



October - 15

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Young Indian player Nihal Sarin emerged winner in the Chess.com's 2020 Junior Speed Online Chess Championship, beating Russia's world junior Alexey Sarana.

NATIONAL

Property cards under 'SVAMITVA' Scheme

- ❖ The Prime Minister launched the physical distribution of property cards under the SVAMITA scheme.
- ❖ SVAMITA stands for Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas.
- ❖ It will pave the way for using the property as a financial asset by the villagers in order to take loans or for other financial benefits.
- ❖ It will also help in reducing disputes over land property.

'SVAMITVA' Scheme

- ❖ The SVAMITVA scheme is a central sector scheme of the Panchayati Raj Ministry.
- ❖ It was launched by Prime Minister on National Panchayati Raj Day, April 24, 2020.
- ❖ It aims at providing the 'records of the rights' to the household owners in villages in the rural areas and issue property cards.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

RUSTOM II Drone Test

- ❖ DRDO tested its Indigenously developed Rustom 2 drone successfully.
- ❖ It is a medium altitude long endurance indigenous surveillance drone.
- ❖ The Drone is capable of carrying payloads depending on the mission objectives.
- ❖ This includes aperture radar, situational awareness systems and electronic intelligent systems.
- ❖ The Drone was developed to match the specifications of the Israeli unmanned aerial vehicle Heron.



STATES

100% Tap Water Connections

- ❖ Goa has become the first state in India to provide 100% tap water connections in rural areas.
- ❖ On its successful implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission, Goa has become the first “Har Ghar Jal State”.
- ❖ The State of Goa is now planning to install sensor-based service delivery monitoring system to monitor the functionality of water supply.

Tie-up with India Post for PM-KISAN scheme

- ❖ The Goa Government has tied up with India Post to get 11,000 farmers enrolled in the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme.
- ❖ This is the first such exercise in India to enrol farmers in the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme, whereby the postman will be utilised to benefit farmers.
- ❖ This scheme, where the farmers directly received direct benefit transfer of Rs 2,000 in three instalments every year, is for the economically weaker farmers.

World second smog tower

- ❖ The Delhi government approved a proposal to install a 'smog tower' in Connaught Place to deal with air pollution.
- ❖ It will be the second smog tower after China and first of its kind in the world.

- ❖ The technology of the smog tower coming up at Connaught Place will be different from the one in China.
- ❖ Smog towers are structures designed to function as large-scale air purifiers to reduce air pollution particles.
- ❖ They are usually fitted with multiple layers of air filters, which clean the air of pollutants as they pass through them.
- ❖ Highly-effective H14 grade Highly Effective Particulate Arrestance (HEPA) filter would be used in Delhi.
- ❖ The filter is said to have been designed to clean up to 99.99% Particulate Matter (PM) present in the air with the help of pre-filter and activated carbon.



First state to go digital in public education

- ❖ Kerala became the first state in the country to go completely digital in public education.

- ❖ The digitalization programmes are being implemented by the Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE).

SPORTS

French Open 2020

- ❖ Rafael Nadal (Spain) beats Novak Djokovic (Serbia) to win the men's 2020 French Open Title.
- ❖ This is his 13th French Open men's singles title and 20th Grand Slam title.
- ❖ Under female category of the French Open 2020, Iga Swiatek won the title.
- ❖ She was the first player from Poland to win a Grand Slam.



IMPORTANT DAYS

World Arthritis Day – October 12

- ❖ World Arthritis Day is observed to raise awareness about Arthritis around the world.
- ❖ The theme of the World Arthritis Day 2020 is “It's in Your Hands, Take Action”.
- ❖ Arthritis is not a single disease but a collection of more than 100 different conditions that affect the joints, tissues around joints, and other connective tissues.



International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction – October 13

- ❖ It aims to how people and communities across the world are reducing their exposure to disasters.
- ❖ It spread awareness about the importance of reigning in the risks that they face.
- ❖ The theme of International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction 2020 is “it’s all about governance”.



MISCELLANEOUS

UN's Still Birth Report

- ❖ United Nations recently launched a report on stillbirths titled “A Neglected Tragedy: The Global Burden of Stillbirths”.
- ❖ The report was created by UNICEF, World Health Organisation, World Bank and the United Nations department of economic and social affairs.
- ❖ Still birth means a baby born with no signs of life at 28 weeks of pregnancy.
- ❖ The report says that a stillborn baby is delivered every 16 seconds.
- ❖ 84 percentage of these grievous episodes occur in low and lower-middle-income countries.
- ❖ This is the first-time a stillbirth report has been published by the United Nations.

India's status

- ❖ The report says that there were around 1.9 million still births globally and out of this 0.34 million were from India.
- ❖ India along with other countries such as Nigeria, Congo, Pakistan, China and Ethiopia contributed to half of all the stillbirth in the world.



- ❖ The progress in decline in still birth in India has improved in last two decades.
- ❖ The stillbirth rate has improved by 2.7% in 2010 as compared to 2000.

