

November - 29

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamilnadu Chief Minister inaugurated two new districts – Tirupattur and Ranipet on 28.11.2019. They were carved out of Vellore district.
 - This makes the total number of districts in Tamilnadu as 37.
- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh government has launched a three-week intensive campaign in 47 districts to eradicate Filariasis. The campaign is in sync with Union Government's plan to eradicate filariasis from India by 2021.
- ❖ Researchers have discovered a new species of non-venomous burrowing snake named "Trachischium aptei" at Tally Valley Wildlife Sanctuary, Arunachal Pradesh.
 - It is named so to honour the contribution of Deepak Apte, well-known marine biologist and Director of the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS).
- ❖ Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has signed Technology Transfer Agreement with ISRO for acquiring the Li-Ion Cell production technology.
 - The space-grade cell will be suitably modified and will enter mass production phase to be used in various sectors.
- ❖ The Union Cabinet has extended the term of 15th Finance Commission, which is to decide on division of tax and other resources between the centre and the states, by one-year to October 30, 2020.
 - The commission is headed by N.K. Singh. It will now present the final report covering financial years 2021-22 to 2025-26.

TAMIL NADU

Marine Enforcement Wing

- ❖ With 112 personnel, Tamilnadu will soon form an exclusive Marine Enforcement Wing.
- ❖ It will patrol the sea, enforce fishing regulations, prevent illegal and destructive fishing and the use of banned nets.
- ❖ It will be headed by a Superintendent of Police, drawn from Tamilnadu Police.
- ❖ The unit will support Fisheries Department in enforcing the Tamil Nadu Marine Fishing Regulation Act, 1983, along the State's coastline.

Crop Damage by Fall Army Worm

- ❖ Nearly 1.2 lakh hectares in Tamilnadu have been covered against the menace of the Fall Armyworm, an invasive pest that mainly damages maize.
- ❖ In 2019, Perambalur, Virudhunagar, Salem, Tirunelveli, Erode, Dindigul and Tiruchi districts have reported problem by this pest.



NATIONAL

1st International Liaison Officer of IFC-IOR

- ❖ A French naval officer became the first International Liaison Officer to report at the Information Fusion Centre-Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR) centre at Gurugram, Haryana.
- ❖ The Centre is expected to collate data on sea lanes in the IOR.
- ❖ 75% of the world's maritime trade and 50% of global oil pass through IOR.
- ❖ IFC-IOR was inaugurated in December 2018.

NuGen Mobility Summit 2019

- ❖ The International Center of Automotive Technology (ICAT), Manesar hosted the NuGen Mobility Summit 2019.
- ❖ The three-day conference is the largest automotive technology event in India thus so far.

- ❖ Automotive technology experts from 15 countries including India presented more than 120 technical research papers.

Packaging of Food Grains, Sugar in Jute

- ❖ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has accorded its approval for mandatory packaging of food grains and sugar in jute material.
- ❖ It is aimed at diversification of jute industry.
- ❖ The approval will benefit farmers and workers in the Eastern and North-Eastern regions of the country.

QS World University Rankings for Asia 2020

- ❖ In the latest QS World University Rankings for Asia 2020, 96 Indian institutions rank among 550 for the continent.
- ❖ The National University of Singapore is ranked Asia's best for the second consecutive year.
- ❖ It is followed by Nanyang Technological University (Singapore) and the University of Hong Kong.
- ❖ The best performing institution from India is IIT Bombay (34th position).
- ❖ It is followed by IIT Delhi at 43rd place and IIT Madras at 50th.
- ❖ The first such QS ranking was launched in 2009.

INDIA TOP 20 (ASIA RANKS)

	2020	2019	INSTITUTION/UNIVERSITY
▼	34	33	IIT Bombay
▼	43	40	IIT Delhi
▼	50	48	IIT Madras
▼	51	50	IISc Bengaluru
▼	56	53	IIT Kharagpur
▼	65	61	IIT Kanpur
▼	67	62	University Of Delhi
▼	90	86	IIT Roorkee
▼	112	107	IIT Guwahati



5th Global Exhibition on Services (GES)

- ❖ The 5th Global Exhibition on Services (GES) is being held at Bengaluru to showcase India's capability across various services sectors before a global audience.
- ❖ Service sector contributes 60 per cent of India's GDP.
- ❖ Over 55 per cent of Foreign Direct Investment in India are from services sector.
- ❖ The first GES was held in New Delhi in 2015.

INTERNATIONAL

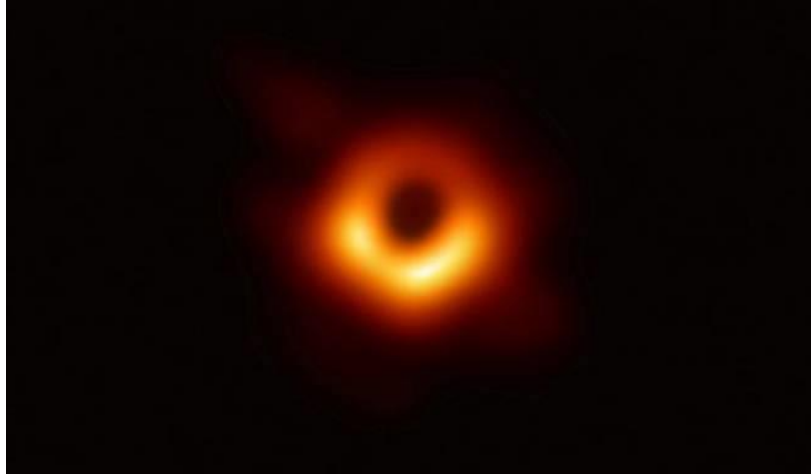
World Migration Report 2020

- ❖ The UN-International Organization for Migration (IOM) has published its World Migration Report 2020.
- ❖ It estimates that the number of international migrants is 270 million.
- ❖ USA is the top migration destination with around 51 million migrants.
- ❖ At 17.5 million, India is the largest country of origin of international migrants.
- ❖ It received the highest remittance of \$78.6 billion from Indians living abroad followed by China (\$67.4 billion) and Mexico (\$35.7 billion).
- ❖ US remained the top remittance-sending country (\$68.0 billion) followed by the UAE (\$44.4 billion) and Saudi Arabia (\$36.1 billion).
- ❖ Syria is the top refugee-originating country (6 million) followed by Afghanistan.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

LB-1 Blackhole

- ❖ The scientists of National Astronomical Observatory of China have discovered a monster blackhole named LB-1.
- ❖ Until now, scientists had estimated the mass of an individual stellar black hole in our galaxy at no more than 20 times that of the Sun.
- ❖ But LB-1 is 70 times as massive as sun.
- ❖ It challenges the existing models of evolution of stars and this monster size remains to be explained.



Underwater Rover BRUIE

- ❖ An underwater rover called BRUIE (Buoyant Rover for Under-Ice Exploration) is being tested in Antarctica to look for life under the ice.



- ❖ The Antarctic waters are the closest Earth analog to the seas of an icy moon.
- ❖ It is developed by engineers at NASA-Jet Propulsion Laboratory.
- ❖ The robotic submersible could one day explore ice-covered oceans on moons like Europa (Jupiter) and Enceladus (Saturn).



Wooden Breast Syndrome – Broiler Chicken

- ❖ Scientists have identified an enzyme called ‘lipoprotein lipase’ which is likely contributing to “wooden breast syndrome” in broiler chickens.
- ❖ The wooden breast syndrome is a metabolic disorder characterised by abnormal fat accumulation in the breast muscle tissue of broiler chicken.
- ❖ When it affects broiler chickens, it makes the meat hard and chewy.
- ❖ This can render the birds unmarketable and cause losses for growers.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

United Nations Global Climate Action Awards 2019

- ❖ A project led by an NGO called Mahila Housing Sewa Trust (MHST) has won this award.
- ❖ MHST has been commended for organising and empowering women in low-income households to increase their resilience to impacts of climate change.
- ❖ It has so far helped 25,000 low-income families across seven cities in India, Bangladesh and Nepal.
- ❖ The award will be given at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP25), hosted by the Chilean government in Madrid in Spain, on December 10.
- ❖ The COP25 is being held from December 2-12.

50th International Film Festival (IFFI), Goa

- ❖ The Golden Jubilee edition of the IFFI has ended at Goa.
- ❖ For completing 50 years, the IFFI was awarded the ICFT-UNESCO Fellini medal, issued by UNESCO.
- ❖ This award was first given by UNESCO in 1994 on the 125th anniversary of Mahathma Gandhi.
- ❖ Awards
 - Best Film: 'Particles' directed by Blaisse Harrison
 - Best Director: Lijo Jose Pellissery for his film “Jallikattu”
 - Best Actor: Seu Jorge for the film Marighella
 - Best Actress: Usha Jadhav for Marathi film ‘Mai Ghat’



- ❖ The next IFFI will celebrate films themed around Sathyajith Ray to celebrate his centenary year.

