

September - 28

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The National Film Archive of India (NFAI), Pune has obtained 30 reels of several hours of unedited footage detailing several key events from Mahatma Gandhi's life and his death.
 - They were filmed by some of the most renowned studios in the world like Paramount, Pathe, Warner, Universal and British Movietone and India's own India Movietone studio.
- ❖ The Delhi High Court has launched an official mobile application for providing digital access of its services to everyone.
 - It will contain details of case status, display board of High Court and access to other important links of the high court website.
- ❖ Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO), Ministry of Defence and Central University of Jammu (CUJ) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding for the establishment of Kalam Centre for Science and Technology at the university, Jammu.
- ❖ In a reshuffle in the top brass of the force, Air Marshal HS Arora has been appointed as the Vice Chief of Indian Air Force (IAF).
 - He will succeed Air Marshal RKS Bhadauria who will take over as the Chief of Air Staff on September 30.
- ❖ Mrs. Pooja Desai, a home-maker from Vadodara, Gujarat has bagged the title of "Mrs India- Pride of the Nation".
- ❖ Chief of Army Staff General Bipin Rawat has taken charge as Chairman of Chiefs of Staff Committee (COSC).
 - He received the baton of COSC from outgoing Indian Air Force Chief Air Chief Marshal (ACM) BS Dhanoa, who retires on 30 September 2019.
- ❖ Current Asian Powerlifting Gold Medallist and National Champion, Arthi Arun of Chennai has won five gold medals in the ongoing Commonwealth Powerlifting and Bench Press Championships, 2019 at Canada.
 - She is also the only player from the Tamil Nadu in the Indian contingent for Commonwealth Championships.
- ❖ Kashmir Saffron has received Geographic Indication (GI) tag.
- ❖ Rupa Gurunath has been appointed as the first woman president of Tamil Nadu Cricket Association, in Chennai, Tamilnadu.
 - With this appointment, she has also become the first woman to head a state-level cricket body in the country.

NATIONAL

Removal of Garbage @ Siachen

- ❖ Since January 2018 Indian Army has disposed of nearly 130 tonnes of waste from Siachen Glacier.
- ❖ Based on a 2018 concept note on waste management on the glacier, the Army has made bringing down waste a part of the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for troops.
- ❖ On an average, 236 tonnes of waste is generated every year on Siachen glacier.

About

- ❖ India has held the glacier's dominating heights since it occupied them in 1984 under 'Operation Meghdoot'.
- ❖ The Bana post is the highest on the glacier close to 22,000 feet.
- ❖ At 18,000-19,000 feet, Indian and Pakistani posts face each other.
- ❖ Beyond 22,000 feet only Indian army is there.



Project NETRA

- ❖ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has initiated 'Project NETRA'.
- ❖ Netra (Network for space object Tracking and Analysis) is an early warning system in space to detect debris and other hazards to Indian satellites.
- ❖ It gives India its own capability in space situational awareness (SSA).



- ❖ Netra can spot, track and catalogue objects as small as 10 cm, up to a range of 3,400 km and equal to a space orbit of around 2,000 km.
- ❖ NETRA will also be aided by
 - Multi-Object Tracking Radar (MOTR) at Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota
 - Telescopes at Ponmudi, Tamilnadu and Mount Abu, Rajasthan

Defensive Applications

- ❖ SSA would help us to understand motives behind any suspicious orbit changes of other satellites and to know if they were spying on or harming our spacecraft.

Largest Dry Dock, Mumbai

- ❖ The Indian Navy has got its biggest dry dock located inside the Naval Dockyard in Mumbai.
- ❖ It can service India's only aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya, weighing 44,500 tons and the first indigenous carrier Vikrant, being built in Kochi
- ❖ This is probably the only dry dock in the country that is surrounded by the sea from three sides.
- ❖ In a dry dock water is drained out after a ship is brought in, to enable repair and inspection.
- ❖ Repairs which are not possible when the ship is in water, take place.

About

- ❖ The Bombay Dockyard was established in 1732.
- ❖ The naval dockyard in Mumbai has three other dry docks — Bombay Dock, Duncan dock and Cruiser Graving Dock.



ICGS Varaha - New Patrol Ship

- ❖ Defense Minister Rajnath Singh formally commissioned the Coast Guard offshore patrol vessel 'ICGS Varaha' at the Chennai Port Trust.
- ❖ ICGS Varaha has capabilities to operate twin engine ALH Helicopters developed indigenously by HAL.
- ❖ The ship will be commanded by Commandant Dushyant Kumar.
- ❖ It will be based at New Mangalore under the administrative and operational control of Coast Guard Commander (West) Region.

Global Digital Competitiveness Rankings

- ❖ India has been ranked 44th in the IMD World Digital Competitiveness Ranking 2019 produced by the IMD World Competitiveness Center.
- ❖ The US was ranked as the world's most digitally competitive economy, followed by Singapore in the second place, Sweden stood third.
- ❖ India advanced four places from 2018 rankings due to overall improvement in three factors -digital knowledge, technology and future readiness.

23rd Malabar Exercise

- ❖ The Malabar Exercise 2019, the trilateral maritime exercise between navies of India, Japan and the US began off the coast of Japan.
- ❖ This is the 23rd edition of Malabar Exercise.



- ❖ The exercise seeks to further strengthen India-Japan-US naval cooperation
- ❖ Participating Indian military assets
 - INS Sahyadri- Indigenously built multi-purpose guided-missile frigate
 - INS Kiltan – Also an indigenously built Anti-Submarine Warfare Corvette.
 - P8I (Poseidon Eight India) - Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft

STATES

Top Tourism Awards – Andhra Pradesh

- ❖ Andhra Pradesh has bagged the top honour at the National Tourism Awards 2017-18, presented by Vice President Venkaiah Naidu.
- ❖ It bagged the Best State award for overall growth in tourism category.
- ❖ Goa and Madhya Pradesh were the joint winners in the Adventure Tourism category.
- ❖ Uttarakhand won the award for the Best Film Promotion-Friendly State.
- ❖ Telangana won the award for the Best State for the innovative use of IT.

SPORTS

IBSF World Snooker Event

- ❖ The Indian duo of Pankaj Advani and Aditya Mehta have become world champions in the IBSF World Snooker Team event.
- ❖ They defeated Thailand team in the finals event held at Mandalay, Myanmar.
- ❖ Pankaj Advani's world title tally is now 23 while Aditya claimed his maiden title.

Amit Banghal – India's First Boxing Medal

- ❖ Indian boxer Amit Panghal has won a silver medal at World Boxing Championships event held at Ekaterinberg, Russia.
- ❖ He was defeated by Olympic champion Shakhobidin Zoirov of Uzbekistan in the 52 kg category finals.
- ❖ The second-seeded Panghal became the first Indian male boxer to finish second in the world event.
- ❖ Manish Kaushik (63kg) also won Bronze medal in the same event.

- ❖ This is also the first time India has won more than one bronze medal at a single edition of the world championship.
- ❖ Past Winners: Vijender Singh (2009), Vikas Krishan (2011), Shiva Thapa (2015) and Gaurav Bidhuri (2017).

