

September -27

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The fifth edition of India International Science Festival (IISF) will be held in Kolkata from November 5-8.
 - The Biswa Bangla Convention Centre and the Science City will be prime sites for various events during the festival.
- ❖ Punjab National Bank (PNB) has launched a Preventive Vigilance portal to facilitate its staff members to check procedural lapses and promote good practices.
 - It is a first of its kind initiative and it aims to promote the central theme of the PNB, 'Integrity - A way of Life'.

NATIONAL

Anti-TB Campaign: TB Harega Desh Jeetega

- ❖ Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr. Harsh Vardhan has recently launched the 'TB Harega Desh Jeetega Campaign'.
- ❖ This campaign aims to eliminate tuberculosis from India.
- ❖ He also launched 25 National TB Prevalence Survey vans to carry out a survey across the country in the next six months.
- ❖ India has set a target to eliminate TB by 2025. UN's target is 2030.

Reconstituting PM's Economic Advisory Council

- ❖ The Government of India has reconstituted the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (PMEAC).
- ❖ It will function for a period of two years with effect from September 26, 2019.
- ❖ "Dr. Bibek Debroy and Ratan P. Watal will continue to be the chairman and member secretary, respectively, of the reconstituted EAC-PM.
- ❖ Two part-time members Rathin Roy and Shamika Ravi were shunted out.

About

- ❖ PMEAC is a non-constitutional, non-permanent and independent body constituted to give economic advice to the Government of India, specifically the Prime Minister.

- ❖ The PMEAC is chaired by a Chairperson and consists of eminent economists as members.
- ❖ There is no fixed definition on the exact number of members and staff of the PMEAC.



16th Global SME Summit, New Delhi

- ❖ Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the 16th Global SME Business Summit 2019 in New Delhi.
- ❖ The Summit is organized every year by Ministry of MSME and Confederation of Indian Industries (CII).
- ❖ The theme for 2019 is “Making Indian MSMEs Globally Competitive”.
- ❖ MSME ministry promised to launch soon a new E-Commerce website ‘Bharat Mart’.
- ❖ Share of MSME in GDP = 29%
- ❖ Share of MSME in Export = 49%

First India- CARICOM Meet

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi met the leaders of the Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM) during the first-ever India-CARICOM leaders’ summit held at USA.



- ❖ The meet focussed on fighting climate change and increasing India's participation with the grouping.
- ❖ India had also given an immediate assistance of \$1 Million to Bahamas during the recent Hurricane Dorain.

About

- ❖ The CARICOM grouping has 15 members-states and five associate members.
- ❖ It was formed in 1973.
- ❖ It was established as an economic and political community that works jointly to shape policies for the region and to encourage economic growth and trade.
- ❖ CARICOM Members
 - Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.

INTERNATIONAL

Tripartite Agreement on Rohingyas

- ❖ Three countries have agreed to put in place a tripartite mechanism to monitor and assess on-the-ground preparations for repatriation of the displaced Rohingya people.
- ❖ They are
 - Bangladesh
 - China
 - Myanmar
- ❖ Two attempts of Rohingya repatriation have failed.
- ❖ They are unwilling to go back to their place of origin amid lack of required conditions in Rakhine State for their return.

About

- ❖ The Rohingya people are a stateless Indo-Aryan ethnic group who reside in Rakhine State, Myanmar.
- ❖ Most of them follow Islam with a Hindu minority.
- ❖ They were persecuted by Myanmar's government and have taken refuge in various countries, including Bangladesh, China, India.
- ❖ In 2013, United Nations described Rohingyas as one of the most persecuted minorities.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

World's Biggest Transport Space Ship - For ISS

- ❖ Japan has successfully launched an unmanned spacecraft towards the International Space Station.
- ❖ JAXA's (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) H-2B rocket lifted off with the cargo vessel Kounotori 8.
- ❖ It has declared that the Kounotori8 (also known as HTV-8) as "the world's biggest transport space ship."

India's first Indigenous Fuel Cell

- ❖ President Ram Nath Kovind has unveiled India's first indigenous high temperature fuel cell system.
- ❖ It can meet the requirement of efficient, clean and reliable backup power generator for telecom towers, remote locations and strategic applications.
- ❖ This 5.0 kW fuel cell system generates power in a green manner using methanol/bio-methane.
- ❖ It has the potential to replace diesel generating (DG) sets and help in reducing air pollution.
- ❖ Developed by: CSIR-NCL, Pune, CSIR-NPL, New Delhi & CSIR-CECRI, Karaikudi in collaboration with 3 private players.
- ❖ Applications: Small offices, commercial units and data centers.

ENVIRONMENT

National Water Mission Awards - 2019

- ❖ Union Minister for Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekawat presented the National Water Mission Awards- 2019.
- ❖ The 'National Water Mission Awards' is an initiative of National Water Mission (NWM), Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- ❖ The award aims to recognize excellence in water conservation, efficient water use and sustainable water management practices.

[About NWM](#)

- ❖ NWM is one of the 8 missions under National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC).
- ❖ Its Objectives
 - Conservation of water
 - Minimizing wastage of water
 - Ensuring more equitable distribution both across and within states through integrated water resources development and management.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Awards 2019

- ❖ President of India has announced the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Awards 2019.
- ❖ They are the highest multidisciplinary science awards in India.
- ❖ It is an annual award.
- ❖ Awards are given by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).
- ❖ The names of the recipients are traditionally declared by the Director General on every 26 September, which is the CSIR Foundation Day.
- ❖ The prize is awarded in seven disciplines, namely:
 - Physical sciences
 - Chemical sciences
 - Biological Sciences
 - Medical sciences
 - Mathematical Sciences
 - Engineering Sciences
 - Earth, Atmosphere, Ocean and Planetary Science
- ❖ The prize is awarded in memory of Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar (1894 – 1955), the first director-general of the CSIR and the first Chairman of the UGC.
- ❖ In 1954 he was awarded Padma Bhushan.

Amitabh Bachan – Dada Saheb Palke Award

- ❖ Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javedkar has informed that Amitabh Bachan will be conferred with Dada Saheb Palke Award for 2019.
- ❖ Dadasaheb Phalke award was instituted in honour of the legendary film producer-director Dadasageb Phalke.



- ❖ It is India's highest award in cinema and started in 1969.
- ❖ The first recipient of the award was Devika Rani.

MISCELLANEOUS

IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List

- ❖ IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List has been released.
- ❖ Reliance Industries' Chairman Mukesh Ambani has topped the list of richest Indians for the eighth consecutive year, with a net worth of rupees 3,80,700 crore
- ❖ London-based SP Hinduja & family, with assets worth 1,86,500 crore has retained the second rank
- ❖ It is followed by Wipro founder Azim Premji at the third place with a wealth of 1,17,100 crore.

Cities

- ❖ With 246 individuals or 26 per cent of the list Mumbai is topmost preferred home of entrepreneurs.
- ❖ It is followed by Delhi (175) and Bengaluru (77).

