



October - 22

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) of the Environment Ministry has clarified that the States 'need not' take the Centre's approval to define what constitutes unclassified land as forest.

NATIONAL

QS Indian University Rankings

- ❖ The QS Indian University Rankings were released recently.
- ❖ This is the second edition of the standalone rankings for India's higher education institutions.
- ❖ The rankings include public, private, higher education or deemed universities.

QS INDIA RANKINGS: THE TOP 10

INSTITUTION NAME	2019	2020
Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay	1	1
Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore	2	2
Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi	4	3
Indian Institute of Technology, Madras	3	4
Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur	5	5
Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur	6	6
University of Delhi	8	7
University of Hyderabad	7	8
Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee	9	9
Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati	10	10

Make in India – 3 Defence Projects

- ❖ The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) has accorded approval for three projects to be indigenously designed, developed and manufactured by the Indian industry.
- ❖ DAC is chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.

- ❖ With this, for the first time the Ministry of Defence has offered complex Military equipment to be designed, developed and manufactured by the Indian private industry.
- ❖ The list of projects includes
 - Third generation Anti-Tank Guided Missiles (ATGM)
 - The Auxiliary Power Units (APUs) for the T-72 and T-90 Tanks
 - Discrete Electronic Warfare (EW) systems for the mountain and High-Altitude terrain
- ❖ ATGM would provide 'Fire and Forget' and "Top Attack" capabilities to the troops in an armoured battle.
- ❖ EW would be designed and developed by DRDO and manufactured by design cum production partner from the Indian industry.

Cultural Education through Technology

- ❖ Union Minister for Culture & Tourism (Independent Charge) Prahalad Singh Patel launched the E-Portal of CCRT 'Digital Bharat Digital Sanskriti' and CCRT YouTube Channel in New Delhi.
- ❖ This will enable dissemination of cultural education through digital interactive medium into the classrooms all over the country.
- ❖ For this initiative, CCRT has tied up with Routes 2 Roots, an NGO, for connecting seamlessly all the CCRT Regional Centres i.e., Guwahati, Udaipur and Hyderabad.
- ❖ Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT) is an autonomous organisation under Ministry of Culture of Government of India.
- ❖ It was established in 1979 to support cultural education.

Liver Transplant Surgery

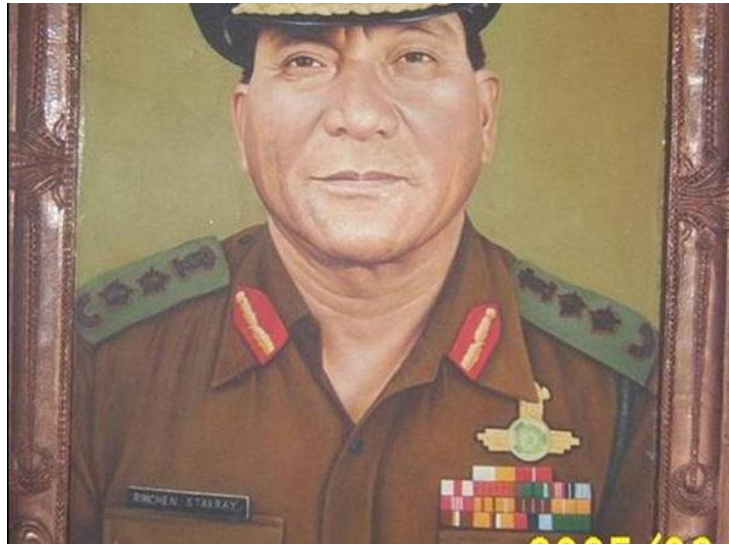
- ❖ India's first voluntary liver transplant registry that started on August 15, 2019 has picked up pace.
- ❖ In a span of two months, it has received data of 74 transplants carried out by 11 hospitals across six States.
- ❖ The project was Initiated by the Liver Transplantation Society of India.
- ❖ The registry aims to collate national data of the procedures and their outcomes.
- ❖ Nearly 2,000 liver transplants are carried out in India annually, which is the highest in world.

IMNEX-19

- ❖ The opening ceremony of the second edition of 'India Myanmar Naval Exercise' (IMNEX-2019) was conducted onboard INS Ranvijay in Visakhapatnam.
- ❖ Myanmar Naval Ships UMS Sin Phyu Shin (F-14) and UMS Tabinshweti (773) arrived in the city.
- ❖ Indian Navy's INS Kuthar, a missile corvette and INS Ranvijay, a guided-missile destroyer will be part of the joint exercise.
- ❖ The exercise will be conducted in 2 phases: harbour phase and sea phase.

India's Highest Altitude All-weather Permanent Bridge

- ❖ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated India's highest altitude all-weather permanent bridge called Colonel Chewang Rinchen Bridge.
- ❖ It is located in eastern Ladakh at nearly 45 km from the country's border with China.



- ❖ The 1400-ft -long bridge on Shyok River is situated in Sub-Sector North at 14,650 ft and christened after 'Lion of Ladakh' Colonel Chewang Rinchen.
- ❖ He is one of only six armed forces personnel to have been twice awarded the Maha Vir Chakra, the second highest gallantry award in the country.
- ❖ He was known as the 'Lion of Ladakh' for his extraordinary acts of courage in defending Leh and Partapur sector.



Dilli Series Sea Power Seminar

- ❖ The sixth edition of the Dilli Series Seapower Seminar on “Role of Sea Power in Shaping of Nations” concluded at the Indian Naval Academy (INA) Ezimala, Kerala.
- ❖ INA Ezhimala is the initial officer training establishment of the Indian Navy and the Indian Coast Guard.
- ❖ Dilli Series Seminar is named after the Mount Dilli located within INA Ezhimala premises and is conducted at INA during Autumn Term every year.
- ❖ The seminar aims to expose young trainees to the vibrant maritime history and arouse in them a curiosity to explore further.
- ❖ The theme of the sixth edition of the seminar held at INA was ‘Role of Sea Power in Shaping Nations’.

Skandagupta Vikramaditya

- ❖ Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated a two-day international seminar on the role of Gupta dynasty emperor Skandagupta at Banaras Hindu University in Varanasi.
- ❖ Skandagupta was a son of the Gupta emperor Kumaragupta I.
- ❖ He ascended the throne in 455 AD and ruled till 467 AD.
- ❖ He defeated Pushyamitras and took upon himself the title of Vikramaditya.
- ❖ During the 12-year rule, he not only defended the great culture of India but also from external aggression and defeated the Huns, who had invaded India from the north west.
- ❖ He is generally considered the last of the great Gupta Emperors.

INTERNATIONAL

Project Sunrise – Longest Nonstop Flight

- ❖ Australia's flag carrier Qantas Airlines completed the world's longest commercial airplane journey from New York to Sydney.
- ❖ Qantas researched how the world's longest potential commercial airplane journey of nearly 20 hours would impact pilots, crew and passengers.
- ❖ Qantas has announced three long-haul flights as part of its Project Sunrise.
- ❖ The project aims to run non-stop commercial flights on a regular basis from the east coast of Australia to London and New York.

Qantas plans direct flights connecting New York and London to Sydney



Interpol General Assembly

- ❖ India will host the 91st Interpol General Assembly in 2022.
- ❖ India's proposal received the support of member countries at this year's congregation at Santinago in Chile.
- ❖ The meet will be held as part of celebrations of the 75th anniversary of Indian Independence.
- ❖ Earlier, Interpol had hosted the general assembly in India in 1997.
- ❖ Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) represents Interpol in India as the country's national central bureau.

ENVIRONMENT

Thylacines of Tasmania

- ❖ Tasmania has reported that Thylacines, which were believed to be extinct were spotted again recently.
- ❖ Thylacine, which is said to have gone extinct over 80 years ago, has been spotted across Tasmania 8 times during 2016 -2019.
- ❖ They are one of the largest known carnivorous marsupials, evolving about 4 million years ago.
- ❖ Thylacines are commonly known as the Tasmanian tiger because of its striped lower back.

thylacine, Tasmanian wolf, Tasmanian tiger
(*Thylacinus cynocephalus*)



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SPORTS

Hundreds Cricket – New Cricket Format

- ❖ The Hundred is the title of a professional 100-ball cricket tournament in England and Wales run by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) commencing in July 2020.
- ❖ This cricket will be played in a new format.
- ❖ 100-ball cricket is a form of limited overs cricket, played by two teams each playing a single innings made up of 100 balls.

The format of the game

- ❖ 100 balls per innings.
- ❖ A change of ends after 10 balls.
- ❖ Bowlers deliver either five or 10 consecutive balls.
- ❖ Each bowler can deliver a maximum of 20 balls per game.
- ❖ A 25-ball powerplay start for each team.
- ❖ Two fielders are allowed outside of the initial 30-yard circle during the powerplay.

