

October - 16

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Iran started a massive, two-day air defence drill in its sprawling central desert.
 - The defence exercise is called Velyat.
- ❖ M.S. Dhoni Cricket Academy (MSDCA) was launched in Bengaluru.
 - Sports companies GamePlay and Aarka Sports launched this.

NATIONAL

Multi-modal logistics park

- ❖ A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to set up a multi-modal logistics park (MMLP) at Mappedu in Tiruvallur district was signed.
- ❖ It was signed between Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO), National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML) and the Chennai Port Trust (CPT).
- ❖ The MMLP, to be set up close to Chennai Peripheral Ring Road, would connect Chennai airport, Chennai port, Kamarajar port and Kattupalli port.

Power Finance Corporation - Maharatna Status



- ❖ The Central Government has given “Maharatna” status to Power Finance Corporation (PFC).
- ❖ PFC has become the 11th state-owned entity in India to enter the Maharatna category.

- ❖ PFC is the largest infrastructure company in India.
- ❖ This enhanced status will enable it to,
 - To make quality investments,
 - To form financial joint ventures and wholly-owned subsidiaries
 - To oversee mergers & acquisitions within India as well as abroad.

Supreme Court on National Green Tribunal

- ❖ The Supreme Court in a landmark judgement noted that the “National Green Tribunal does have Suo moto powers and it can hear environmental issues on its own”.
- ❖ This order came even though the Union government said NGT does not have powers to hear environmental cases on its own.
- ❖ The NGT was established on October 18, 2010 under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010.

Restoring degraded land



- ❖ The Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav said land restoration is the solution for biodiversity loss.
- ❖ India is committed to restoring 26 million hectares of degraded land by 2030.
- ❖ This is more than the earlier target of 21 million hectares.



Subsidy for phosphate and potassic fertilizers

- ❖ The Centre has approved an additional fertilizer subsidy for the rabi or winter planting season.
- ❖ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the new nutrient-based subsidy rates for phosphatic and potassic fertilisers.
- ❖ Unlike urea where the Centre sets a fixed maximum retail price, non-urea fertilizer prices are decontrolled with the Government fixing nutrient-based subsidy rates instead.

INTERNATIONAL

US Indigenous People's Day

- ❖ The American President Joe Biden has proclaimed October 11 as "Indigenous Peoples' Day".
- ❖ He has become the first U.S. president to formally recognize this day.
- ❖ Indigenous Peoples' Day is typically observed on the second Monday of October.
- ❖ This Day recognizes the Indigenous communities who have lived in the United States for thousands of years.

ECONOMY

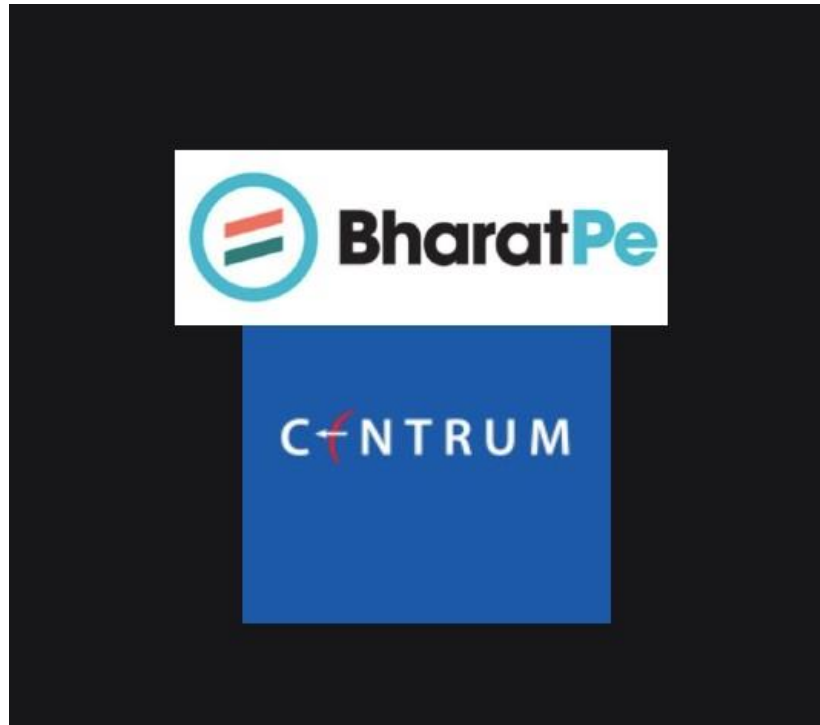
World Economic Outlook

- ❖ It was published by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- ❖ The report improved its growth forecasts of the Latin American and Caribbean economy in the year 2021.
- ❖ According to IMF, the world economy will grow by 9% in 2021.
- ❖ In July 2020, it expected an increase of 6%.
- ❖ The Growth is still conditioned by the prolongation of the covid-19 pandemic.
- ❖ IMF projected the growth rate by 4.9% in 2022.

Unity Small Finance Bank

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India has granted a banking licence to Unity Small Finance Bank Ltd (USFBL).
- ❖ The bank was established jointly by Centrum Financial Services Ltd (CFSL) and Resilient Innovations Private Limited (BharatPe).

- ❖ It is the first time ever that two partners are uniting equally to build a Bank.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Signals from outside of Solar System



- ❖ The Low-Frequency Array (LOFAR), the world's most powerful radio antenna located in the Netherlands picked up signals from planets outside of Solar System.
- ❖ For the first time, they detected signals from 19 distant red dwarfs.

- ❖ 4 of which have been recognized to have planets orbiting them.
- ❖ This phenomenon hints towards the presence of hidden planets around these stars.
- ❖ This technique could also answer the question if there is life in or beyond Solar System other than Earth.

SPORTS

Junior World Championship - Indian Shooters

- ❖ The 2021 International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Junior World Championship Rifle/Pistol/Shotgun was held at Lima in Peru.
- ❖ The Indian shooters claimed a historic win with 43 medals to stand atop the medal table.
- ❖ These included 17 Gold, 16 Silver and 10 Bronze medals.
- ❖ The USA finished second on the medal table with 21 medals including six gold, eight silver and six bronze.



IMPORTANT DAYS

International E-Waste Day – 14 October

- ❖ The day is celebrated every year since 2018.
- ❖ It is to promote the correct disposal of e-waste throughout the world with the aim to increase re-use, recovery and recycling rates.
- ❖ 2021 is the fourth edition of the International E-Waste Day.

- ❖ This year's International E-Waste Day will focus on the crucial part each of us has in making circularity a reality for e-products.
- ❖ The theme for 2021 IEWD is "Consumer is the key to Circular Economy!"
- ❖ The day was developed in 2018 by the WEEE Forum.



World Sight Day 2021 – 14 October

- ❖ World Sight Day is an annual day of awareness held on the second Thursday of October.
- ❖ This year it falls on October 14.
- ❖ It is to focus global attention on vision impairment, including blindness.
- ❖ The theme for this year is 'Love Your Eyes'.



World Standards Day – 14 October

- ❖ The World Standards Day or International Standards Day is observed globally every year.
- ❖ The day aims to raise awareness about the importance of standardisation to the global economy among consumers, regulators and industry.
- ❖ World Standards Day 2021 theme is "Standards for sustainable development goals – shared vision for a better world".

❖ The First World Standards Day was celebrated in 1970.

