

October - 05

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Industries units at Manali, Ennore and Minjur in Chennai city will soon get 50 million of litres per day (mld) of treated sewage water from the newly inaugurated Tertiary Treatment Reverse Osmosis (TTRO) plant in Kodungaiyur nearby Chennai.
 - The treated water will have a total dissolved solids (TDS) level of less than 70, while the TDS level in potable water ranges between 250 and 500.
- ❖ BSNL has recently launched the 4G Services in Madurai. Four cities in Tamilnadu have BSNL 4G coverage - Coimbatore, Salem, Tiruchi and Madurai.
- ❖ On the occasion of 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Prime Minister Modi has written an article titled 'Why India & world need Gandhi'.
 - The article has been published in USA's prestigious newspaper New York Times 'Opinion' column.
- ❖ The Union Government has launched web portal called PRAKASH (Power Rail Koyla Availability through Supply Harmony) to improve coordination between the power, coal and railway ministries to ensure coal supplies to power plants.
 - The portal was jointly launched by power minister RK Singh and coal minister Prahlad Joshi.
- ❖ Mahindra and Ford will form a joint venture, with Mahindra owning a 51% controlling stake and Ford owning a 49% stake.
 - The agreement creates a joint venture that will develop, market and distribute Ford brand vehicles in India, Ford brand and Mahindra brand vehicles in high-growth emerging markets around the world.
- ❖ To strengthen friendly ties between India and Sri Lanka, the Sri Lankan Department of Posts has recently released a stamp and first day cover to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- ❖ International Day of Coffee is celebrated every year on October 1.
 - International Coffee Organisation (ICO) organized and launched the first world coffee day in 2015 at Milan in Italy.
- ❖ The 94th Raising Day of the Military Nursing Service (MNS) was celebrated on October 1.
 - It is a part of Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS) of the Indian Army and is the only all women corps in the Armed Forces.



NATIONAL

Interstate portability for ration card

- ❖ In a bid to implement 'One Nation, One Ration Card' across the country by June 1, 2020, the Union Government has started inter-state portability of ration cards between
 - Rajasthan-Haryana
 - Telangana-Andhra Pradesh
 - Maharashtra-Gujarat
- ❖ It implies beneficiaries living in Rajasthan/Haryana, Telangana/Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh/Gujarat can buy their quota of ration from the Public Distribution System (PDS) in either of the state.
- ❖ The inter-state portability scheme was launched by Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Minister Ram Vilas Paswan.

7 New Chief Justices

- ❖ Based on recommendations by Supreme Court collegium, 7 new Chief Justices have been appointed.

Chief Justice	Court
Justice Ajay Lamba	Guwahati High Court
Justice Inderjit Mahanti	Rajasthan High Court
Justice A Mani Kumar	Kerala High Court.
Justice Ravi Shanker Jha	Punjab and Haryana High Court
Justice AK Goswami	Sikkim High Court
Justice LN Swamy	Himachal Pradesh High Court
Justice JK Maheshwari	Andhra Pradesh High Court

INTERNATIONAL

Bolivian Lithium

- ❖ South American country Bolivia has the world's largest lithium reserves, beneath the vast Salar de Uyuni salt flat.
- ❖ Bolivia is estimated to hold over one fourth of the world's reserves for lithium.

- ❖ Lithium has become indispensable and used in lithium-ion batteries for portable electronics, and electric vehicles, etc.
- ❖ During April 2019 visit of the President Ram Nath Kovind, India has signed a MoU with Bolivia for development and industrial use of lithium.
- ❖ It is expected to aid in India's ambitious target of 30 per cent electric vehicles by 2030 and FAME (Faster Adoption and Manufacture of (Hybrid and) Electric Vehicles) policy.



STATES

Hyderi Manjil – Kolkatta

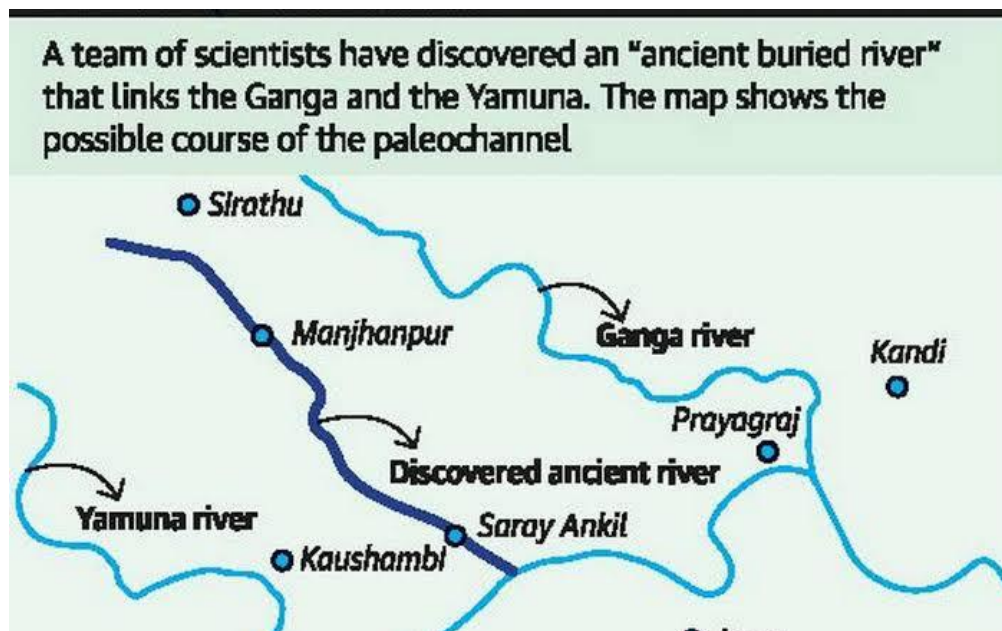
- ❖ The historical Hyderi Manjil house in Kolkatta has been turned into a full-fledged Museum.



- ❖ Gandhiji had stayed here in this house in August and September of 1947 and away from the celebration of Independence.
- ❖ He sat on an indefinite fast to end the communal violence in Kolkata during that period.

Ancient Buried River in UP

- ❖ The Union Water Ministry has excavated an old, dried-up river in Prayagraj (formerly Allahabad) that linked the Ganga and Yamuna rivers.
- ❖ The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) aims to develop it as a potential groundwater recharge source.



- ❖ This "ancient buried river" is around 4 km wide, 45 km long and consisted of a 15-metre-thick layer buried under soil.
- ❖ Evidence from palaeochannels suggest that the mythological Saraswati river might have existed.
- ❖ A palaeochannel is a remnant of an inactive river or stream channel that has been filled or buried by younger sediment.
- ❖ The discovery was made last December by a team of scientists from the CSIR-NGRI (National Geophysical Research Institute) and the Central Groundwater Board.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Vayoshreshtha Samman-2019: Awards for Elderly

- ❖ President Ram Nath Kovind conferred the Vayoshreshtha Samman 2019 on the eminent senior citizens and institutions in recognition of their services towards the cause of the elderly persons.
- ❖ Vayoshreshtha awards are instituted by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MOSJE).
- ❖ They are presented as part of the celebration of the International Day of Older Persons on 1st October.
- ❖ The awards are given in 13 categories and were started in 2005.
- ❖ They were elevated to the level of national awards in 2013.



UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award

- ❖ Human rights lawyer Azizbek Ashurov, who helped end statelessness in his home country of Kyrgystan, is this year's winner of the UNHCR prestigious Nansen Refugee Award.
- ❖ He and his organization, Ferghana Valley Lawyers Without Borders, have helped more than 10,000 people gain Kyrgyz nationality.
- ❖ Kyrgystan is the first country in the world to eliminate statelessness.

About the Award

- ❖ The award is named after Fridtjof Nansen — scientist, polar explorer and the first High Commissioner for Refugees.



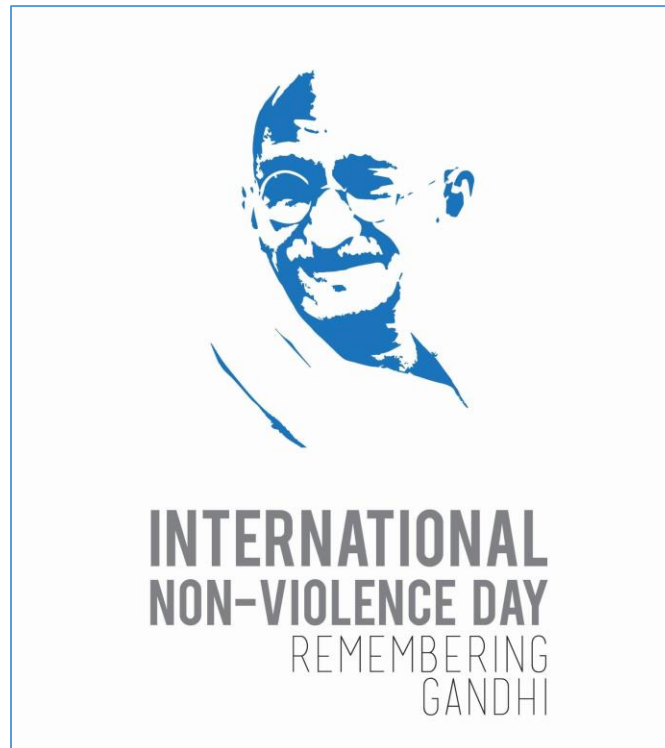
- ❖ It is given to an individual, group, or organization in recognition of outstanding service to the cause of refugees, displaced or stateless people.
- ❖ It was established in 1954.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Vegetarian Day – October 1

- ❖ World Vegetarian Day is observed annually around the planet on October 1.
- ❖ It is a day of celebration established by the North American Vegetarian Society in 1977 and endorsed by the International Vegetarian Union in 1978.
- ❖ The day brings awareness to the ethical, environmental, health, and humanitarian benefits of a vegetarian lifestyle.
- ❖ It initiates the month of October as Vegetarian Awareness Month, which ends with November 1 (World Vegan Day).

International Day of Non-Violence – October 2



- ❖ The International Day of Non-Violence is observed on 2 October, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi.
- ❖ The idea for the day was proposed in 2004 by Iranian Nobel laureate Shirin Ebadi.



- ❖ On 15 June 2007, the United Nations General Assembly voted to establish 2 October as the International Day of Non-Violence.
- ❖ The day is celebrated to spread the ideals of nonviolence and peaceful coexistence.

