



October - 02

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Air Marshal S K Ghotia has taken over as the new Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the South Western Air Command (SWAC) of the Indian Air Force (IAF), at Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
 - He replaced Air Marshal H S Arora, who moved to Air Headquarters as the Vice-Chief of Air Staff.
- ❖ Kavitha Gopal, who graduated with a B. Tech degree in Computer Science and Engineering with a CGPA of 9.95 created history by becoming the first girl student of the Indian Institute Technology-Madras to win the President of India Prize.
- ❖ The Ministry of Home Affairs has decided to commute the death sentence of Balwant Singh Rajoana to life imprisonment. He was convicted for the assassination of former Punjab chief minister Beant Singh.
 - Beant Singh who is credited for ending terrorism in Punjab was assassinated on August 31, 1995 in an explosion in Chandigarh.

TAMIL NADU

SKOCH Awards – Chennai Police

- ❖ The Greater Chennai Police has bagged two awards
 - For implementation of CCTV surveillance - 'Third Eye' project with public partnership.
 - For introducing digital technology for cashless payment of fine against traffic violations.
- ❖ Union HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal gave away the SKOCH awards to Chennai Police.

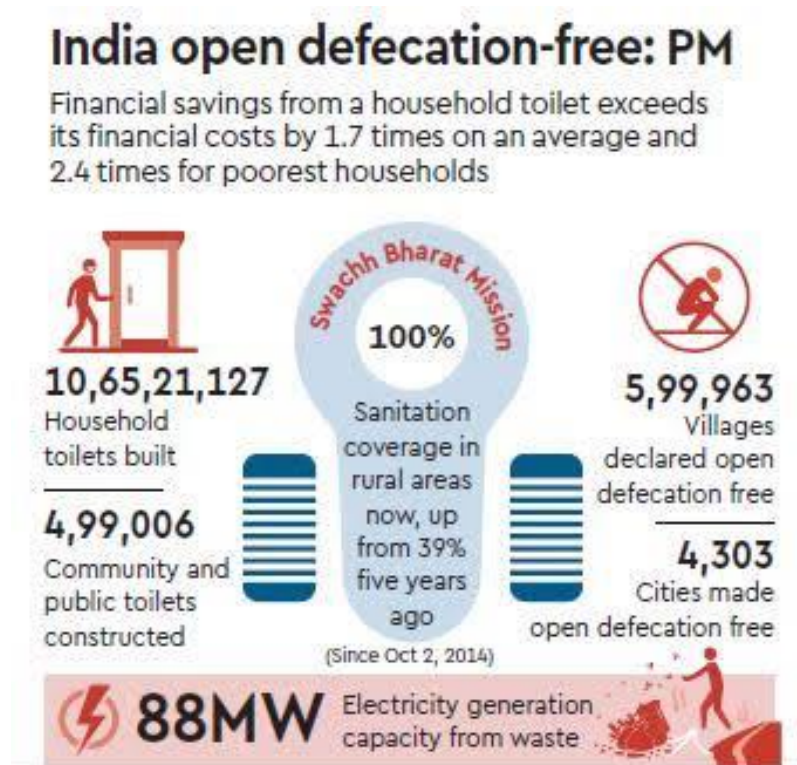
About

- ❖ The SKOCH Governance Award instituted in 2003 is conferred by an independent organisation.
- ❖ It recognises projects and institutions which were making best efforts in the area of digital, financial and social inclusions for betterment of the nation.

NATIONAL

Open Defecation Free India

- ❖ On the occasion of 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, PM Narendra Modi announced that rural India and its villages have declared themselves open-defecation free.
- ❖ In 60 months, more than 60 crore people were provided with 11 crore toilets.
- ❖ Swachh Bharat Mission- Gramin (SBM-G) was launched on October 2, 2014.



- ❖ It aimed to achieve universal sanitation coverage, improve cleanliness, and eliminate open defecation in the country by October 2, 2019.
- ❖ It had created opportunities of 75 lakh jobs out of which a majority have been availed by the rural population.

Idol Immersion Banned in Ganga Basin States

- ❖ The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has banned idol immersion in Ganga or its tributaries during festivals, including Dussehra, Diwali and Saraswati Puja.
- ❖ The directive has been issued under Section 5 of The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.



- ❖ Violators would have to deposit a fine of Rs.50,000 to State Pollution Board.
- ❖ The pollution control measure will be enforced in these 11 Ganga Basin states.

Uttar Pradesh	Uttarakhand
Himachal Pradesh	Haryana
Rajasthan	Delhi
Bihar	Jharkhand
Madhya Pradesh	Chhattisgarh
West Bengal	

Paryatan Parv 2019 – Tourism Initiative

- ❖ On the occasion of the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Union Ministry of Tourism launched a tourism initiative called 'Paryatan Parv 2019'.
- ❖ The objective of the initiative is to encourage inland tourism among Indians and spread the message "Tourism for All".
- ❖ Also, foreign tourist arrivals in the country have risen and 1.05 crore tourists are coming to India every year.
- ❖ The world tourism ranking of the country has jumped from 65 in 2013 to 34 in 2019.

Railway Stations' Cleanliness Survey Report

- ❖ Minister of Railways Piyush Goyal released the 'Stations' Cleanliness Survey Report' (Cleanliness assessment of Non-suburban and Suburban Stations 2019).
- ❖ On a score of 1000, Railways have conducted a third-party audit and cleanliness ranking was in 720 stations.
- ❖ Suburban stations were also included for the first time.
- ❖ The top three cleanest railways stations are Jaipur, Jodhpur and Durgapura. All 3 stations are from Rajasthan.
- ❖ Top three railway Zones: North Western Railway followed by South East Central Railway and East Central Railway.



SC & ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989

- ❖ The Supreme Court “recalled” its directions in a “March 2018 verdict” regarding the Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.
- ❖ This was following a plea by the Centre seeking a review of that judgment.
- ❖ In 2018 it had effectively diluted provisions of arrest under the Protection of Civil Rights Act.

2018 Judgement

- ❖ Supreme Court diluted the SC and ST Act and allowed “anticipatory bail” to accused persons.
- ❖ It had also directed that the police should conduct a preliminary enquiry into whether a complaint under the law is “frivolous or motivated” before registering a case.
- ❖ Both conditions were “not” part of the original legislation.

Modified 2019 Order

- ❖ The review petition filed by Union Government was heard by the same bench of the Supreme Court.
- ❖ The bench recalled its earlier dilutions made in 2018.
- ❖ It agreed that Supreme Court can lay down guidelines “only” in cases of legislative gaps. Ex: Khap panchayath, lynching, etc.
- ❖ But when there is already a Parliamentary Legislation (like the SC & ST Act, 1989) the judiciary is bound by the text of law.

Name of the Case

- ❖ The judgements were delivered in “Subhash Kashinath Mahajan vs State of Maharashtra”.

INTERNATIONAL

China’s Dongfeng 41 Missile – 15,000 Kms Range

- ❖ China unveiled the Dongfeng 41 (DF-41) intercontinental-range ballistic missile.
- ❖ The missile was unveiled at China’s National Day Parade (October 1, 2019), which is the 70th Anniversary of Communist rule.
- ❖ DF-41 is touted to be the most powerful missile on the planet.
- ❖ It has a range of up to 15,000 kilometres more than any missile on Earth.
- ❖ It is capable of carrying 10 independently targeted nuclear warheads and could theoretically hit the United States in 30 minutes.

- ❖ China has also displayed its underwater vehicles and new stealth DR-8 drones which can fly five times faster than the speed of sound.



ECONOMY

DIN Number - CBDT

- ❖ The Documentation Identification Number (DIN) system of Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has been launched.
- ❖ From now onwards every communication with CBDT, be it a notice, letter, order and summon or any other correspondence, will have to have a DIN.
- ❖ Manual communications are allowed only under exceptional circumstances.
- ❖ DIN provides for a transparent and recorded communication between the income tax department and taxpayers.
- ❖ It is also expected to result in better services to taxpayers without any possible harassment.



ENVIRONMENT

Total Carbon on Earth

- ❖ A 10-year programme at the US National Academy of Sciences called “Deep Carbon Observatory” has released the estimated the total carbon on Earth.
- ❖ The program was started in 2009.
- ❖ It also includes an analysis of the total carbon dioxide released by volcanoes.
- ❖ Humanity’s annual carbon emissions are 40 to 100 times greater than all volcanic emissions.
- ❖ It estimates that total carbon on earth is around 1.85 billion giga tonnes.

1.85 BILLION GIGATONNES: TOTAL CARBON ON EARTH	
BELOW THE SURFACE 1.845 BILLION Gigatonnes (Gt). This includes: 1.5 BILLION Gt in lower mantle. 315 MILLION Gt in continental and oceanic lithospheres 30 MILLION Gt carbon in the upper mantle	ABOVE THE SURFACE 43,500 Gt. This includes: 37,000 Gt in the deep ocean (85.1%) 3,000 Gt in marine sediments (6.9%) 2,000 Gt in terrestrial biosphere (4.6%) 900 GT in the surface ocean (2%) 590 Gt in the atmosphere (1.4%)

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Surjit Bhalla – Exec Director @ IMF

- ❖ Government of India has appointed Economist Surjit S Bhalla as Executive Director for India on the board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- ❖ He was a part-time member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM).
- ❖ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), headed by Prime Minister approved the appointment of Bhalla.
- ❖ He will hold the post for a period of three years from the date of assumption of charge of the post or until further orders, whichever is earlier.
- ❖ Bhalla will succeed former RBI deputy governor Subir Gokarn, who passed away after a brief illness.

