

October - 30

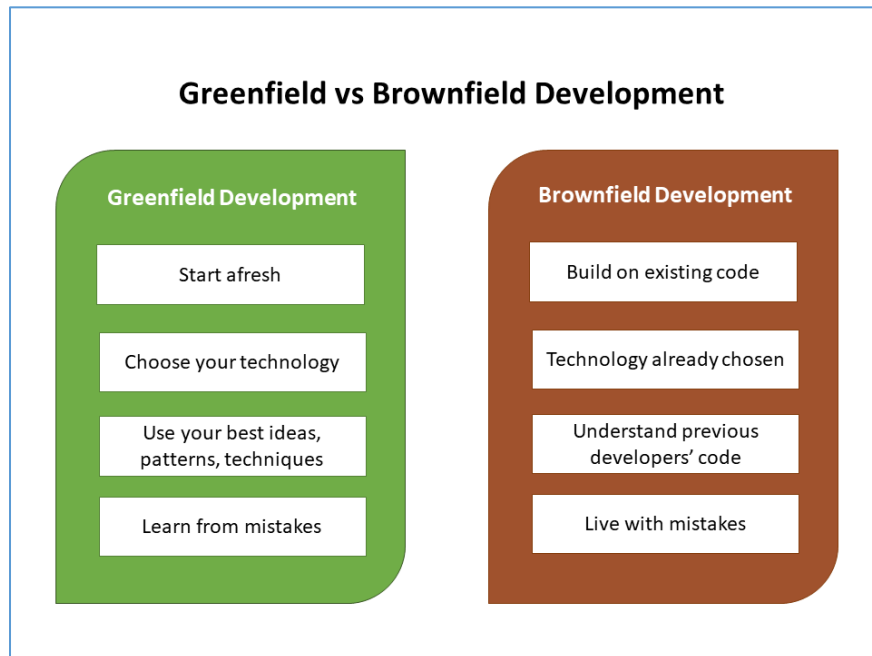
TNPSC BITS

- ❖ “Magnificent Journey: Times and Tales of Democracy” shot between 2006 and 2016 across the length and breadth of north India is planned to be screened in film festivals, universities and in civil society forums in India and abroad.
 - It was shot by Economics Nobel Prize winner Abhijit Banerjee and Ranu Ghosh, a cinematographer.
- ❖ Union Minister of Communications and Electronics & Information Technology Ravi Shankar Prasad unveiled a series of new initiatives by Ministry of Electronics & Information (MeitY) in the first MeitY Start-up Summit held at New Delhi.
- ❖ The first National Hindi Science writers conference was held at Lucknow by Uttar Pradesh government with an aim to promote use of Hindi and other Vernacular languages in science writing.
- ❖ The President of India addressed a gathering at 50th anniversary of 1969 built “Vishwa Shanti Stupa” (World Peace Pagoda) in Rajgir, Bihar and spread the message of peace and awareness about teachings of Lord Buddha.
- ❖ The Union Minister for Health Harsh Vardhan has released the “Guidelines for Evaluation of Nano pharmaceuticals in India”.
 - The Guidelines are developed by Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science and Technology, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), Ministry of Health.
- ❖ Just days before the U.K. is formally due to leave the European Union (EU) on October 31, the EU has agreed that it will accept the U.K.’s request for a Brexit ‘flexextension’ (flexible extension) until 31 January 2020.
- ❖ US President Donald Trump has announced the death of Islamic State chief Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi during an overnight raid led by US military forces in Syria.
 - Baghdadi, who was believed to have been born in Iraq in 1971, proclaimed himself Caliph of the Islamic State in 2013.
- ❖ Caribbean cricket team Papua New Guinea defeated Kenya and secured their maiden qualification to 2020 T20 World Cup to be held in Australia.

TAMIL NADU

Four New Electronic Clusters

- ❖ Tamilnadu has announced plans to develop greenfield electronics clusters across Chennai, Tiruvallur, Hosur, and Kancheepuram by 2023.
- ❖ It also plans to develop brownfield clusters in Sriperumbudur and Oragadam and an Electronics Industries Association of India's industrial park in the Coimbatore region.
- ❖ Union Government provides financial assistance for the projects under the National Policy on Electronics.



NATIONAL

First "Aarambh" - Foundation Course for Civil Servants

- ❖ The Government of India's first ever common foundation course, Aarambh (Beginning), for the 2019 batch probationer civil servants has begun at the Statue of Unity, Kevadia, in Gujarat.
- ❖ Around 500 newly recruited bureaucrats are undergoing a six-day training programme.
- ❖ World Bank President David Malpass addressed the probationers on the topic of Capacity building for civil servants.

Ek Onkar symbol on Air India Flight

- ❖ National Carrier Air India has painted 'Ek Onkar' symbol on its Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft's tail to mark the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev.
- ❖ The aircraft will fly on October 31 from Amritsar to London.
- ❖ 'Ek Onkar' symbol is a central tenet of Sikh religious philosophy.
- ❖ It means "God is One".



Indo French Exercise Shakthi

- ❖ The bilateral 'Exercise SHAKTI' between the armies of India and France will be conducted from 31st October to 13th November of 2019.
- ❖ It will be held at Foreign Training Node in Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Rajasthan.
- ❖ The joint exercise will focus on counter terrorism operations in the semi-desert terrain.


First Indian Brain Atlas

- ❖ Researchers at the International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad (IIIT-H) have created the first-ever Indian Brain Atlas (IBA).
- ❖ The study has revealed that the Indian brain, on an average, is smaller in height, width and volume when compared to Western and other eastern populations.

- ❖ The Atlas will help in early diagnosis of Alzheimer's and other brain-related ailments.
- ❖ It will also help in better MRI (Magnetic resonance imaging) analysis of Indians.
- ❖ Before IBA, Indian MRI images were compared with Caucasian or Chinese, Korean brain images.

TO HELP IN STUDYING DEMENTIA

COMPARISON OF BRAIN SIZE AND SHAPE OF INDIAN ATLASES AND OTHER ATLASES				
	Length	Width	Height	Volume
	(mm)			(dm ³)
IBA100	160	130	88	1.39
MNI305	181	142	111	2.39
Chinese	175	145	100	1.89
Korean	160	136	92	1.63



IBA100: Indian Brain Atlas; **MNI305:** Montreal Neurological Institute

INTERNATIONAL

Pakistan Denies Air Space for PM

- ❖ India had complaint with the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) against Pakistan for its refusal to let the PM's plane go through its "airspace" to Saudi Arabia.
- ❖ ICAO has responded that flights carrying national leaders are considered as "state aircraft" and are not subject to its provisions.
- ❖ Governments cooperate in airspace under 'The Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention)'.
- ❖ It also has added that, the convention only applies to the operations of civilian aircraft and not to any military aircraft.

G20 Okayama Health Ministers' Conference

- ❖ Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan represented India at the two-day G20 Okayama Health Ministers' Conference in Japan.

- ❖ He highlighted FIT India Movement, Eat Right campaigns and achievements under Ayushman Bharath Scheme.
- ❖ Four major global health issues discussed at the meet were
 - Achievement of Universal Health Coverage
 - Response to population ageing
 - Management of health risks
 - Health security management including Anti-Microbial Resistance and its containment.

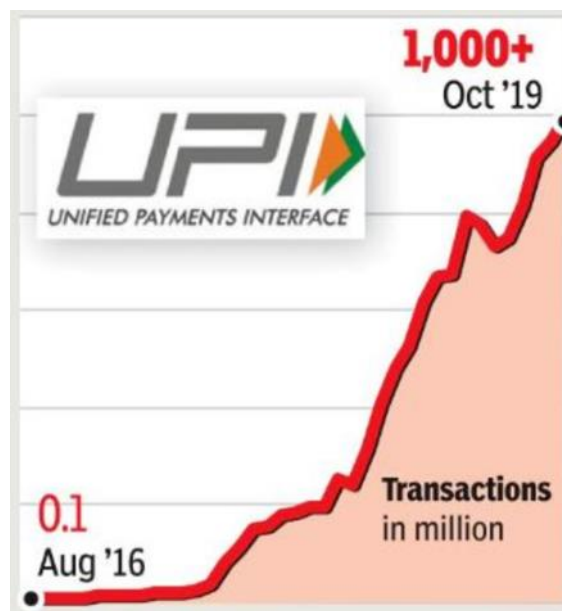
Colombo Declaration on Nitrogen Challenges

- ❖ Spearheaded by Sri Lanka, United Nations Environment Programme and UN member states have endorsed a proposed roadmap for action on “nitrogen challenges”.
- ❖ It is called the Colombo Declaration on Sustainable Nitrogen Management.
- ❖ A campaign on sustainable nitrogen management called “Nitrogen for Life” would be held in more than 30 countries.

ECONOMY

1 Billion UPI Transactions

- ❖ Transactions using India’s own domestic payments platform, Unified Payments Interface (UPI) hit a landmark of one billion in October 2019.





- ❖ The UPI also recently crossed 100 million users, making it the fastest adoption of any payments system in the world.
- ❖ The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), which operates the UPI platform, aims to take the network global by enabling acceptance of UPI in Singapore and the UAE.
- ❖ NPCI launched UPI in 2016 to promote digital payments.
- ❖ UPI enables users to send money from their account to any account without entering bank details by using an email-like handle or scanning a QR code.

STATES

Kanya Sumangala Yojana – Uttar Pradesh

- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh government launched its flagship scheme 'Mukhya Mantri Kanya Sumangala Yojana'.
- ❖ Kanya Sumangala yojana will provide a fund worth Rs 15000 to every family where a girl child is born.
- ❖ The amount will be released to the family in a phased manner - at the time of birth, vaccination, admission to Class 1, 5, 9 and graduation.
- ❖ The scheme has been designed in a way that the parents will have to take proper care of the girl child with respect to her health and education and other aspects, in order to get the benefit.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Vigilance Awareness Week – October 28 to 2nd November

- ❖ The last week of October is observed as Vigilance Awareness Week under the aegis of Central Vigilance Commission (CVC).
- ❖ This year, the week falls from 28th October to 2nd November.
- ❖ The observance creates increased awareness among the public and encourages the stakeholders to participate in the fight against corruption.
- ❖ The theme of observance is “Integrity-a way of life”.
- ❖ CVC is currently headed by 1979 cadre IPS Officer Shard Kumar.

