

October - 20

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Indian Railways has introduced a new Vande Bharat train service, marking the longest journey in the country which runs 994 kilometres from Delhi to Patna.
- ❖ For the first time in India, 19th International Conference of Drug Regulatory Authorities was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ ISRO Chairman S. Somanath has received the International Astronautical Federation's (IAF) prestigious World Space Award for Chandrayaan-3's remarkable achievement.
- ❖ Telangana will become the third state to hold a comprehensive household caste survey after Andhra Pradesh and Bihar.
- ❖ The maharaja of the erstwhile princely state of Nawanagar, known as Jamnagar, in Gujarat, has declared his nephew and former cricketer Ajay Jadeja as his heir to the throne.
- ❖ Navi, a fintech company, has become India's fifth-largest ecosystem player for second consecutive time on the UPI.
- ❖ Mountaineer Arjun Vajpai (Maharashtra) summited Mt. Shishapangma (China) and, became the first Indian to scale the peak.
- ❖ The International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) confirmed that India will host the ISSF Junior World Cup in 2025.

NATIONAL

e-Migrate Portal v2.0



- ❖ India launched the updated e-Migrate portal and mobile app version 2.0.

- ❖ It is marking a step towards safer, transparent, and inclusive labour mobility for Indian workers going abroad.
- ❖ It aligns with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 10, promoting orderly and responsible migration.

National Electricity Plan For 500 GW

**NATIONAL ELECTRICITY PLAN
LAUNCHED FOR TRANSMITTING OF 500
GW OF RENEWABLE ENERGY INSTALLED
CAPACITY BY 2030**

A National Electricity Plan (Transmission) has been launched by Cabinet Minister for Power and Housing & Urban Affairs, Manohar Lal. CEA with the aim of transmitting of 500 GW of Renewable Energy installed capacity by the year 2030 and over 600 GW of Renewable Energy installed capacity by the year 2032, prepared the detailed Nation Electricity Plan (Transmission) in consultation with various Stakeholders.



- ❖ India has unveiled its National Electricity Plan (Transmission) aiming to achieve 500 gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy capacity by 2030 and over 600 GW by 2032.
- ❖ The National Electricity Plan seeks to support India's goal of net-zero emissions by 2070
- ❖ It projects the addition of over 1,91,000 circuit kilometers (ckm) of transmission lines and 1,270 GVA of transformation capacity in the next decade.
- ❖ It also includes the provisions for integrating 47 GW of battery energy storage systems and 31 GW of pumped storage plants, crucial for managing renewable energy's intermittent nature.

- ❖ As of October 2024, India's renewable energy-based electricity generation capacity stands at 201.45 GW.
- ❖ It will be accounting for 46.3 percent of the country's total installed capacity.

Shakthi SAT Mission 2024



- ❖ Aerospace startup Space Kidz India has launched "Shakthi SAT".
- ❖ It is a global mission to train about 12,000 girls across 108 countries on space technology.
- ❖ It is aiming for a satellite launch under ISRO's Chandrayaan-4 mission.
- ❖ The mission includes 120 hours of online training for high school girl students (aged 14-18).
- ❖ It will teach them about various aspects of space technology, payload development, and spacecraft systems

INTERNATIONAL

Suppliers of restricted technology

- ❖ India has surged to become the second-biggest supplier of restricted critical technologies to Russia.

- ❖ Indian exports of restricted items such as microchips, circuits and machine tools surpassed \$60 million in both April and May and leaped to \$95 million in July.
- ❖ India's role in the shipment of such goods has presented a further challenge because US and EU policymakers.

India Is Now Russia's No. 2 Supplier of Restricted Technology

- Microchips, circuits, machine tools power Putin's war
- Officials say raising the issue has brought little response

UK Naga Skull Auction Controversy



- ❖ A UK auction house has removed the 'Naga Human Skull' from its listings for a live online sale.
- ❖ Critics called for the return of the 200-year-old skull, which was listed for auction in Britain along with at least 25 other remains.
- ❖ The Naga skull, which features attached animal horns, was described as particularly appealing to collectors interested in anthropology and tribal cultures.
- ❖ The opening bid was set at about ₹23 lakh, with an estimated final price of up to around ₹43 lakh.

- ❖ The Pitt Rivers Museum in Oxford holds around 6,500 Naga artefacts collected during the British colonial period.

Nile River Basin Cooperative Framework Agreement



- ❖ The multinational agreement is regulating the use of the Nile River's waters has officially entered into force, despite strong opposition from Egypt.
- ❖ The Nile Basin Initiative is a partnership of 10 riparian countries headquartered in Entebbe, Uganda.
- ❖ The Nile is spanning 11 countries but only five countries signed and ratified the treaty.
- ❖ Egypt and Sudan have yet to sign the agreement.
- ❖ They both have long been embroiled in a dispute with Ethiopia over the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD).
- ❖ The GERD, a massive hydropower project on the Blue Nile, is providing electricity to Ethiopia's 120 million citizens.

- ❖ Egypt views the dam as an existential threat, as the Nile supplies 97 percent of its water needs.
- ❖ The Nile Basin Initiative includes Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda, while Eritrea participates as an observer.

STATES

Demonstration Facility for Biopolymers

- ❖ India's first Demonstration Facility for Biopolymers was inaugurated in Jejuri, Pune.
- ❖ This facility focuses on developing technology for producing Polylactic Acid (PLA) bioplastic.
- ❖ Biopolymers are made from biological sources such as fats, vegetable oils, and sugars.
- ❖ They offer advantages over synthetic polymers, including biodegradability, allowing for easy decomposition by bacteria in soil.
- ❖ They also promote the carbon neutrality since the CO₂ released during their degradation can be reabsorbed by replacement crops.

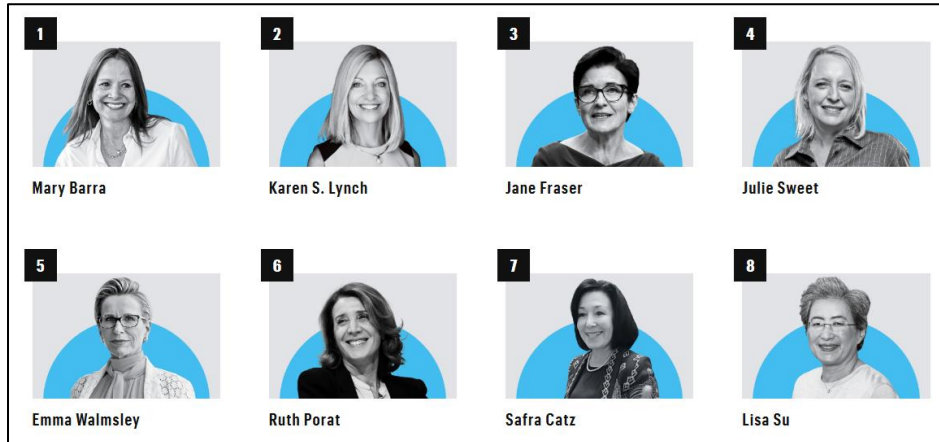


PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

2024 Most 100 powerful women in Business

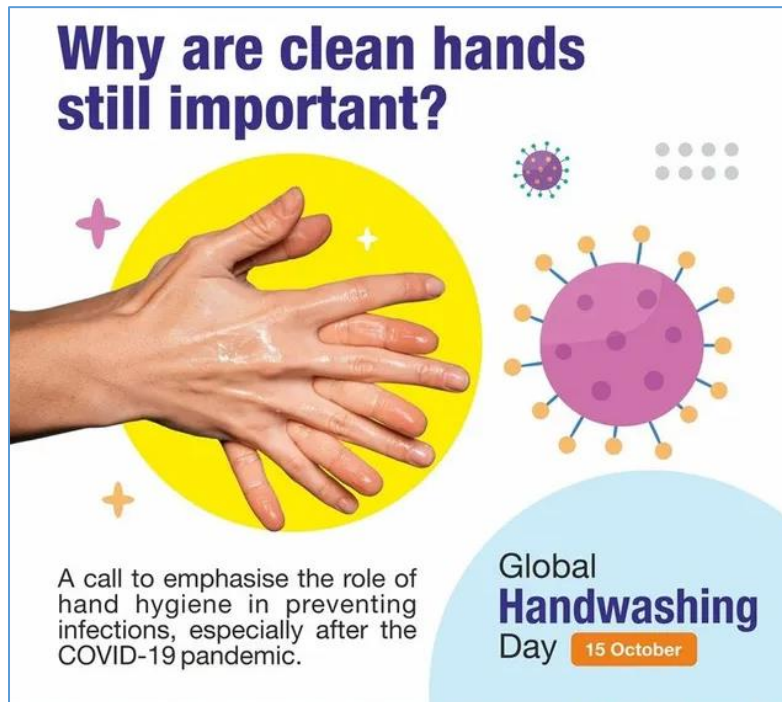
- ❖ Mary Barra, CEO of General Motors, tops the 27th annual Most Powerful Women list.
- ❖ She is followed by CVS Health CEO Karen Lynch and Citigroup CEO Jane Fraser.

- ❖ It featured executives from 11 Asia-Pacific countries such as China, India, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, among others.
- ❖ Indian women business leaders in the list includes: Isha Ambani, Roshni Nadar, Sandhya Devanathan of Meta India, Arundhati Bhattacharya, Falguni Nayar and some others.



IMPORTANT DAYS

Global Handwashing Day 2024 - October 15



- ❖ It aims to raise the awareness about the role handwashing plays in preventing diseases and saving lives.



- ❖ This day was first initiated in 2008 by the Global Handwashing Partnership (GHP).
- ❖ The regular handwashing with soap is one of the most effective ways to prevent illnesses, such as diarrhoea and respiratory infections, especially among children.
- ❖ This year's theme is "Why are clean hands still important?".

World White Cane Day 2024 - October 15

- ❖ It aims to recognise the importance of the white cane as a tool for individuals who are blind or visually impaired.
- ❖ The white cane allows them to navigate their surroundings safely and independently.
- ❖ The day was first celebrated in 1964, with President Lyndon B. Johnson marking the occasion.



World Food Day 2024 - October 16

- ❖ It aims to end hunger and make sure that every individual has access to nutritious food.
- ❖ The Food and Agriculture Organization was founded on 16 October 1945.
- ❖ FAO started this day to start a fight against hunger, raise awareness about healthy diets, and promote action against malnutrition and food security.

- ❖ The theme of 2024 is "Right to Food for a Better Life and a Better Future."



World Anesthesia Day - October 16

- ❖ This day honours the successful administration of the first anaesthesia and commemorate and celebrates the milestone.
- ❖ Anaesthesia is a medical procedure that prevents patients from feeling pain during treatments like surgery, tissue sample removal, dental work, certain screening, and diagnostic tests.
- ❖ On October 16, 1846, American dentist and physician William Thomas Green Morton conducted the first-ever diethyl ether anaesthesia experiment.
- ❖ The theme for 2024 is "Workforce Well Being".

