



September - 18

TNPSC BITS

 Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga is set to become the country's next Prime Minister by replacing the outgoing PM, Shinzo Abe.

NATIONAL

Integrated Road Accident Database Project (iRAD)

- The Central government implementing Integrated Road Accident Database Project (iRAD) across the country and the related app will enable collection of accident data on the spot.
- Initially, the proposal will be implemented in six states, namely Maharashtra, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.
- The app will enable the stakeholders such as the Police, Transport, and Health etc. to use their mobile phones to collect accident data on the spot.
- This data can then be utilized for various purposes like finding the cause of accident and remedial measures to improve the road infrastructure and record the accident data.

Committee to Study Ancient Indian Culture

- The government has formed an expert committee for conducting a holistic study of origin and evolution of Indian culture since 12,000 years before present and its interface with other cultures of the world.
- The 16 member committee will include KN Dikshit, Chairman, Indian Archaeological Society, New Delhi, and former Joint Director General, Archaeological Survey of India, among others.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Indian Brain Templates (IBT)

- ✤ A team of neuroscientists from the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) has developed Indian Brain Templates (IBT) and a brain atlas.
- It is a gross representation from various brain images to understand brain functionality in diseased conditions.





- These new population and age-specific Indian brain templates will allow more reliable tracking of brain development and ageing.
- The templates and atlas will provide more precise reference maps for areas of interest in individual patients with neurological disorders like strokes, brain tumours, and dementia.



ENVIRONMENT

Typhoon Haishen

- Typhoon Haishen made landfall over the southern Japan and becoming the country's second landfalling typhoon within a week.
- The typhoon is categorised as a Category 4 storm which means well-built framed houses can suffer severe damage.
- It referred to as typhoon number 10 in Japan because the first typhoon to occur after January 1st of the year is called typhoon number 1.
- ♦ Haishen was a name recommended by China and means "sea god" in Chinese.
- Depending on where they occur, hurricanes may be called typhoons or cyclones.







STATES

YSR Aasara Scheme

- ✤ Andhra Pradesh launched the YSR AASARA scheme.
- ✤ It is a part of implementation of "Nava Ratnalu".
- The scheme has been launched with the commitment of alleviating the poverty in both rural and urban areas and to improve the productivity.
- The scheme has been launched for women empowerment economically and socially.
- Bank loan will be reimbursed in four instalments under the scheme to the Self-Help Groups.
- This Nava Ratnalu scheme was announced in the Andhra Pradesh Budget 2019-20.





GARIMA scheme - Odisha

- Odisha govt has launched a new scheme named 'GARIMA' which aims to ensure the economic safety and social dignity of core sanitation workers in the state.
- Under this scheme, the working hours of sanitation workers will be limited to 6 hours per day.
- The Core Sanitation workers and their family members will be covered under the health insurance scheme with regular health check-ups, housing, educational support, mobility support and mobile support.



IMPORTANT DAYS

National Forest Martyrs Day 2020 – September 11

- It aims to remember the sacrifice of those who laid their lives to protect the forests and wildlife across the remote corners of the country.
- It is observed to commemorate the Khejarli massacre, which took place on September 11 in 1730.
- During the massacre, Rajasthan's Maharaja Abhay Singh started cutting the Khejarli trees, which were considered as a sacred tree in the Bishnoi community in Khejarli village in Rajasthan.
- ✤ A woman, reportedly named Amrita Devi stood up in resistance and offered her head instead of Khejarli trees.
- The army of Abhay Singh beheaded her and her three daughters who stood up in resistance and continued with 359 more men execution from the Bishnoi community.





The Ministry of Environment and Forest made the declaration in 2013 to observe this day.



MISCELLANEOUS

Ecological Threat Register

This is compiled by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), a think-tank which produces annual terrorism and peace indexes.

<u>Key Findings</u>

- ✤ Over the next 30 years, the report finds that 141 countries are exposed to at least one ecological threat by 2050.
- 19 countries with the highest number of ecological threats are among the world's 40 least peaceful countries including Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq, Chad, India and Pakistan.
- Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, the Middle East and North Africa are the regions facing the largest number of ecological threats.
- By 2040, a total of 5.4 billion people (more than half of the world's projected population) will live in the 59 countries experiencing high or extreme water stress, including India and China.
- ✤ 3.5 billion people could suffer from food insecurity by 2050.
- Regions that have high resilience, such as Europe and North America, will not be immune from the wider impact of ecological threats.
- Developed countries which are facing no threats include Sweden, Norway, Ireland, and Iceland.





✤ In total there are 16 countries facing no threats.



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