

September - 05

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Five railway stations in Tamilnadu under Salem Railway Division – Salem, Karur, Erode, Tiruppur and Mettupalayam have received ISO 14001:2015 certification for their environment management systems and performance.
- ❖ CBI Director Rishi Kumar Shukla inaugurated the 1st National Conference on Cyber Crime Investigation and Cyber Forensics at CBI Headquarters in New Delhi.
- ❖ Union Ministry of Consumer Affairs Food and Public Distribution has announced a 'blanket ban on all types of single use plastic products' in various departments of Ministry and all its Public Sector Units including Food Corporation of India starting from 15 September 2019.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has released the "Report of the Task Force on the Development of Secondary Market for Corporate Loans" for comments. It was headed by TN Manoharan, Chairman of Canara Bank.
- ❖ US President Donald Trump has nominated Indian-American Shireen Mathews as a judge of the US District Court for the Southern District of California.
  - Unlike India, Article III of US Constitution says "judges hold their office during good behaviour". They have a lifetime appointment, except under very limited circumstances.
- ❖ Nobel Laureate from Bangladesh Professor Muhammad Yunus was conferred the 'Lamp of Peace of Saint Francis' award by the Vatican for his contribution towards establishing peace and harmony.
  - The award is a recognition for distinguished work by an individual for promoting peace and dialogue among people.
- ❖ Jharkhand's 17-year-old Komalika Bari became the third Indian to win the gold medal at the World Archery Youth Championships held at Madrid.
  - She is India's second world champion (under-18) after Deepika Kumari who won the title in 2009.

## TAMIL NADU

### **Tamilnadu-American Investment: Yaadhum Oorey**

- ❖ Sixteen US-based companies have committed to invest in Tamil Nadu, to the extent of Rs 2,780 crore and generate employment for Tamilnadu youth.



- ❖ In an interaction with Tamil diaspora in New York, Chief Minister started and informed about the “Yaadhum Ooorey” scheme.
- ❖ It is a scheme to attract investments of Tamil diaspora.

## **NATIONAL**

### **Japan-India Annual Defence Ministerial Dialogue**

- ❖ Defence Minister of India Rajnath Singh has paid a visit to Japan for the annual Defence Ministerial Meeting between the 2 countries.
- ❖ The Ministers affirmed their intention to hold the first Foreign and Defence Ministerial Dialogue (2+2) ahead of the Japan-India Annual Summit this year.

### **20th India—Russia Annual Summit: Chennai- Vladivostok Route**

- ❖ The 20th India—Russia Annual Summit was held in Vladivostok. PM Modi also participated in the 5th Eastern Economic Forum as the Chief Guest.
- ❖ Modi becomes the first Indian Prime Minister to visit the Russian Far East region.
- ❖ Plans to increase bilateral trade to \$30 billion by 2025 were announced.
- ❖ A Memorandum of Intent was signed to have a full-fledged maritime route between Chennai and Vladivostok.
- ❖ Both countries agreed that the work on promoting mutual settlements of “payments in national currencies” will be continued.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **Global Fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria**

- ❖ India has announced contribution of \$22 million to Global Fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFTAM) for 6th Replenishment Cycle (for year 2020-22).
- ❖ Global Fund is the world’s largest financier of AIDS, TB, and malaria prevention, treatment, and care programs.
- ❖ India shares a sustained partnership with Global Fund since 2002 both as recipient and as a donor.
- ❖ Headquarters: Switzerland.

## **Hong Kong: Extradition Bill Withdrawn**

- ❖ Chief Executive of Hong Kong, Carrie Lam has said she will withdraw the controversial “extradition bill”.
- ❖ Introduction of the bill in April 2019 triggered the current three months of unprecedented “pro-democracy” rallies in the country.
- ❖ The proposed bill would have allowed criminal suspects to be extradited to mainland China.



### About

- ❖ Hong Kong became a colony of the British Empire after Qing Dynasty of China “ceded” Hong Kong Island at the end of the First Opium War in 1842.
- ❖ With additional territories, Britain obtained a 99-year lease of the New Territories in 1898.
- ❖ The territory was transferred to China in 1997.
- ❖ The Special Administrative Region of Hong Kong maintains separate governing and economic systems from that of mainland China under the "one country, two systems".

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **4th Internet of Things (IoT) Congress: Bengaluru**

- ❖ The 4th edition of the Internet of Things (IoT) India Congress 2019 held in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- ❖ The theme of this edition is ‘Mainstreaming the Internet of Things’.
- ❖ It is the India’s largest confluence of digital technology.

## ENVIRONMENT

### **Tigers @ High Altitude Ecosystems**

- ❖ Union Environment Minister, Prakash Javadekar has released a report on Status of Tiger Habitats in high altitude ecosystems.
- ❖ The study was done by Global Tiger Forum, WWF, Integrated Tiger Habitat Conservation Programme (ITHPC) of the IUCN and governments of India, Nepal and Bhutan.
- ❖ The study reveals that even ecology at high altitude is compatible for the tiger growth.



### **About GTF**

- ❖ GTF is the only inter- governmental international body on a global campaign to protect the remaining 5 sub-species of Tigers distributed over 13 Tiger Range countries of the world.
- ❖ The GTF was formed in 1993. In 1997, the GTF became an independent organization.
- ❖ Its secretariat is at New Delhi.

### **Quality Unknown: The Invisible Water Crisis – Report**

- ❖ The world bank has released a new report titled Quality Unknown: The Invisible Water Crisis”.
- ❖ It highlights how deteriorating water quality is an “invisible crisis” that has wiped out one third of potential economic growth in highly polluted areas.
- ❖ It has warned that a combination of bacteria, sewage, chemicals and plastics can remove oxygen from water and transform it into a “poison for people and ecosystems alike”.



### Nitrogen

- ❖ The report notes that a key contributor to poor water quality is nitrogen.
- ❖ Nitrogen which is applied as fertiliser in agriculture, eventually enters rivers, lakes and oceans where it transforms into harmful nitrates and enters into food chain.

### Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD)

- ❖ It states that when BOD crosses a threshold of 8 milligrams per litre, GDP growth in those regions drops by 0.83 percentage points.
- ❖ BOD is a measure of how much organic pollution is in water.

## **STATES**

### **Harvest Festival in Odisha: Nuakhai Juhar**

- ❖ Odisha celebrated Nuakhai Juhar, a harvest festival welcoming the newly harvested crops of the season.
- ❖ It is one of the most ancient festivals celebrated in Odisha and an agricultural festival.
- ❖ Farmers offer the first produce from their lands to Goddess Samaleswari, mother goddess of Sambalpur district of Odisha.
- ❖ This festival is celebrated more prominently in Western Odisha.

### **10:10:10 - Delhi Dengue Campaign**

- ❖ From 1st September 2019, Delhi government has launched a mega 10-week anti-mosquito campaign against “dengue and chikungunya”.
- ❖ The campaign aims to increase the participation of residents in preventing their spread.
- ❖ The initiative is titled ‘10 Hafte, 10 Baje, 10 Minute – Har Ravivar, Dengue par war’.
- ❖ As part of the campaign, the government has asked the people of Delhi to give 10 minutes every Sunday at 10 a.m. to check all sources of stagnant water at their homes to eradicate dengue mosquitoes.
- ❖ Dengue mosquitoes breed only in clean water.

