

October - 21

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The International Cricket Council and UNICEF have decided to partner to help break the stigma around mental health by raising awareness about the issue amongst children and adolescents.
 - This decision is taken ahead of the 2021 men's T20 World Cup in the UAE and Oman.
- ❖ The second edition of the Naval Commanders' Conference of 2021 was launched in New Delhi recently.
 - This conference is to review major operational, materiel, logistics, Human Resource Development, training, and administrative activities.
- ❖ R. Praggnanandhaa beat American talent Christopher Yoo to win the Julius Baer Challengers Chess Tour.
- ❖ Russia announced that it is suspending its mission to NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation).
- ❖ The union minister for civil aviation, Jyotiraditya M Scindia virtually flagged off six routes.
 - The routes are Kolkata - Guwahati, Guwahati - Aizawl, Aizawl - Shillong, Shillong - Aizawl, Aizawl - Guwahati and Guwahati - Kolkata routes.
- ❖ The first-ever ship-to-ship transfer operation of LPG on the Indian Coast in Kolkata was undertaken by the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited
 - The ship-to-ship transfer operation in Kolkata is expected to benefit the trade sector and the country in saving substantial foreign exchange.

TAMIL NADU

SC/ST Commission

- ❖ Tamil Nadu government appointed the members for SC/ST Commission.
- ❖ Chief Minister MK Stalin said that High Court Judge Sivakumar will be the Chairperson of the Commission.
- ❖ Punitha Pandian, Editor of 'Dalit Murasu' magazine will be Deputy Chairperson.
- ❖ The commission will also have five more persons,
 - advocate Kumaradevan,
 - Ezhil Ilangovan (a writer),

- Leelavathi Dhanaraj (social activist involved in imparting education to tribal children),
- advocate Ilanchezhian and
- Professor Raghupathi.
- ❖ The period of the members of the SC/ST commission will be three years.
- ❖ They will ensure that the legal rights of SCs and STs are protected.

NATIONAL

11th P-8i aircraft

- ❖ The Indian Navy received its 11th P-8i aircraft from Boeing.
- ❖ The anti-submarine warfare aircraft is the third aircraft to be delivered under the contract for four additional Boeing aircraft ordered by India.
- ❖ The Union Defence Ministry had earlier signed a contract for eight Boeing P-8i aircraft in 2009.
- ❖ The aircraft were already been delivered to the Indian Navy.
- ❖ The contract for procurement of the four additional aircraft was signed in 2016.



Geospatial Energy Map of India

- ❖ The map has been developed by NITI Aayog in collaboration with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Energy Ministries of the Government of India.
- ❖ This Geospatial Energy Map of India provides a holistic picture of all energy resources like oil & gas wells, petroleum refineries, conventional power plants, coal fields and coal blocks.

- ❖ The GIS mapping of energy assets will be helpful in ensuring real-time and integrated planning of the energy sector in India.



New Quad in West Asia

- ❖ India, Israel, United States and United Arab Emirates (UAE) are ready to build on the momentum created by “Abraham Accords” by holding the first meeting of their foreign ministers.
- ❖ The meeting is being described as a “new Quad” in West Asia.
- ❖ This meeting is the first to bring four countries together on a single platform.
- ❖ The meeting will also be linked with India’s efforts of building new plurilateral and multilateral partnerships which focuses on cooperation in areas including security, connectivity and energy.

Gen-Next Democratic Network

- ❖ Under the new initiative called the “Gen-Next Democratic Network” initiative, India is set to host young leaders aged under 35.
- ❖ It has been planned by Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).
- ❖ This event will be inaugurated by the speaker of Lok Sabha, Om Birla.
- ❖ The ICCR is an autonomous body working under the Ministry of External Affairs.
- ❖ It deals with the policies related to India’s external cultural relations.
- ❖ Young leaders would be invited from 75 different democracies.
- ❖ These young leaders will be invited from the ruling party, opposition party and other key parties.

Aadhaar Hackathon 2021

- ❖ The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) is set to host the 'Aadhaar Hackathon 2021'
- ❖ The Aadhaar Hackathon is set to identify young innovators in the area of information technology.
- ❖ It will be the first-ever event being conducted by the Aadhaar team.
- ❖ The UIDAI is a statutory authority which was established under the provisions of the Aadhaar Act 2016.
- ❖ It was established under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

Allium Negianum

- ❖ A plant discovered in Uttarakhand in 2019 has been newly confirmed as a new species of Allium.
- ❖ The plant, called Allium Negianum is a new species of onion.
- ❖ It was discovered in the Indo-Tibetan border area of Malari village, Niti valley of Chamoli district in Uttarakhand.
- ❖ It is restricted to the region of the Western Himalayas in India.
- ❖ It is not yet been reported from anywhere else in the world.



INTERNATIONAL

Global TB report for 2021

- ❖ The World Health Organisation (WHO) has released the 'Global TB report for 2021.



- ❖ It highlighted the effects of COVID-19 which led to a huge reversal in the progress of Tuberculosis (TB) elimination.
- ❖ The report also mentioned India as the worst-hit country in TB elimination.
- ❖ A dramatic reduction of 20% TB cases was witnessed in 2020 as compared to 2019, i.e. A gap of 4.1 million cases.

ECONOMY

Karur Vysya Bank to collect Direct taxes

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India has authorised Karur Vysya Bank (KVB) to collect direct taxes on behalf of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).
- ❖ After obtaining the approval, KVB has started the integration process with the CBDT to collect direct taxes.
- ❖ The integration would enable the bank to allow its customers to remit the direct taxes through any branch/net banking/ mobile banking services (DLite Mobile application).

STATES

Kudumba Shree products on online platform

- ❖ The Kerala Government has planned to start an online platform to market and deliver products.
- ❖ The products manufactured by 'Micro, Small and Medium production units including Kudumba Shree will be available on the platform.
- ❖ This plan was announced while inaugurating the "State-level seed capital financial assistance scheme"
- ❖ Under this scheme, assistance will be provided to self-help Groups.
- ❖ The scheme was launched as part of the "Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PMFME) project".

