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TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamilnadu State Department of Archaeology will enter into a tripartite memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Madurai Kamaraj University and Harvard Medical School.
 - The MoU is to take up ancient DNA study of human bones excavated or to be excavated from Keeladi, Konthagai and Adichanallur sites in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Bulgarian economist Kristalina Georgieva has been confirmed as the managing director of the International Monetary Fund.
 - She becomes the first head of the \$1 trillion-asset global lender from an emerging market economy.

TAMIL NADU

TN – Kerala Parambikulam Aliyar Project Review

- ❖ Kerala and Tamil Nadu have agreed to review the Parambikulam Aliyar Project (PAP) pact.
- ❖ A secretary-level committee with five members each from both sides to work out the details.
- ❖ Additionally, a 10-member committee will look into Tamil Nadu's demand for diverting water from Anamalaiyar, which is linked to the Idamalayar project.
- ❖ Kerala has also agreed to restore power supply to the Mullaperiyar dam, which is managed by Tamil Nadu.

About

- ❖ The PAP treaty was inked on May 29, 1970, with retrospective effect from November 9, 1958.
- ❖ Although it was to be reviewed after 30 years, in 1988, the two States could not reach a consensus despite several rounds of meetings.

NATIONAL

Gandhi Solar Park @ UN Head Quarters

- ❖ During his visit to the USA, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a 50 kilowatt 'Gandhi Solar Park' at the Headquarters of the United Nations.

- ❖ Along with Modi, Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina and President of South Korea Moon-Jae-in also launched a United Nations postage stamp of Mahatma Gandhi.
- ❖ PM also inaugurated a Gandhi Peace Garden at the State University of New York Campus at Long Island.
- ❖ 150 trees have been planted in honour of Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary.
- ❖ The event was hosted to celebrate the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

Catch the sun

The Gandhi Solar Park at the UN headquarters in New York is an Indian effort to go beyond the talk on climate change and climate action. At a contribution of about \$1 million, India has gifted the solar panels that have been installed on the roof of the building, one panel each for 193 member states



- System size of each panel:
71.41 KW
- Projected annual system output:
86,244 kWh (equals to carbon dioxide emissions from 30,246 Kg of coal burned or carbon sequestered from 1,008 tree seedlings grown for 10 years)

Howdy Modi!

- ❖ Modi has participated in string of events, including addressing the NRIs at the mega Howdy Modi! event in Houston, Texas.
- ❖ US President Trump also attended the event.
- ❖ Modi was awarded the Global Goalkeeper Award by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Sardar Patel National Unity Award

- ❖ The government has announced the institution of Sardar Patel National Unity Award.
- ❖ It will be the highest civilian honour in the field of contribution to the unity and integrity of the country.
- ❖ The award will be announced on the occasion of National Unity Day on October 31, the birth anniversary of Sardar Patel.

Purpose

- ❖ The award seeks to recognise notable and inspiring contributions to promote the cause of national unity and integrity and to reinforce the value of a strong and united India.
- ❖ It will be conferred by the President of India along with the presentation of Padma awards.



About the Award

- ❖ The award comprises a medal and a citation and will have no monetary or cash component.
- ❖ Not more than three awards will be given in a year.
- ❖ Any Indian or institution based in the country will be able to nominate an individual for the award.
- ❖ Except in rare and highly deserving cases, it will not be conferred on anybody posthumously.

INTERNATIONAL

First Arab in Space

- ❖ A Soyuz rocket from the Baikonur space centre, Kazakhstan carried an Emirati to the International Space Station (ISS).
- ❖ He will make history as the first Arab on the International Space Station.
- ❖ Hazzaa al-Mansoori of the United Arab Emirates is accompanied by Russia's Oleg Skripochka and NASA astronaut Jessica Meir in his flight to the ISS.

- ❖ ISS is a rare example of cooperation between Russia and the West.
- ❖ It has been orbiting Earth at about 28,000 kilometres (17,000 miles) per hour since 1998.



UK Supreme Court – Suspension of Parliament Unlawful

- ❖ In a unanimous decision, the UK Supreme Court has ruled the “suspension of parliament of Britain” unlawful.
- ❖ Earlier British Prime Minister Boris Johnson had decided to shut down Parliament for five weeks in the run-up to Brexit (October 31).
- ❖ He announced the shut down because his government had lost majority in the House of Commons, Britain’s lower house of the parliament.
- ❖ UK Parliament had been “prorogued” by The Queen on the advice of Prime Minister Boris Johnson from September 10 to October 14.
- ❖ It is now cancelled and the Speaker of Parliament and the House of Lords will decide further steps regarding Brexit.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Payal Jangid – Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards 2019

- ❖ 17-year-old Payal Jangid from Alwar, Rajasthan became the first Indian to receive the ‘Changemaker Award’ at the Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards 2019 in New York.

- ❖ She was awarded for her contribution in abolishing the practice of child marriage in her native Hinsla and other neighbouring villages.
- ❖ She is also the sarpanch (President) of the Bal Panchayat (children's parliament) in Hinsla, which is a Bal Mitra Gram (child-friendly village).
- ❖ This concept was founded by Nobel Laureate Kailash Satyarthi.



Alternate Nobel Prize – Greta Thunberg

- ❖ Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg is among four people announced as the winners of a Right Livelihood Award.
- ❖ The award is also known as the "Alternative Nobel."
- ❖ Thunberg is being recognized 'for inspiring and amplifying political demands for urgent climate action reflecting scientific facts.
- ❖ Other Winners are

Winners	Contribution
Davi Kopenawa and the Hutukara Yanomami Association	To represent Brazilian tribes and for protecting the Amazon forest and its people
Moroccan activist Aminatou Haidar- also known as Saharawi Gandhi	A human rights lawyer and awarded for her non-violent struggle for Western Sahara's independence
Chinese lawyer Guo Jianmei	For advocating women's rights in China.



About

- ❖ The award was founded in 1980 by Swedish-German philanthropist Jakob von Uexkull.
- ❖ The annual Right Livelihood Award “honours efforts” which the founder of the prize felt were being “ignored by the Nobel prizes”.
- ❖ The four winners will each receive 1 million kronor (\$103,000).

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Sign Languages – September 23

- ❖ International Day of Sign Languages (IDSL) is celebrated annually across the world on 23 September every year along with International Week of the Deaf.
- ❖ The first International Day of Sign languages was celebrated by United Nations in 2018 under the theme “With Sign Language, everyone is Included!”.
- ❖ The choice of 23 September is the same date that the World Federation of the Deaf was established in 1951.
- ❖ International Week of the Deaf (IWDeaf) is celebrated annually across the world during the last full week of September since 2009.
- ❖ The over-arching theme of IDSL 2019 is “Sign Language Rights for All!”.
- ❖ IDSL corresponds with International Week of the Deaf, and each day of the week has a sub-theme as follows:



Day	Theme
Monday, 23 September	Sign Language Rights for All!
Tuesday, 24 September	Sign Language Rights for All Children
Wednesday, 25 September	Sign Language Rights for Deaf Senior Citizens
Thursday, 26 September	Sign Language Rights for Deaf Blind People and Deaf People with Disabilities
Friday, 27 September	Sign Language Rights for Deaf Women
Saturday, 28 September	Sign Language Rights for Deaf LGBTIQ+
Sunday, 29 September	Sign Language Rights for Deaf Refugees

World Pharmacist Day 2019 – September 25

- ❖ World Pharmacist Day is celebrated on 25 September every year to promote and advocate the role of the pharmacist in improving health all over the world.
- ❖ It was in the year 2009, when the day was formulated by the FIP Council in Istanbul, Turkey.
- ❖ The International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) is the global body representing over 4 million pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists.
- ❖ The theme for this year's World Pharmacists Day is "Safe and effective medicines for all".

