



October - 08

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The first ever World Postcard Day was celebrated on October 1, 2020.
 - This year is its 150th anniversary.
- ❖ The Indo-American Chamber of Commerce (IACC) has presented the lifetime achievement award to Ratan Tata for his pioneering role in the Business Relations of India-USA and for his lifetime achievement in Global Leadership.

NATIONAL

“Purified Antisera” treatment

- ❖ The Indian Council of Medical Research along with Hyderabad based Firm Biological E has developed “Purified Antisera”.
- ❖ The antiserum has been obtained from animals.
- ❖ This is to be used as a prophylaxis and treatment for COVID-19.
- ❖ The new therapy works just like that of plasma therapy.
- ❖ But here the plasma is obtained from animals.
- ❖ Antiserum is blood-based serum that holds antibodies against viruses.
- ❖ In this new therapy, the serum is raised from horses that have recovered from viral infection and found to hold antibodies against the virus in their system.
- ❖ The antibodies from horses are called “Equine Antisera”.

Atal Tunnel

- ❖ The Prime Minister has inaugurated the Atal Tunnel in Himachal Pradesh’s Rohtang.
- ❖ It connects Solang Valley near Manali to Sissu in Lahaul and Spiti district.
- ❖ It is the 9.02-km tunnel.
- ❖ It is the longest highway tunnel in the world above the height of 3,000 metres.
- ❖ The tunnel, built by the Border Roads Organisation, reduces the distance between Manali and Leh by 46 km.
- ❖ The Former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee took the decision to construct Atal Tunnel on June 3, 2000.
- ❖ The foundation stone for the tunnel was laid on May 26, 2002.



INTERNATIONAL

Bongosagar and CORPAT Naval Exercises

- ❖ The second edition of Indian Navy (IN) – Bangladesh Navy (BN) Bilateral Exercise Bongosagar commenced in Northern Bay of Bengal.
- ❖ In the exercise Bongosagar, ships from both the navies participated in surface warfare drills, seamanship evolutions and helicopter operations.
- ❖ First edition of the Bongosagar exercise was held in 2019.
- ❖ This edition of Exercise has great significance as it is being conducted during Mujib Barsho, the 100th birth anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.
- ❖ IN – BN Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) began in 2018.
- ❖ Both units carried out joint patrolling along the International Maritime Boundary Line.

25th anniversary of Fourth World Conference on Women

- ❖ In 2020, the global community will mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995).
- ❖ The Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace was the name given for a conference convened by the United Nations during September 1995 in Beijing, China.
- ❖ At this conference, governments from around the world agreed on a comprehensive plan to achieve global legal equality, known as the Beijing Platform for Action.



- ❖ First World Conference on Women was held in 1975 at Mexico City and followed by Copenhagen and Nairobi.



ENVIRONMENT

Two new species of wetland plant

- ❖ Scientists have discovered two new species of pipeworts, a type of wetland plant, from areas along the Western Ghats in Maharashtra and Karnataka.
- ❖ The species found in Maharashtra has been named *Eriocaulon parvicephalum* and the Karnataka species is being called *Eriocaulon karaavalense*.

STATES

Pathashree abhijan - West Bengal

- ❖ West Bengal government has launched the “Pathashree Abhijan” scheme.
- ❖ It is a road repair scheme, where more than 7,000 stretches of roads comprising 12,000 kilometers across the state will be repaired in a mission mode and in a time - bound manner.
- ❖ The people of the state reached out to the Chief Minister through the ‘Didi Ke Bolo’ initiative of the government to prepare list of the road.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Swachh Bharat Awards, 2020

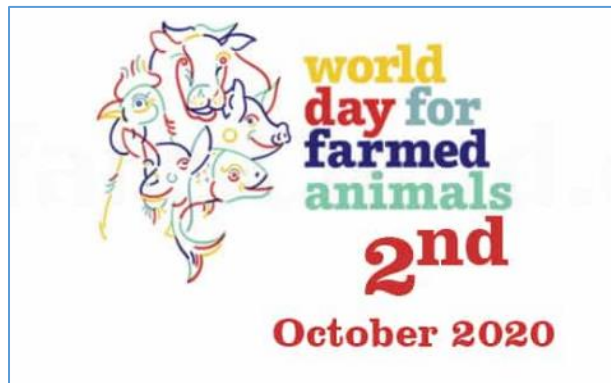
- ❖ The Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Skekhawat presented the Swachh Bharat Awards, 2020.
- ❖ The awards were given under cleanliness categories and drinking water category.
- ❖ Awards were conferred under three categories which are:
 - Swachh Sundar Samudayik Shauchalaya (SSSS) campaign
 - Samudayik Shauchalaya Abhiyan (SSA)

- Gandagi Se Mukht (GMB) campaign
- ❖ Under SSSS campaign
 - Best State: Gujarat
 - Best District: Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu
 - Best Block: Khachrod, Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh
 - Best Gram Panchayat: Chinnor, (Salem)
- ❖ Under SSA
 - Best State: Uttar Pradesh (GKRA) and Gujarat (Non-Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan)
 - Best District: Prayagraj (GKRA) and Bareilly (Non-GKRA)
 - Best Gram Panchayat: Borigaon, Bongaigaon, Assam.
- ❖ Under GMB
 - Best State: Telangana and Haryana.
 - Best District: Moga (Punjab).

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Day for Farmed Animals - October 2

- ❖ It was celebrated by the International animals' welfare organization, World Animal Protection along with the Asia for Animals coalition.
- ❖ The day is celebrated to raise awareness among people that intensive animal farming and poor treatment of farm animals can lead to a pandemic-level threat to humans.
- ❖ The day is being organised by the Farm Animal Rights Movement (FARM) since 1983.





MISCELLANEOUS

What India Eats report

- ❖ The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and National Institute of Nutrition recently released a report, “What India Eats”.

Key Findings

- ❖ The urban centres of India consumed 51.6 grams of fat per day
- ❖ The rural centres consume 36 grams of fat per day.
- ❖ Overall obesity was prevalent in 12.5% of population in urban areas and 4.9% in rural areas.
- ❖ Around 31.4% of urban were overweight and 16.6% of the rural population were overweight.

