

September - 03

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ A Three-day International Snack Festival was organised by Culture Language Indian Connection in Hyderabad.
- ❖ A book titled "India's Lost Frontier - The story of Northwest Frontier Province of Pakistan" written by Raghvendra Singh was released.

## TAMIL NADU

### Brick Tank – Keeladi

- ❖ A brick tank has been discovered by archaeologists from the site of the ongoing fifth phase of excavation at Keeladi in Sivaganga district.
- ❖ The excavation is being conducted by the state archaeological department.
- ❖ The tank measures 3 to 4 feet in length and is about 2.5 feet wide and two feet deep with brick flooring.



- ❖ The structure was like the tank structures discovered by ASI in the first and second phases of excavation at the site in 2015.
- ❖ Many of those tanks were interconnected.

## NATIONAL

### Electors' Verification Programme

- ❖ Electors' Verification Programme (EVP) is an initiative from the Election Commission of India.

- ❖ The aim was to make electoral rolls error free.
- ❖ The EVP will continue till October 15.
- ❖ The citizens will be allowed to submit verified documents from Digi locker also.

**ELECTORS VERIFICATION PROGRAMME**

For any Corrections In Electoral Roll Come Forward and Authenticate Your Details Through

**NVSP Portal (www.nvsp.in)**

**"Voter Helpline" Mobile App**

**Common Service Centres CSC**

**Voter Facilitation Centre at ERO Office**

**1950 (Toll Free-Voters Helpline) for Persons with Disability (PWD)**

**1950 PERSON WITH DISABILITY**

**Date SEPTEMBER 01 to 30 2019**

**With the following Documents**

Passport	Bank Pass Book
Driving License	PAN Card
Aadhar Card	Farmers Identity Card
Ration Card	Smart Card issued by RGI under NPR
Identity Card-Government / Semi Government Officials	Latest Water / Telephone / Electricity / Gas connection bill

### **Angikaar campaign**

- ❖ The Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry has launched the 'Angikaar campaign'.
- ❖ It is a move aimed at bringing beneficiaries of PMAY (urban) into the fold of other central schemes such as Ujjawala and Ayushman Bharat.
- ❖ The 'Angikaar' aims at reaching out all the beneficiaries of the PMAY(U) in a phased manner.
- ❖ The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs also launched an e-course on 'Vulnerability Atlas of India'.
- ❖ It is a unique course that offers awareness and understanding about natural hazards, helps identify regions with high vulnerability with respect to various hazards.



## India-Ghana Foreign Office Consultations

- ❖ The 1st India-Ghana Foreign Office Consultations was held in New Delhi on 28 August 2019.
- ❖ The President of India visited Ghana in June 2016.
- ❖ The President of Ghana visited India in March 2018 to attend the Founding Conference of International Solar Alliance.
- ❖ The two sides agreed to enhance cooperation in areas of trade and investment, development partnership, defence & security, health & pharmaceutical sector, capacity building & training and people to people contacts.

## Central Board of Direct Taxes – Special Cell

- ❖ The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has notified creation of a five-member special cell to address grievances of start-ups with relation to angel tax and other tax-related issues.
- ❖ The cell will be headed by the member (Income Tax and Computerisation) of the board.
- ❖ The cell will work towards redressal of grievances and mitigate tax-related issues in case of start-up entities with respect to administration of Income-tax Act, 1961.

## ENVIRONMENT

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Advanced Estimate of Area and Production of Various Horticulture Crops

- ❖ The Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers Welfare of the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare released the 3<sup>rd</sup> Advanced Estimate (2018-19) of Area and Production of various Horticulture Crops.
- ❖ It based on the information received from different States & Union Territories (UTs) and other source agencies.
- ❖ As per the report, the area under Horticulture Crops remained broadly at the same level.

Flat performance (in million tonnes)								
	2017-18 (Final)	2018-19 (3 <sup>rd</sup> Estimates)		2017-18 (Final)	2018-19 (3 <sup>rd</sup> Estimates)		2017-18 (Final)	2018-19 (3 <sup>rd</sup> Estimates)
<b>Veg crops</b>			<b>Fruit crops</b>			<b>Plantation and spices crops</b>		
Potato	51.31	53.03	Banana	30.81	31.75	Coconut	16.41	14.75
Onions	23.26	23.49	Mango	21.82	20.8	Areca nut	0.83	0.85
Tomato	19.76	19.40	Citrus crops	12.55	13.2	Cashew nut	0.82	0.74
Brinjal	12.8	12.66	Papaya	5.99	5.98	Turmeric	1.13	0.93*
Cabbage	9.04	9.10	Pomegranate	2.85	3.03	Ginger	1.12	1.85**
Cauliflower	8.67	9.10	Apple	2.33	2.50	Garlic	1.61	2.84
Okra	6.10	6.17	<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>97.36</b>	<b>98.58</b>	Cardamom	0.028	0.022
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>184.39</b>	<b>185.88</b>				<b>Total horticultural production</b>	<b>311.71</b>	<b>313.85</b>

<sup>1</sup>Including others \*Dry turmeric \*\* Fresh ginger

## STATES

### AB-MGRSBY – Rajasthan

- ❖ The Rajasthan government has launched a new health insurance scheme named 'Ayushman Bharat-Mahatma Gandhi Rajasthan Swasthya Bima Yojna (AB-MGRSBY)'.
- ❖ It was launched on September 1.
- ❖ The scheme will be implemented after merging the Centre's Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna (AB-PMJAY) and the state's Bhamashah Swasthya Bima Yojna (BSBY).



### **Bill against 'forced conversion'**

- ❖ The Himachal Pradesh Assembly passed a Bill against conversion by force, inducement or through marriages solemnised for the "sole purpose" of adopting a new religion.
- ❖ The Bill repealed the Himachal Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act, 2006.
- ❖ According to the new Bill, if Dalits, women or minors were made to convert, the jail term will be between two-seven years.

### **Himachal Pradesh Passes Bill Against 'Forced Conversion'**

The Bill Prohibits Conversion  
By Force, Undue Influence,  
Coercion, Marriage Or  
Any Fraudulent Means.

Any Marriage For The Sole  
Purpose Of Conversion Will  
Also Be Declared Null And  
Void Under Section 5  
Of The Bill

## **PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS**

### **Namaste Pacific**

- ❖ Namaste Pacific is an event jointly hosted by the high commissioners of New Zealand, Australia, Fiji and Papua New Guinea.
- ❖ The second edition of Namaste Pacific was hosted at the New Zealand High Commissioner's residence.
- ❖ Namaste Pacific is the brainchild of Joanna Kempkers, High Commissioner, New Zealand.
- ❖ Namaste Pacific presented the Pacific culture to India.

### **Aqua Aquaria India 2019**

- ❖ The Vice President inaugurated Aqua Aquaria India 2019 at Hyderabad.
- ❖ It was organised by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA).

- ❖ It is a bi-annual event.
- ❖ Theme: Taking blue revolution to India's hinterland.
- ❖ The Vice president also launched the swadeshi 'Pearl' brand Artemia
- ❖ The feed is developed by RGCA (Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Aquaculture) under the Make in India programme.
- ❖ Tiger Prawn cultivation and export was promoted during this event.
- ❖ India's seafood industry is the second-largest aquaculture producer in the world.
- ❖ India is largest exporter of shrimps to the USA, the second-largest exporter of shrimps to Europe, and the third-largest exporter of shrimps to Japan.
- ❖ Aquaculture contributes around 52 per cent of the total marine products export earnings of India.



#### **Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Aquaculture (RGCA)**

- ❖ Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Aquaculture (RGCA) is the R & D arm of The Marine Products Exports Development Authority (MPEDA).
- ❖ Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) comes under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- ❖ It is dedicated to augment the Indian seafood exports through sustainable culture technologies.

## SPORTS

### Senior Women's National Football Championship

- ❖ The 25<sup>th</sup> Senior Women's National Football Championship will be held in Arunachal Pradesh for the first time.
- ❖ The tournament will be held in the oldest town of the state Pasighat in East Siang District.

### SAFF U-15 Football

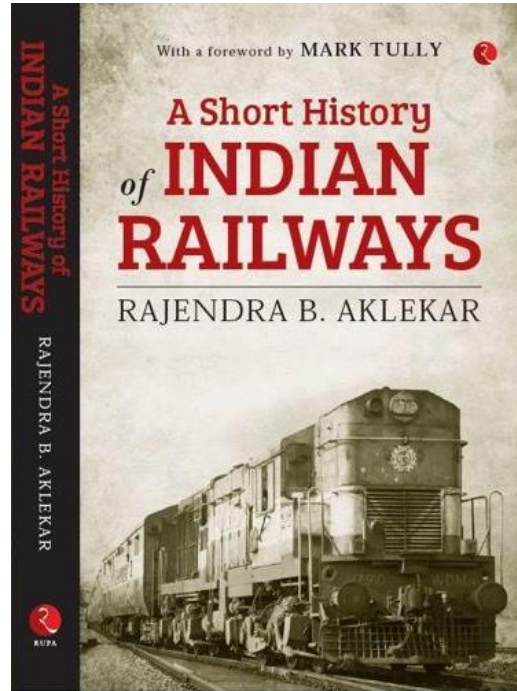
- ❖ India U-15 team defeated Nepal 7-0 to lift the SAFF U-15 title.
- ❖ India has won the title for a record third time after previous wins in 2013 and 2017.
- ❖ Both wins were against Nepal.
- ❖ Striker Sridarth Nongmeikapam scored a hat-trick.



## MISCELLANEOUS

### A Short History of Indian Railways

- ❖ A new book on the history of Indian Railways talks about the journey of the Indian Railways from 1830s to the new high-speed Train 18.
- ❖ The book, "A Short History of Indian Railways", has been penned by veteran journalist and author Rajendra B Aklekar.
- ❖ The book's foreword has been written by eminent journalist Mark Tully.



### **Global Happiness Study**

- ❖ India ranked ninth on happiness index among 28 global markets.
- ❖ The Global Happiness Study surveyed over 1000 individuals in each of the 28 countries.
- ❖ Over 77% Indian respondents reported that they were happy.
- ❖ But there has been a 6% drop from 83% in 2018 to 77 per cent in 2019.
- ❖ The ranking is as follows
  1. Australia and Canada
  2. China
  3. Great Britain
  4. France
  5. USA
  6. Saudi Arabia
  7. Germany
  8. India
- ❖ Russia, Spain and Argentina were placed at the bottom of the list.





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