



October - 01

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India has roped Amitabh Bachchan for the customer awareness campaign.
 - The campaign aims to prevent innocent account holders from being duped by fraudsters.

NATIONAL

Limit for use of SDRF funds by states

- ❖ The Prime Minister announced that the limit of use of SDRF (State Disaster Response Fund) is being increased from 35 % to 50% for seven States.
- ❖ They are Tamil nadu, Punjab, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ This will help the states in covid-19 related infrastructure.
- ❖ More than 63% of active cases of covid -19 are concentrated in these seven States.

State Disaster Response Fund

- ❖ It was constituted under Disaster Management Act, 2005 based on the recommendations made by the 13th Finance Commission.
- ❖ The Government of India contribute 75% of allocation of SDRF to the states on annual basis.
- ❖ The contribution is 90 % in the case of Special Category States.
- ❖ This will be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India every year.

Cable Stayed Bridge

- ❖ The new 'Cable Stayed Bridge' constructed across the Durgam Cheruvu Lake is inaugurated recently at Hyderabad.
- ❖ This bridge owed as the World's longest span concrete deck extradosed cable stayed bridge.
- ❖ The bridge is 426-metre-long with a total of 52 stay cables.



INTERNATIONAL

Ministerial Roundtable Dialogue on Biodiversity

- ❖ The Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change represented India at the Ministerial Roundtable Dialogue on Biodiversity that was held virtually.
- ❖ The dialogue was hosted by China.
- ❖ The dialogue was conducted on Biodiversity Beyond 2020: Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth.
- ❖ The 15th conference of parties to the convention on Biological Diversity is to be held at Kunming, China in 2021.

United Nations Summit on Biodiversity

- ❖ The United Nations Summit on Biodiversity was convened on September 30.
- ❖ This year the summit held under the theme: Urgent Action on biodiversity for Sustainable Development.

SCO Foreign ministers meeting

- ❖ Shanghai Cooperation Organization's Foreign ministers meeting held in the Russian capital Moscow.

- ❖ It is the third SCO foreign ministers meeting that India is attending as a full member of the eight-nation bloc.
- ❖ The SCO was founded at a summit in Shanghai in 2001 by the Presidents of Russia, China, Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
- ❖ India and Pakistan were admitted as observers of the grouping in 2005.
- ❖ Both the countries were admitted as full members of the bloc in 2017.



ECONOMY

India's first Warehouse Commodity Finance App

- ❖ HDFC Bank launched India's first Warehouse Commodity Finance App.
- ❖ This app will enable customers in managing the loan against pledge of commodities online without any physical intervention or visits to Bank branch.
- ❖ This in turn will enhance efficiencies for the Agri value chain.

Positive pay system for cheque

- ❖ RBI gave its approval to "Positive Pay System" for Cheque Truncation System from 01st January, 2021.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India is going to launch Positive Pay System for Cheque Truncation System (CTS).
- ❖ This Positive Pay System will be developed by The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

Positive pay system

- ❖ The issuer of the cheque will be required to submit electronically, via SMS, mobile application, Net banking or ATM certain information of that cheque like date, name of the beneficiary, payee, amount to the drawee bank.
- ❖ These details will be cross-checked before the cheque is presented for payment.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

20 years of Himalayan Chandra Telescope

- ❖ The Himalayan Chandra Telescope is located at the Indian Astronomical Observatory (IAO) in Hanle near Leh in Ladakh.
- ❖ It has been scanning the night sky in search of comets, stellar explosions, exoplanets and asteroids.
- ❖ It operates using delicate satellite communication link from Centre for Research and Education in Science and Technology (CREST), IIA (Indian Institute of Astrophysics).
- ❖ The telescope marked 20 years of successful operation with more than 260 research papers published using data obtained from it.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Ex-Union Minister Jaswant Singh passes away

- ❖ Jaswant Singh had served as India's foreign minister (1998), defence minister (2001) and finance minister (2002).
- ❖ He was one of the longest serving parliamentarians in the country.

- ❖ He was the candidate for the post of Vice president for the NDA in 2012.
- ❖ He is widely regarded for his handling of relations with the United States which were strained after the 1998 Indian nuclear tests.



SPORTS

2020 Russian Grand Prix

- ❖ The 2020 Russian Grand Prix was held in Russia.
- ❖ The race was won by Valtteri Bottas of the Mercedes team, with Max Verstappen of Red Bull placing 2nd, and Lewis Hamilton taking the final podium place.





MISCELLANEOUS

World Risk Report 2020

- ❖ According to the World Risk Index (WRI) 2020, India has been ranked at the 89th spot among 181 Countries.
- ❖ WRI has been developed in cooperation with the United Nations University's Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNUEHS) and calculated by the International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict (IFHV).
- ❖ Vanuatu and Tonga topped in the list while Qatar at last.
- ❖ WRI is part of the World Risk Report 2020 with special focus on "Forced Displacement and Migration"
- ❖ India is behind Sri Lanka, Bhutan and Maldives in terms of abilities to cope with extreme disasters, lack of adaptive capacities and the preparedness to deal with extreme events.
- ❖ The Global Hotspots are in Oceania, South East Asia, Central America, West and Central Africa.

