

October - 17

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Information and Broadcasting ministry is likely to issue a “negative” list of don’ts for video streaming services like Netflix and Hotstar by the end of this year.
 - The ministry is also pushing them to come up with a self-regulatory body on the lines of New Broadcasting Services Authority.
- ❖ The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has decided to keep Pakistan in its ‘Grey List’ till February 2020. It directed Islamabad to take extra measures for complete elimination of terror financing and money laundering.
- ❖ 62-year-old Jogati Manjamma has become the first transwoman to be appointed as the chairperson of the Karnataka Janapada Academy (KJA) by the state government.
 - KJA works for protection and conservation of Kannada folklore and the welfare of artistes.
- ❖ The railways has decided to allow trains to be booked for promotional activities under a new scheme called "Promotion on Wheels".
 - Special trains will be made available for promotion and Bollywood movie “Housefull 4” team became the first one to make use of this facility.
- ❖ The Archaeological Survey of India has solicited responses from public to declare the historical Buddhist monastery in Ladakh in Kargil district as a “protected monument”.
- ❖ Under a secretive deal signed, a Beijing-based company with close ties to the Chinese Communist Party has leased Tulagi, a part of Solomon Islands for 75 years in the South Pacific region.
 - The strategically important Tulagi had already served as military headquarters of Britain and Japan.

TAMIL NADU

Fourth Police Commission – M Sheela Priya

- ❖ Tamilnadu state government has announced the formation of Fourth Police Commission of the State.
- ❖ Retired bureaucrat M.Sheela Priya has been appointed its Chairwoman.

Members

- ❖ Vendasandur MLA V P B Paramasivam, Retires joint secretary to government M. Arachelvi as members.

Member Secretary

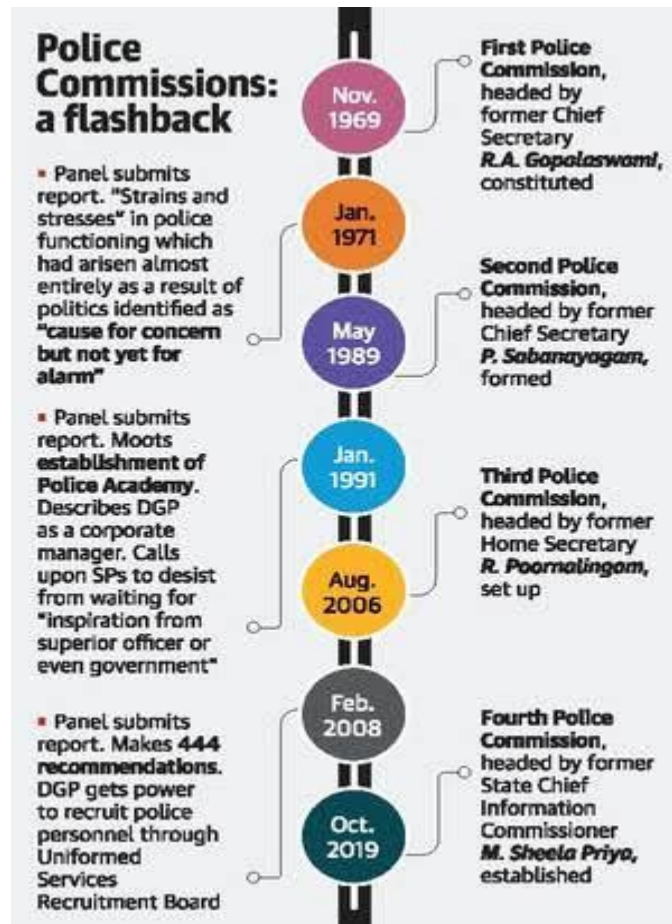
- ❖ Cyber Wing ADGP G. Venkatraman

Mandate

- ❖ The Sheela Priya commission will look into
 - Collection of intelligence
 - Crimes against women and children
 - Cybercrimes, transport and communication
 - Recommendations in addition to the mandate of the third commission

History of Police Commissions

- ❖ Three commissions were set up earlier in 1969, 1989 and 2006.
- ❖ They were headed by R.A. Gopalswami, P.Sabanayagam, R.Poornalingam respectively.





Chennai BCG Vaccine Centre Reopens

- ❖ After 11 years, Chennai-based BCG Vaccine Laboratory has got back Union government's permission to restart mass production of anti-tuberculosis vaccine for commercial use.
- ❖ It has reopened after adhering to the Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) Protocol.
- ❖ The lab plans to roll out least 300 lakh doses required for the universal immunization programme, by 2021.
- ❖ Scientists in the lab use a strain from Mycobacterium bovis BCG strain.
- ❖ It can supply TB Vaccines at much lower prices than private players.
- ❖ The laboratory was established in 1948 with the assistance of Statens Serum Institut (SSI) Copenhagen, Denmark and World Health Organization (WHO).

NATIONAL

Project Beehive – Indian Army

- ❖ The Army's Corps of Electronics and Mechanical Engineers (EME) has launched a new initiative called "Project Beehive".
- ❖ Objective: To achieve greater automation of the corps and connect all its workshops onto an integrated smart network endowed with real-time data analytics capabilities.
- ❖ Under WASP (Workshop Honeybees), army workshops have already been automated.
- ❖ As part of Project Beehive, these WASPs or workshops would then sit on a centralised 'beehive'.
- ❖ Real time data (repair, refurbishing and overhaul) of the army's equipment would be made available centrally.
- ❖ The Beehive was launched on September 1 and is expected to be completed by October 15, 2020.

About EME

- ❖ EME is an arms and service branch of the Indian Army.
- ❖ It is responsible for design, development, trial, inspection and refit of weapon systems and equipment.
- ❖ It was formed in 1943 during British rule and rechristened to its present name in 2001.



INTERNATIONAL

World Economic Outlook

- ❖ The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has released its biennial report, World Economic Outlook on October 15.
- ❖ The report indicates that over the past year, global growth has fallen sharply.

	Projections		
	2018	2019	2020
World Output	3.6	3.0	3.4
Advanced Economies	2.3	1.7	1.7
United States	2.9	2.4	2.1
Euro Area	1.9	1.2	1.4
Germany	1.5	0.5	1.2
France	1.7	1.2	1.3
Italy	0.9	0.0	0.5
Spain	2.6	2.2	1.8
Japan	0.8	0.9	0.5
United Kingdom	1.4	1.2	1.4
Canada	1.9	1.5	1.8
Other Advanced Economies	2.6	1.6	2.0
Emerging Market and Developing Economies	4.5	3.9	4.6
Emerging and Developing Asia	6.4	5.9	6.0
China	6.6	6.1	5.8
India	6.8	6.1	7.0
ASEAN-5	5.2	4.8	4.9
Emerging and Developing Europe	3.1	1.8	2.5
Russia	2.3	1.1	1.9
Latin America and the Caribbean	1.0	0.2	1.8
Brazil	1.1	0.9	2.0
Mexico	2.0	0.4	1.3
Middle East and Central Asia	1.9	0.9	2.9
Saudi Arabia	2.4	0.2	2.2
Sub-Saharan Africa	3.2	3.2	3.6
Nigeria	1.9	2.3	2.5
South Africa	0.8	0.7	1.1
Low-Income Developing Countries	5.0	5.0	5.1

- ❖ For advanced economies, growth is projected to soften to 1.7 percent in 2019 and 2020.
- ❖ India's GDP growth has been estimated at 6.1 percent.
- ❖ The report suggests that India's trade volume has reached its lowest level since 2012.
- ❖ It has been reduced by 1% since 2012.
- ❖ Reasons ascribed: corporate and environmental regulatory uncertainty, slowdown in demand, health of NBFCs

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

NASA Spacesuits for Women

- ❖ Nasa has unveiled two spacesuits designed to be worn by the first woman to walk on the moon.
- ❖ The next-generation suits were made for the Artemis programme.



Guardian graphic. Source: Nasa

- ❖ Artemis aims to land the first woman and next man on the moon by 2024.
- ❖ The garment, known as the exploration extravehicular mobility unit (xEMU), is designed for exploring the lunar surface, specifically the south pole.
- ❖ The suit is more flexible than previous generation suits and allows astronauts to actually walk on the moon.
- ❖ It is a one size fits all space suit.

SPORTS

IAAF – Transgender Rule

- ❖ The International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) Council which met in Doha has framed new rules for Transgender Athletes competing in the female category.
- ❖ Female transgender athletes must lower their testosterone levels by half under the new regulations.
- ❖ Their concentration of testosterone should be less than five nanomoles per litre continuously for a period of at least 12 months prior to being declared eligible as “female athlete”.
- ❖ Also, a transgender athlete is no longer required to be recognised by law as a “female”.
- ❖ Just a signed declaration that her gender identity is female will be sufficient.
- ❖ Similar rules apply to athletes with differences of sexual development (DSD), or hyperandrogenism.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Rural Women – October 15

- ❖ International Rural Women's Day is observed every year across the globe on 15 October.
- ❖ The first International Day of Rural Women was observed on Oct. 15, 2008.
- ❖ The day recognizes the critical role and contribution of rural women, including indigenous women, in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty.
- ❖ The theme for this year's celebration is "Rural Women and Girls Building Climate Resistance".
- ❖ It highlights the important role that rural women and girls play in building resilience to face the climate crisis.



Global Handwashing Day – October 15

- ❖ Global Handwashing day is observed on October 15th of every year.
- ❖ The day is s an international handwashing promotion campaign dedicated to raising awareness of handwashing with soap as a key factor in disease prevention.
- ❖ Handwashing reduces respiratory and intestinal diseases by 25-50%.
- ❖ UN general assembly approved first such day in 2008.

World Food Day – October 16

- ❖ World Food Day (WFD) is an international day celebrated every year around the world on 16 October.
- ❖ It is celebrated in honour of the date of the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations in 1945.
- ❖ WFD was established by FAO's Member Countries at the Organization's 20th General Conference in November 1979.
- ❖ This awareness day calls for action across sectors to make healthy and sustainable diets affordable and accessible to everyone.
- ❖ The theme of celebrations for 2019 is "Our Actions Are Our Future, Healthy Diets for A #ZeroHunger World".

