

September - 29

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ L Adimoolam has been elected president of the Indian Newspaper Society.
  - It is an apex body of the publishers of newspapers, magazines and periodicals in the country.

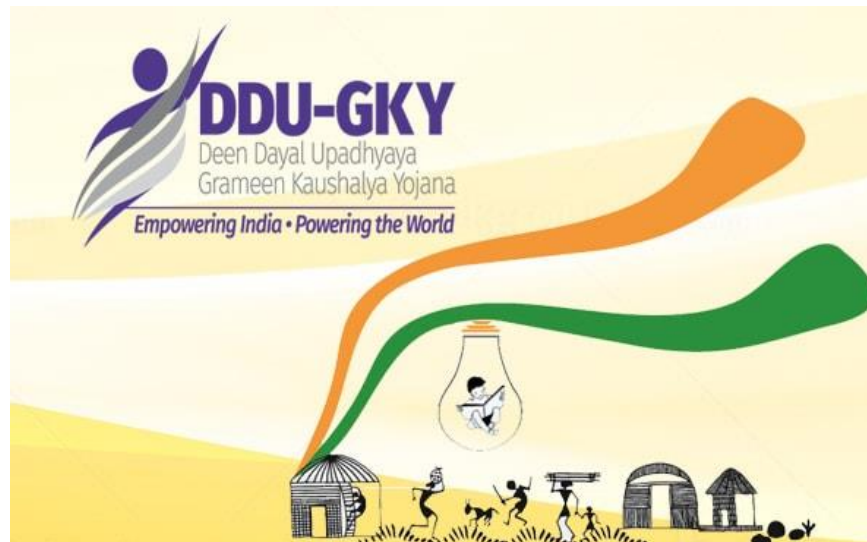
## NATIONAL

### Center for disability sports

- ❖ The foundation stone laid for 'Centre for Disability Sports at Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ Setting up of a Centre for Disability Sports at Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh was approved by the Cabinet on 28 February 2019.
- ❖ The Centre will be registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

### Antyodaya Diwas

- ❖ The foundation day (September 25) of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana celebrated as “Antyodaya Diwas”.
- ❖ The Day was celebrated under the theme “Kaushal Se Kal Badlenge”.
- ❖ The scheme is a part of the National Rural Livelihood Mission.
- ❖ The scheme focuses on providing employment to the youth between the age group of 15 and 35 years by training them with required skills.



## INTERNATIONAL

### **Jimex 2020**

- ❖ The biennial bilateral Maritime Exercise, JIMEX, was conducted between India and Japan.
- ❖ JIMEX will show high level joint operational skills and high degree of interoperability between the countries.
- ❖ The exercise began in 2012 with a special focus on maritime cooperation.
- ❖ The last edition of the exercise was conducted in 2018.



### **Call for UN Security Council reforms**

- ❖ External Affairs Ministers of India and his counterparts from Brazil, Japan and Germany met virtually during the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly
- ❖ They have highlighted the urgency of reforming the UN and updating its main decision-making bodies, in order to better reflect contemporary realities.

### **Demands**

- ❖ Permanent seats should be given in the council for these countries.
- ❖ There is a clear need for an enhanced role of developing countries and of major contributors to the United Nations to make the Council more legitimate, effective and representative.



- ❖ Africa needs to be represented in both the permanent and non-permanent categories to correct the historical injustice against this continent with regard to its under-representation.
- ❖ Need for text-based negotiations within a fixed time frame for the UNSC reform.

## ECONOMY

### Vodafone case against India

- ❖ Vodafone won a significant ruling against the Indian government in an international court over ₹ 20,000 crore in dues Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague.
- ❖ The Government raised a demand of Rs 7,990 crore in capital gains and withholding tax from Vodafone in 2007.
- ❖ Vodafone challenged the demand notice in the Bombay High Court, which ruled in favour of the Income Tax Department.
- ❖ Then, Vodafone challenged the judgment in the Supreme Court.
- ❖ In 2012 the Supreme Court ruled that Vodafone Group's interpretation of the Income Tax Act of 1961 is correct.
- ❖ But, the same year, the government made an amendment to the Finance Act.
- ❖ It was giving the Income Tax Department the power to retrospectively tax such deals.
- ❖ This case had by then become infamous as the 'retrospective taxation case'.

#### Long and taxing

**May 2007:** Vodafone buys Hutchison Whampoa's controlling stake in Hutchison Essar for \$10.9 billion

**Sept 2007:** The I-T Department serves a notice to Vodafone International Holdings BV, citing alleged failure to deduct withholding tax from Hutchison Telecommunications International Ltd. The UK firm later moves Bombay High Court

**Sept 2010:** The Bombay High Court rules in favour of the I-T Department, stating it has jurisdiction over the deal. Vodafone challenges the ruling in the Supreme Court



**Jan 2012:** The Supreme Court rules in favour of Vodafone, saying the transaction is not taxable in India and hence the company is not responsible for deduction of withholding tax

**April 2012:** George Osborne, UK's Chancellor of the Exchequer, raises the issue with then Finance Minister, Pranab Mukherjee

**April 2014:** Vodafone Group moves the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague

**Sept 25, 2020:** The arbitration tribunal rules in favour of Vodafone in ₹20,000-crore tax case

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Prithvi-II missile test fire

- ❖ India conducted a successful night test fire of its indigenously developed nuclear capable surface-to-surface Prithvi-II missile.
- ❖ It has a strike range of 350 km.
- ❖ It is also capable to launch from a mobile launcher.
- ❖ Prithvi-II is capable of carrying 500 to 1,000 kg of warheads.
- ❖ It is powered by liquid propulsion twin engine.
- ❖ Prithvi was the first missile to have been developed by DRDO under the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP).



### Indigenous Microprocessor for IoT Devices

- ❖ The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras have successfully developed 'MOUSHIK', an indigenously-made microprocessor for the Internet of things (IoT) devices.
- ❖ It was conceptualised, designed and developed at the Pratap Subrahmanyam Centre for Digital Intelligence and Secure Hardware Architecture (PS-CDISHA).
- ❖ There are three steps involved in the making of a microprocessor, namely design, fabrication and post-silicon boot-up.

- ❖ The project was funded by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### World Tourism Day – September 27

- ❖ The day aims at creating awareness on social, political, cultural and economic values among international community.
- ❖ The World Tourism Day marks adaptation of Statutes of UNWTO (World Tourism Organization) on September 27, 1970.
- ❖ Tourism is a major contributor of SDG – Sustainable Development Goals – 8, 12 and 14.
- ❖ The theme of World Tourism Day this year is "Tourism and Rural Development".



### World Rivers day – September 27

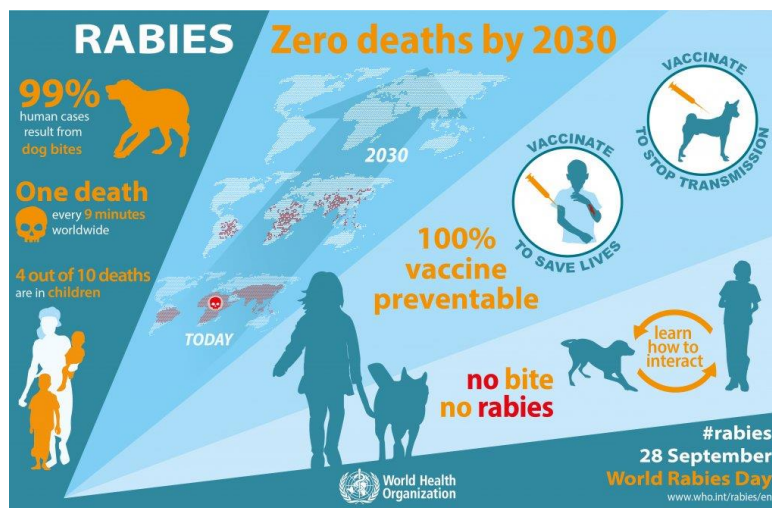
- ❖ World Rivers Day is observed every year on the fourth Sunday of September.
- ❖ It is celebrated to raise public awareness about the rivers and the importance of all of the waterways around the globe.
- ❖ The United Nations (UN) launched the Water for Life Decade in 2005.
- ❖ That first World Rivers Day was celebrated in 2005.





### **World Rabies Day – September 28**

- ❖ It aims at raising awareness about the viral disease, rabies, and how to prevent it.
- ❖ It marks the death anniversary of Louis Pasteur, the man who developed the first rabies vaccine.
- ❖ It is marked by the Global Alliance World Rabies Control, USA.
- ❖ The first World Rabies day campaign was organized on September 2007.



### **International Day for the Universal Access to Information - September 28**

- ❖ This year the day focuses on the right to information in the times of crisis.
- ❖ The day was declared by UNESCO in 2015.
- ❖ The day was celebrated as “International Right to Know Day” since 2002 until UNESCO adopted it with a different name.



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