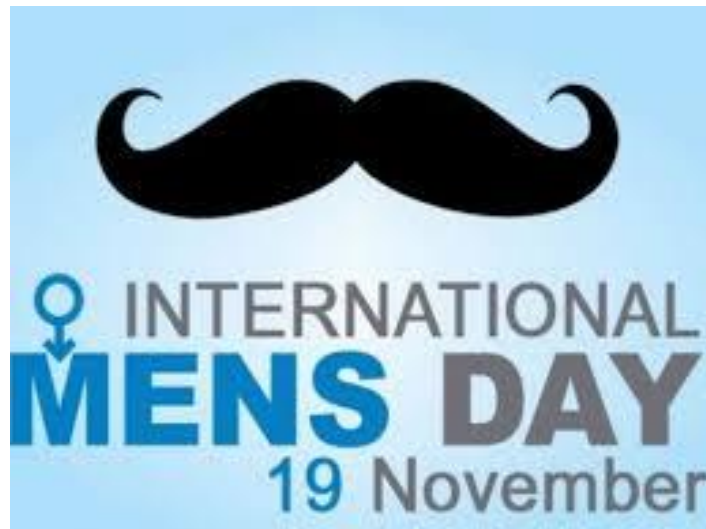
- ❖ Researchers from Germany are investigating the 'living root bridges' of in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills of Meghalaya.
- ❖ They have proposed to integrate them in modern architecture and potentially help make cities more environment-friendly.
- ❖ Young flexible, aerial roots growing from *Ficus elastica* (India rubber) are placed in hollow Areca catechu tree trunk or native bamboo trunks.
- ❖ Over time, the aerial roots increase in strength and thickness and then areca or bamboo is not required.
- ❖ The jing kieng jri or living root bridges have been used by generations in Meghalaya to cross streams and rivers.
- ❖ They have also become world-famous tourist attractions.



IMPORTANT DAYS

International Men's Day – November 19

- ❖ It is mainly observed to focus on the health of men and boys, improving gender relations, promoting gender equality and highlighting male role models.
- ❖ In 2007, India celebrated International Men's Day for the first time.
- ❖ The theme is "Making a Difference for Men and Boys."



World Toilet Day - November 19

- ❖ It was established by the World Toilet Organization in 2001.

- ❖ Twelve years later, the UN General Assembly declared World Toilet Day an official UN day in 2013.
- ❖ UN-Water is the official convener.
- ❖ In 2019 the theme is 'Leaving no one behind'.



National Integration Day - November 19

- ❖ It is celebrated on 19th November to mark the first female Prime Minister of India Indira Gandhi's birth anniversary.
- ❖ The motive of celebrating a National Integration day is to spread unity across the nation.
- ❖ The "Qaumi Ekta" Week, or the "National Integration" Week, is also scheduled to be observed nationwide for the period between November 19 to November 25.



World Heritage Week 2019

- ❖ It is being observed by the UNESCO from 19th November, 2019 to 25th November, 2019.
- ❖ The objective of the celebration is to make people more aware of and also for the preservation of cultural heritage and monuments.
- ❖ There are 38 UNSECO World Heritage sites in India.
- ❖ It includes 30 cultural site, 7 natural sites and 1 mixed site.

