

October - 31

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The USA House of Representatives has voted overwhelmingly in favour of a resolution, recognising the mass killing of Armenians by Ottoman Turks (modern day Turkey) during World War One as a “genocide”.
  - During 1915 to 1917, the systematic murder of more than 1.5 million Armenian men, women and children were carried out by Turks.
- ❖ Apple has expanded its emoji offerings and included non-binary versions of nearly every human emoji. Android released it in May 2019.
- ❖ According to a survey released by US Census Bureau, Hindi is the most spoken widely spoken Indian language in the US with 8.74 lakh speakers as of July 1, 2018, followed by Gujarati (4.19 lakhs) and Telugu (4 lakhs).
  - Tamil speaking population stood at 3.08 lakhs.
- ❖ According to recent statistics from the Australian Department of Home Affairs, for the second consecutive year, Indians have been the largest group to obtain an Australian citizenship.
  - 28,740 out of a total of 1.27 lakh people who were conferred Australian Citizenship in 2019 were Indians.

## NATIONAL

### **Kashmir and Ladakh Lieutenant Governors – State Dissolved**

- ❖ A 1985 batch IAS officer, Girish Chandra Murmu, has been named as the first Lieutenant Governor (L-G) of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ Radha Krishna Mathur, a retired 1977 batch IAS officer of Tripura cadre has been appointed as the first Lieutenant Governor of the union territory of Ladakh.
- ❖ He had retired as the Chief Information Commissioner of India in November 2018.
- ❖ The oath of office was administered by Chief Justice of Jammu and Kashmir high court Geeta Mittal.

### **State Dissolved**

- ❖ From October 31, Jammu & Kashmir ceased to be a state of the Union.
- ❖ This is for the first time that a state is converted into two Union Territories.
- ❖ The UT of J&K will have a legislature, like Puducherry, while Ladakh will be a UT without legislature, like Chandigarh.



- ❖ But there are numerous examples of a UT becoming a full state or a state bifurcating into two states.
- ❖ The total number of states in the country will now be reduced to 28 while the number of UTs will go up to 9.

### **13th World Aqua Congress @ New Delhi**

- ❖ The 13th world aqua congress is being conducted at New Delhi between October 30 – October 31.
- ❖ Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat remarked about the drastic fall in the per capita water availability of Indians.
- ❖ Water availability per capita: 5,000 cubic metres at the time of Independence to 1,540 cubic metres.

### **Cape Town Example**

- ❖ He remarked that not only Chennai and Bengaluru, but entire country could become like Cape Town.
- ❖ Water crisis in Cape Town peaked during 2017-18 when the South African capital almost ran out of water.
- ❖ It introduced the idea of 'Day Zero', when most of the port city's taps would be turned off to focus everyone's attention on managing water consumption.

### **India vs Israel**

- ❖ India gets 1,068 mm rain and 4,000 million cubic metres of water per year through precipitation and still it's a water-scarce country.
- ❖ Israel, which gets 100 mm rain per year, is water-abundant and exporting the resource.
- ❖ India is the most groundwater-dependent country in the World, but total water retention capacity is below 300 million cubic metres.

### **First National Corporate Social Responsibility Awards**

- ❖ President Ram Nath Kovind conferred the first National Corporate Social Responsibility Awards to the companies for their outstanding contribution in the area of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).
- ❖ The Ministry of Corporate was commended for initiating National CSR Awards in the year of Gandhiji's 150th birth anniversary.
- ❖ The awards will be conferred every year on 2nd October.

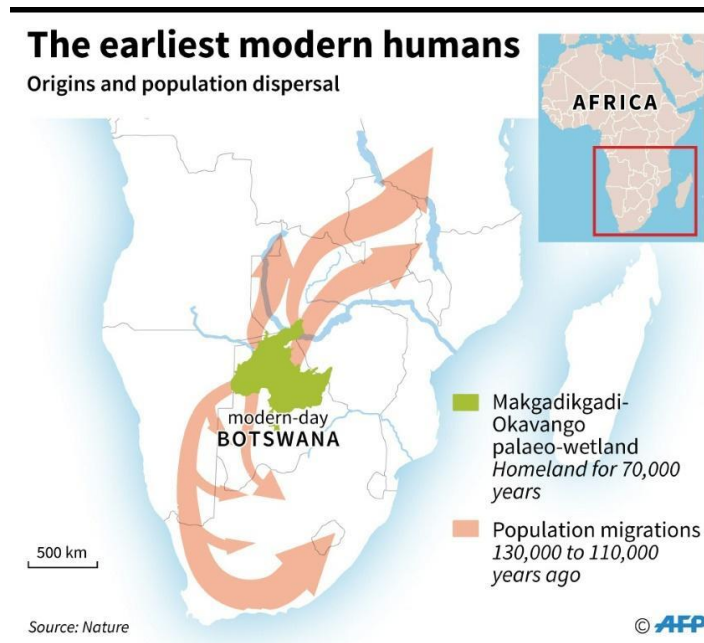
### **CSR**

- ❖ The CSR provisions under the Companies Act, 2013 came into force from April 1, 2014.
- ❖ Under the Companies Act, 2013, certain classes of profitable entities are required to spend at least two per cent of their three-year annual average net profit towards CSR activities in a financial year.

## INTERNATIONAL

### Modern Human Origin @ Botswana

- ❖ Scientists have discovered that Modern humans emerged 2,00,000 years ago in a region of northern Botswana, Africa.
- ❖ While it has long been known that modern humans (*Homo sapiens*) originated in Africa, scientists have until now been unable to pinpoint the precise location of our species' birthplace.
- ❖ A team analysed mitochondrial DNA samples from 1200 Khoesan people to arrive at the conclusion.
- ❖ Mitochondrial DNA, which is passed down exclusively from mother to child, was used to map out the oldest known maternal line of humans alive today.
- ❖ Researchers suggest that the swathe of land south of the Zambezi River became a thriving home to *Homo sapiens* 200,000 years ago.



## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### **Project Possible: Nirmal Purja, the Nepali Climber**

- ❖ Ex-British Gurkha soldier and Nepali Climber Nirmal Purja has become the 'fastest person' to conquer every mountain on Earth over 8000 metres.
- ❖ The list includes mountains from Everest in the eastern Himalayas to K2 in Pakistan's Karakorum mountains.
- ❖ He achieved the feat in just six months and six days.
- ❖ Italian climber Reinhold Messner first completed the feat in 1986, taking 16 years to do so.
- ❖ Purja had also served in the elite Special forces of the British Gurkha Regiment as an extreme cold weather warfare specialist.

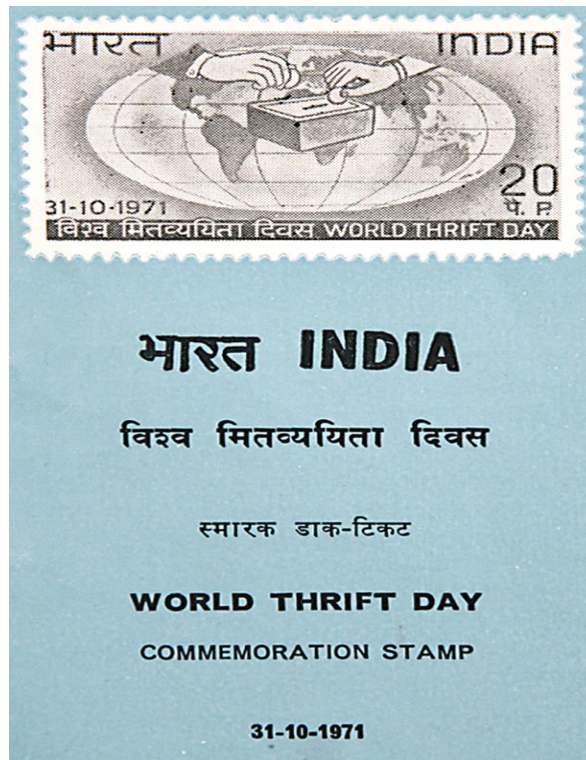


## IMPORTANT DAYS

### **World Thrift Day/World Savings Day – October 31**

- ❖ World Thrift Day is celebrated every year on 31 October.
- ❖ The day aims to promote the savings and financial security of individuals and nations as a whole.

- ❖ The saving habit in people will give independence to both people as well as the Country.
- ❖ In 1924, the first International Thrift Congress was held in Milan, Italy.
- ❖ The first World Thrift Day was celebrated in 1925.
- ❖ In India due to the death of late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on October 31, 1984, this day is celebrated on 30th October.



### **World Cities Day – October 31**

- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly has designated the 31st of October as World Cities Day
- ❖ 2019 Theme - Changing the world: innovations and better life for future generations.
- ❖ The general theme of World Cities Day is Better City, Better Life.
- ❖ Its aim is to create awareness of the role of urbanisation in global sustainable and social inclusion.

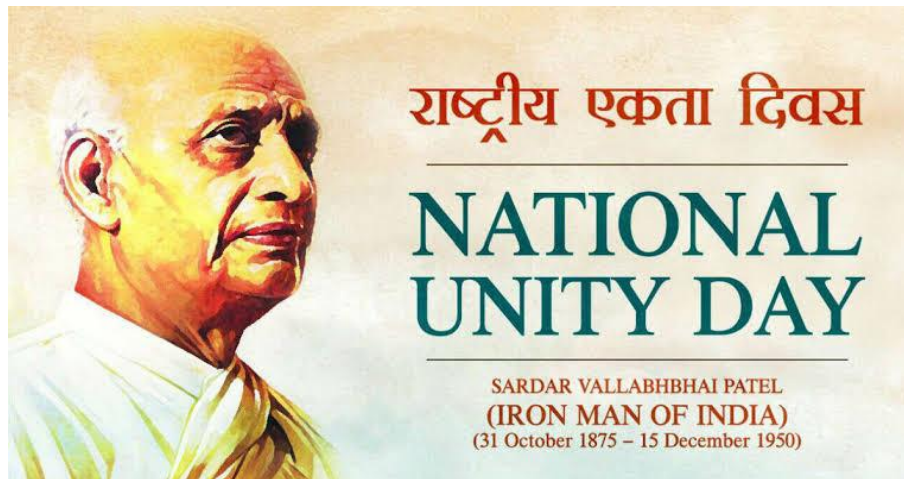


# World Cities Day

October 31

CHANGING THE WORLD:  
Innovations and Better Life  
for Future Generations  
2019

## National Unity Day – October 31



- ❖ National Unity Day (Rashtriya Ekta Diwas) was introduced by the Government of India in 2014.
- ❖ The Iron Man of India, also known as the Loh Purush, Vallabhbhai Jhaverbhai Patel was born on October 31, 1875.
- ❖ Sardar Patel is most popularly known as a founding father of the Republic of India.
- ❖ This is because he played a significant role in integrating the independent provinces into a unified India just after the partition.
- ❖ For his efforts towards a united India, Sardar Patel's birth anniversary is now celebrated as National Unity Day. This is also known as Rashtriya Ekta Diwas.



- ❖ To celebrate the day, the 'Unifier of India' was honoured with the Statue of Unity, the world's tallest statue.
- ❖ Dedicated to Sardar Patel at Narmada District in Gujarat, the statue is approximately 182 metres (597 ft) in height.

