



October - 18

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Rashtriya Kamdhenu Aayog chairman Vallabhbhai Kathiria unveiled a “chip” named ‘Gausatva Kavach’.
 - It is made of cow dung and it has been claimed that it reduces radiation from mobile.
- ❖ India's Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) surpassed Accenture for the first time in a year to become the World's most valuable information technology company.
- ❖ Nilesh Shah, managing director of Kotak Mutual Fund, has been re-elected as chairman of the Association of Mutual Funds in India.
- ❖ Ravi Shankar Prasad, the Union Law Minister, virtually hosted the 7th Justice Minister's meeting of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).
- ❖ On the occasion of 75th Anniversary of Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Prime Minister of India released a commemorative coin of Rs 75.
- ❖ The Government of India has constituted a panel under the cabinet secretary Rajiv Gauba to streamline telecom spectrum allocation.
 - The panel has been constituted with secretaries of railways, defence, home, telecom, department of space and Information and Broadcasting.

NATIONAL

India Energy Modeling Forum

- ❖ NITI Aayog announced the Governing Structure of India Energy Modelling Forum (IEMF).
- ❖ The governing structure of IEMF will consist of an inter-ministerial and a steering committee.
- ❖ The inter-ministerial committee will review modelling activities and provide directions towards new areas of research.
- ❖ The steering committee will shortlist policy issues.
- ❖ The Prayas group of Maharashtra has been selected as the first convenor of the steering committee.
- ❖ It is jointly launched by NITI Aayog and United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under the US-India Strategic Energy Partnership.
- ❖ The forum would include knowledge partners, data agencies and concerned government ministries.



National authority for recycling of ships

- ❖ The Central government has notified the directorate general of shipping as the National authority for recycling of ships.
- ❖ The notification was issued under the Recycling of Ships Act, 2019.
- ❖ It will be an apex body authorized to administer, supervise and monitor all activities relating to ship recycling in the country.
- ❖ It will also be the final authority for the various approvals required by the ship-recycling yard owners and state governments.
- ❖ India is the largest ship-breaking player in the world.
- ❖ India is recycling around 70 lakh gross tonnages every year, followed by Bangladesh, Pakistan and China.
- ❖ With the enactment of Ship Recycling Act 2019, India has complied with Hong Kong Convention for Ship Recycling.

Convention on Ship Recycling

- ❖ International Maritime Organization (IMO) adopted the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships in 2009.
- ❖ But the Convention is yet to come into force because it has not been ratified by 15 nations.

Non-Ac Coaches Upgradation

- ❖ The Indian Railways has decided to upgrade the non-air-conditioned (AC) sleeper coaches to AC ones for high-speed trains.
- ❖ Railways will phase out sleeper coaches on mail and express trains that will run at 130 kmph or above on its tracks.
- ❖ Such trains with more than 130 KMPH speed will have only AC coaches as it plans to upgrade the network.

INTERNATIONAL

Vice-Chair of GLP

- ❖ India has been designated the 'Vice-Chair' of Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) Working Group of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).



- ❖ GLP is a quality system, which has been evolved by OECD to ensure that safety data generated on various chemicals like industrial chemicals, pharmaceuticals agrochemicals, cosmetic products, food/ feed additives, and medical devices, etc.
- ❖ The Department of Science and Technology established the National GLP Compliance Monitoring Authority (NGCMA) on April 24, 2002.

STATES

Gupkar Declaration II

- ❖ The six political parties of Jammu and Kashmir signed a statement titled as 'Gupkar Declaration II'.
- ❖ It aims to collectively fight against the abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ The first Gupkar declaration was signed before the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019.

'Tech for Tribals' initiative

- ❖ TRIFED under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs in collaboration with Chhattisgarh MFP Federation and IIT of Kanpur launched Tech for Tribals initiative in Chhattisgarh.
- ❖ It aims at the holistic development of tribals with a focus on entrepreneurship development, soft skills, IT, and business development through SHGs operating through Van Dhan Kendras (VDVKs).
- ❖ This program will mainly entail three aspects of development for sustainable entrepreneurship which can be considered as the three pillars – Engagement, Capacity Building, and Market linkages.



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IMPORTANT DAYS

International E-Waste Day - October 15

- ❖ The third International E-Waste Day was observed on 2020.
- ❖ The day is being observed by the Waste Electrical and Electronic Forum (WEEF) since 2018.
- ❖ This year, the day is observed on the theme: Education.



Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas - October 15

- ❖ It is celebrated to recognize the contribution of women farmers in various aspects of agriculture.
- ❖ Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas has been observed since 2016 by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.
- ❖ An e-book on 'Inspiring Stories of Progressive Women Farmers' was released during this year celebration.
- ❖ Two Short Films 'Mahila Krishak and her Contribution in Agriculture' & 'Global Examples of Successful Women Farmers' were launched.

MISCELLANEOUS

The HealthyLife Programme

- ❖ In a first-of-its-kind initiative in the country, HDFC Bank and Apollo Hospitals have joined hands to launch 'The HealthyLife' Programme.
- ❖ It is a holistic healthcare solution which makes healthy living accessible and affordable on Apollo's digital platform, Apollo 24/7.



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