

September - 11

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Srivilliputhur 'palkova' has been granted GI Tag.
- ❖ Nripendra Misra, principal secretary to Prime Minister Narendra Modi has submitted his resignation. Former cabinet secretary Pradeep Kumar Sinha has been appointed as the officer on special duty (OSD) in the Prime Minister's Office.
- ❖ Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma has launched "Walk to Work on Wednesdays (WWW)" campaign in the state.
  - The campaign is a part of the nationwide Fit India Movement, which has been launched in the country by the Prime Minister.
- ❖ Yashaswini Singh Deswal from Delhi has recently won gold in the women's 10m Air Pistol event at the ISSF World Cup, Rio de Janeiro in Brazil. With the win, she has also secured 2020 Tokyo Olympic quota for India.
  - As on date, this is India's 9th quota in shooting for 2020 Tokyo Games.
- ❖ 2018 Asian Games gold medallist shot putter and Arjuna Awardee Tejinderpal Singh Toor has clinched a "silver medal" with a best throw of 20.09m during an athletic meet at Decin, Czech Republic.

## TAMIL NADU

### Lowest Consumption of Iodised Salt - TN

- ❖ According to a national survey to measure the coverage of "iodised salt", Tamil Nadu has the lowest consumption of iodised salt.
- ❖ But it is the third biggest producer of salt in the country (No.1 – Gujarat).
- ❖ The survey was conducted by Nutrition International, AIIMS, Delhi and the Indian Coalition for the Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders.
- ❖ The survey tested the iodine content in samples of cooking salt from households to estimate the coverage of iodised salt in 29 States and 7 Union Territories.
- ❖ Deficiency of iodine which is a vital micro-nutrient, can result in

Goitre	Hypothyroidism
Still Births	Mental Retardation
Psychomotor Defects	Abortion



## **NATIONAL**

### **Sanjay Mitra Committee on J & K Bifurcation**

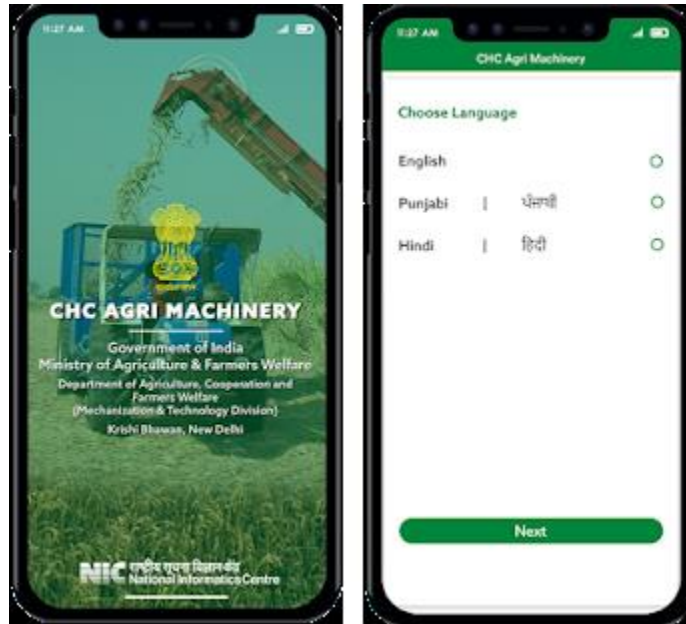
- ❖ Centre has set up a 3-member panel to oversee the bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories.
- ❖ The committee will look into the distribution of assets and liabilities of Jammu and Kashmir between two successor Union territories.
- ❖ Head: Former Defence Secretary Sanjay Mitra
- ❖ Members: Retired IAS officer Arun Goyal and Retired Indian Civil Accounts Service officer Giriraj Prasad Gupta

### **India-Nepal Petroleum Pipeline**

- ❖ PM Modi and his Nepalese counterpart K P Sharma Oli inaugurated the Motihari-Amalekhgunj petroleum pipeline through video conferencing.
- ❖ It is the first ever cross-border petroleum products pipeline in South Asia.
- ❖ The 69-km pipeline will transport fuel from Barauni refinery in Bihar's Begusarai district to Amalekhgunj in southeastern Nepal.
- ❖ It will reduce the cost of transporting fuel to landlocked Nepal from India.

### **Multilingual App to Hire Farm Machinery**

- ❖ Union Minister of State for Agriculture Parshottam Rupala launched the multilingual Mobile App “CHC Farm Machinery” during a conference on Crop Residue Management in New Delhi.
- ❖ Purpose: The App connects the farmers with Custom Hiring Centers (CHCs) in their area.
- ❖ Farmers can get affordable access to cutting-edge technology at their doorsteps.
- ❖ Most hired farm equipments: rotavator, zero till drill, drum seeder, multi-crop planter, power weeder and chaff cutter.



### **Energy Efficient Buildings– ANGAN Conference**

- ❖ A three-day long international conference on Energy Efficiency in Building Sector called - ANGAN (Augmenting Nature by Green Affordable New-habitat) is being held at New Delhi.
- ❖ Organised by: Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), Ministry of Power, GIZ organisation of Germany
- ❖ Idea Proposed: Investing Rs.2000 billion in Building energy efficiency activities would lead to a savings of 388 Billion units of electricity for the next ten years.

### **Indian Skill Development Services**

- ❖ The first batch of the Indian Skill Development Services (ISDS) has commenced their training program at the Administrative Training Institute (ATI), Mysuru.
- ❖ ISDS is the newest Union government services.
- ❖ Purpose: This service has been specially created for the Training Directorate of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and is a Group 'A' service.
- ❖ This is the first batch which is joining the ISDS cadre from the Indian Engineering Service Examination conducted by UPSC.

## **Golden Arrows squadron resurrected for Rafale**

- ❖ The Indian Air Force has resurrected the Air Force Station Ambala-based 17 Squadron 'Golden Arrows'.
- ❖ They will be the first unit to be trained to operate the first squadron of Rafale fighter jets.
- ❖ The resurrection ceremony was presided over by IAF Chief Air Chief Marshal (ACM) B.S. Dhanoa.

### **About Golden Arrows Squadron**

- ❖ The 17 Squadron was raised at Ambala on October 01, 1951, under the command of Flight Lieutenant D.L. Springett.
- ❖ It was disbanded in 2016 after the IAF started gradual phasing out of Russian-origin MIG-21 jets.
- ❖ It had also been commanded by ACM B.S. Dhanoa during 1999 Kargil Conflict.

### **About Ambala Airbase**

- ❖ Built in 1948, Ambala air base of Haryana is used for military and government flights.
- ❖ It has two squadrons of the Jaguar combat aircraft and one squadron of the MIG-21 Bison.
- ❖ Air Marshal Arjan Singh was the first commander of the base.



## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **24th World Energy Congress, Abu Dhabi**

- ❖ The 24th World Energy Congress commenced in Abu Dhabi under the patronage of Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates.
- ❖ 150 countries participate in this triennial congress.
- ❖ It was started in 1924.
- ❖ It is the world's largest and most influential energy event covering all aspects of the energy agenda.
- ❖ The theme of this 2019 World Energy Congress is "Energy for Prosperity".

## **STATES**

### **Special Tiger Force – Uttarakhand**

- ❖ The Uttarakhand government has decided to form a Special Tiger Force (STF) for Corbett Tiger Reserve (CTR).
- ❖ The force will have 85 posts & will help serve as the second layer of protection at the CTR.
- ❖ The STPF will be effective in checking illegal human intrusion into the reserve through villages located on its fringes.
- ❖ The decision is in line with Union government's guidelines for providing 3-tier protection to tigers at reserves.

First Level	Regular Patrols by Forest Guards
Second Level	STPF
Third Level	Intelligence-gathering mechanisms to prevent poaching

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

## Visitor's Awards

- ❖ The President of India, in his capacity as Visitor of the Central Universities, annually confers Visitor's Awards to functionaries of Central Universities.
- ❖ The award aims to promote healthy competition amongst Central Universities and motivate them to adopt best practices from around the world.
- ❖ 2019 Winners and categories

<b>Category</b>	<b>Winner</b>
Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences	Professor Sibnath Deb, Pondicherry University
Physical Sciences	Professor Sanjay Puri, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)
Biological Sciences	Professor Asad Ullah Khan, Aligarh Muslim University (AMU); Dr Partima, JNU
Technology Development	Dr Shaon Ray Chaudhuri, Tripura University

