

October - 01

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ 62 new species and 77 new patch reef areas have been discovered recently during a study of biological resources in the Gulf of Mannar.
 - Total species discovered so far: 4,285
- ❖ The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has compulsorily retired 15 more senior tax officers on corruption and other charges under Fundamental Rule 56(J) of the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules.
- ❖ 23-year-old American, Christian Coleman won gold medal in the 100 metres at the World Championships in Doha.
- ❖ Indian fencer Bhavani Devi clinched the silver medal in the women's sabre individual category in the Tournoi satellite competition (World level) at Ghent, Belgium.

TAMIL NADU

No.3 in Gross Enrolment Ratio: TN

- ❖ Tamil Nadu emerges as the top performer among the “big states” in the country, in terms of Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education.
- ❖ GER is calculated for age groups 18 – 23.
- ❖ According to the latest report of All India Survey on Higher Education 2018-19, the GER ratio of Tamilnadu is at 49%
- ❖ Top performer amongst all categories: Sikkim (53.9%), Chandigarh (50.6%)

Unique Case of Tamilnadu

- ❖ The GER in Tamilnadu has increased almost by 8.6% rise in 6 years.
- ❖ The GER in higher education in Kerala is 37%, while it is 32.4% in Andhra Pradesh, 36.2% in Telangana and 28.8% in Karnataka.
- ❖ States like Maharashtra and Gujarat have recorded GER of 32% and 20.4%.
- ❖ The Union Government has set a target of achieving 50% GER in higher education by 2030.
- ❖ But Tamilnadu has already achieved it.
- ❖ The male GER ratio in Tamil Nadu is 49.8%, the female ratio is 48.3%.
- ❖ Similarly, in SC category, the GER in the State is 41.6% while in ST category, it is 37.8%.

Madurai Student addresses UN Forum

- ❖ Twenty-one-year-old Premalatha Tamilselvan, a law course aspirant from Madurai, has been invited to attend the Human Rights Council Social Forum to be held at Geneva from October 1.
- ❖ She will address the forum at the screening of ‘A Path to Dignity: The Power of Human Rights Education’, a 2012 documentary in which she featured.
- ❖ She had spoken on issues relating to caste and gender disparity in documentary.
- ❖ It was produced by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

NATIONAL

Industry 4.0

- ❖ A pilot project to introduce Industry 4.0 in the country has been launched at the Modern Coach Factory in Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ Industry 4.0 is commonly referred to as the fourth industrial revolution.
- ❖ It is a name given to the current trend of automation, inter-connectivity and data exchange in manufacturing technologies to increase productivity.
- ❖ Industry 4.0 synergises “production” with Artificial Intelligence, Big Data, Analytics, Machine Learning and Cloud Computing.



School Education Quality Index

- ❖ Kerala bagged the top spot on the School Education Quality Index (SEQI) released by NITI Aayog.
- ❖ SEQI has been developed by NITI Aayog through a collaborative process with
 - Ministry of Human Resource and Development (MHRD)



- World Bank
- ❖ The index aims to evaluate the performance of States and UTs in the school education sector.
- ❖ The data for the index was collected for three categories: large states, small states and Union Territories (UTs).

Large States

- ❖ Kerala bagged the top spot with 76.6 per cent and while Uttar Pradesh with 36.4 per cent scored the lowest for 2016-17.

Small States

- ❖ Manipur (68.8 per cent) emerged as the top performer while Arunachal Pradesh (24.6 per cent) came last in the category.

Among Union Territories

- ❖ Chandigarh (82.9 per cent) stood at the top position while Lakshadweep ranked lowest (31.9 per cent).

NITI AAYOG EDUCATION QUALITY INDEX

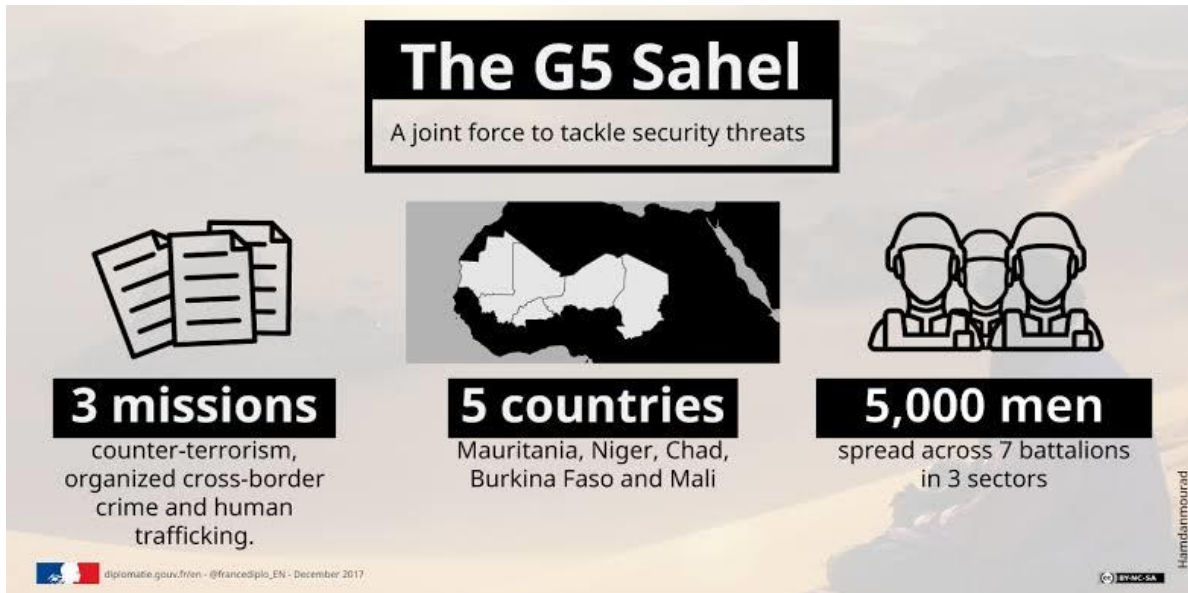
Categories	Top 3	Bottom 3
Large states	Kerala, TN and Haryana	Telangana, Bihar, Jharkhand
Small states	Tripura, Goa, Manipur	Meghalaya, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh
Union Territories	Chandigarh, Delhi, Puducherry	Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Andaman Islands, Lakshwadeep

INTERNATIONAL

Increasing Terrorism in G5 Sahel Region

- ❖ UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres warned that al Qaeda and Islamic State have strengthened their foothold across the Sahel region this year.
- ❖ The following group of countries in African continent are called as Sahel Countries
 - Burkina Faso
 - Niger
 - Chad
 - Mali

- Mauritania
- ❖ In 2017, backed by France, a G5 Sahel task force was constituted to combat the insurgents.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Right to be Forgotten on Internet

- ❖ The European Court of Justice (ECJ) has ruled that an online privacy rule known as the ‘right to be forgotten’ under European law would not apply beyond the borders of EU member states.
- ❖ The ‘right to be forgotten’ on the Internet empowers “individuals” to ask organisations to delete their personal data.
- ❖ It is provided by the European Union’s (EU) General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), a law passed by the 28-member bloc in 2018.

How it works?

- ❖ A search engine company like Google gets requests under the privacy law to get information deleted.
- ❖ It first reviews and then removes links on country-specific sites within the European Union.



STATES

ERSS-112 and PRAKHAR Crime Vans – Delhi

- ❖ Union Ministry for Home Affairs launched the Emergency Response Support System (ERSS-112) helpline number and PRAKHAR street crime patrol van in Delhi.
- ❖ ERSS-112 helpline system has been developed as a nationwide single emergency number for emergency services - police, fire, and ambulance.
- ❖ It will gradually phase out the other three emergency helpline numbers.
- ❖ This single number for emergency services is similar to “112” in the European Union and “911” in the United States of America.
- ❖ Delhi becomes the 19th state/UT to have adopted ERSS-112.
- ❖ PRAKHAR is a street crime patrol van, for patrolling at crime hot spot locations.
- ❖ Prakhar vans are different from regular patrol vans as these vans carry more firepower and are equipped with modern technology.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

2018 Saraswathi Samman Awards

- ❖ Vice President Venkaiah Naidu presented the prestigious 28th Saraswati Samman award to Telugu poet K Siva Reddy.
- ❖ He was awarded for his collection of poems titled Pakkaki Ottigilite (Turning Aside While Lying Down).
- ❖ The poem collection was published in 2016.

About the Award

- ❖ It is an annual award for outstanding prose or poetry literary works in any of the 22 languages of India listed in Schedule VIII of the Constitution of India.
- ❖ The Saraswati Samman was instituted in 1991 by the K. K. Birla Foundation.
- ❖ It carries a cash prize of 15 lakhs.

Pandit Jasraj

- ❖ The International Astronomical Union (IAU) has named an asteroid, discovered in 2006, after Indian classical singer Pandit Jasraj.
- ❖ The asteroid, or the minor planet, is located between Mars and Jupiter.



- ❖ It was discovered by the Catalina Sky Survey, USA.
- ❖ The privilege of naming a planet is first given to discoverers, who have 10 years to propose a name.

About

- ❖ Sangeet Martand Pandit Jasraj (b. 1930) is an exponent of Indian classical vocal music.
- ❖ He is the recipient of numerous awards, honours, and titles, including the prestigious Padma Vibhushan and the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award.

