

December – 21

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Interim CBI director M Nageswar Rao was promoted to the rank of an additional director by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.
- ❖ Maharashtra's Pune district court has become the first court in India to allow e-payments of court fee, judicial deposits, fines and penalties. The new facility is started in the Shivajinagar district and sessions court.
- ❖ Sonam Kapoor has been named as the Person of the Year 2018 by PETA India. The winner of the PETA 2017 Person of the Year Award was Anushka Sharma.
- ❖ A Sivalingam, Inventor of Tamil telegraphy has passed away in Trichy. He had earlier developed Tamil telegraphy in 1955 and was helpful in putting it to public use in 1956. He was also called Tamil Thanthi Sivalinganar.
- ❖ The Greater Chennai Corporation has renamed Frazer Bridge Road near Chennai Fort has been renamed as TNPSC Road.

TAMIL NADU

Space science technology gallery lab cum training centre

- ❖ A Space science technology gallery lab cum training centre was opened in a Government School in Puduppalaiyam, Edappadi, Salem.
- ❖ This is the 1st time in the entire country that such a centre was inaugurated in a Government school.
- ❖ It was developed with the assistance of ISRO.

NATIONAL

Flight and Maritime Connectivity Rules, 2018

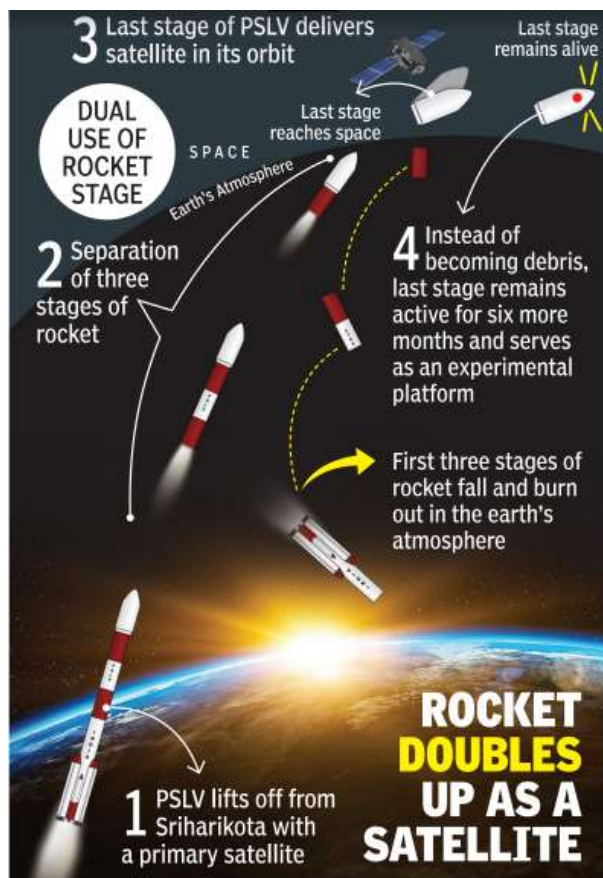
- ❖ The Union Government has notified Flight and Maritime Connectivity Rules, 2018.
- ❖ It thereby allows phone calls and internet on flights and ship voyage within India's territory.

- ❖ Any Indian or foreign airlines & shipping companies operating in India can provide
 - in-flight and maritime voice and data services.
- by partnering with an Indian telecom company having a valid licence.
- ❖ The in-flight and maritime connectivity (IFMC) can be provided using telecom networks on ground as well as using satellites.
- ❖ The services can be provided by a valid telecom licence holder in India through domestic and foreign satellites having permission of the Department of Space.
- ❖ The services will be activated once the aircraft attains a minimum height of 3,000m in Indian airspace to avoid interference with terrestrial mobile networks.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

ISRO to give life to a 'Dead rocket'

- ❖ ISRO (Indian Space Research Organization) is planning to make the 'Dead rocket' come 'Alive' in space for the first time in history.
- ❖ It is currently working on a new technology where it will use the last stage of the PSLV (Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle) rocket for Space experiments.
- ❖ For the demonstration, it is planning to send PSLV C-44 rocket in January 2019, which will carry a Microsat as the Primary satellite.
- ❖ This microsat will have inbuilt batteries and solar panel, which will keep the last stage of the rocket 'active' for a period of 6 months for more experiments in space.



Military Communication Satellite GSAT-7A

- ❖ The ISRO has successfully launched the communication satellite GSAT-7A from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ It was launched using Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV-F11).
- ❖ The mission, designated as F11, will be the GSLV rocket's 13th flight.
 - F11 – F stands for Operational Flight,
 - whereas D indicates Developmental flight.
- ❖ GSAT-7A is a high-tech communication satellite having new technologies including a Gregorian Antenna.



- ❖ It is the 39th communication satellite of ISRO and will mainly be used for military applications.
- ❖ ISRO's GSAT-7A satellite is the heaviest satellite (2250 kgs) with an indigenously developed cryogenic engine.

STATES

International Film Festival of Kerala

- ❖ The 23rd International Film Festival of Kerala (IFFK) concluded recently at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- ❖ The Iranian feature film 'The Dark Room' won the top most 'Suvarna Chakoram' – The Golden Crow Pheasant Award.
- ❖ Lijo Jose Pellissery took home the Silver Pheasant for his film, Ee. Maa. Yau (Malayalam).
- ❖ Pellissery also won the NETPAC (Network for the Promotion of Asian Cinema) award for Best Asian Film in Competition.
- ❖ The awards were instituted in 1996 with several national and international films premiering in the event every year.

President's rule in J & K

- ❖ The state of Jammu and Kashmir has come under President's rule from 20th December 2018 as Governor's rule in the state completed its 6 months.
- ❖ It implies that now all the policy decisions related to Jammu and Kashmir will be taken by the Union Cabinet.

92. (1) If at any time the Sadar-i-Riyasat is satisfied that a situation has arisen in which the Government of the State cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution, the Sadar-i-Riyasat may by Proclamation:

(a) assume to himself all or any of the functions of the Government of the State and all or any of the powers vested in or exercisable by anybody or authority in the State;

(b) make such incidental and consequential provisions as appear to the Sadar-i-Riyasat to be necessary or desirable for giving effect to the objects of the Proclamation, including provisions for suspending in whole or in part the operation of any provision of this Constitution relating to any body or authority in the State:

Provided that nothing in this section shall authorise the Sadar-i-Riyasat to assume to himself any of the powers vested in or exercisable by the High Court or to suspend in whole or in part the operation of any provision of this Constitution relating to the High Court.

(2) Any such Proclamation may be revoked or carried by a subsequent Proclamation.

(3) Any such Proclamation whether varied under sub-section (2) or not, shall, except where it is a Proclamation revoking a previous Proclamation, cease to operate on the expiration of six months from the date on which it was first issued.

- ❖ Now, the legislative powers of the state shall be exercised under the authority of Parliament.
- ❖ In the case of J & K, which has a separate Constitution, six months of Governor's rule is mandatory before President's rule under Article 92 of its Constitution.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Sangeet Mahasamman award

- ❖ Popular singers Shaan and Arijit Singh were given the “Sangeet Mahasamman” award by the West Bengal government.
- ❖ It has been awarded at the inaugural session of the Bengal music and folk culture festival held in Kolkata.
- ❖ The West Bengal CM Mamta Banerjee inaugurated the 8-day Bangla Sangeet Mela (Bengal Music Festival) and Biswa Bangla Lok Sanskriti Utsav (Folk Culture Festival).

SPORTS

Golden Shoe Award

- ❖ Lionel Messi collected a record 5th Golden Shoe award for finishing the last season as the top goal scorer in Europe.



- ❖ The striker scored 34 goals in 68 games for Barcelona, putting himself ahead of Liverpool's Mohamed Salah and Tottenham's Harry Kane.
- ❖ Cristiano Ronaldo, who has won the award 4 times, hit 26 goals in 52 matches for Real Madrid.

Women's Asian Continental Champion

- ❖ Padmini Rout clinched the title at the 17th Asian Continental Chess Championship held at Makati city in the Philippines.
- ❖ Vidit Santosh Gujrathi won bronze in the men's section.



National Open Senior Chess Championships 2018

- ❖ Aravindh Chithambaram won his first-ever senior National Chess title in Jammu with 10 points.
- ❖ Krishna was the runner-up with 9.5 points.
- ❖ The 19-year old Aravindh became a Grand master in 2015.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Human Solidarity Day – 20 December

- ❖ The United Nations' (UN) International Human Solidarity Day is annually held on December 20 to celebrate unity in diversity and to raise public awareness of the importance of solidarity.
- ❖ Its objective is to eradicate poverty and promote human and social development in developing countries, in particular among the poorest segments of their populations.

‘Year of Tolerance’ – 2019

- ❖ The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has declared 2019 to be the “Year of Tolerance.”
- ❖ It highlights UAE as the Global Capital of Tolerance, instilling the values of co-existence and peace in local, regional and international communities.
- ❖ Earlier, the country had announced 2018 as the “Year of Zayed” and 2017 as the “Year of Giving”.
- ❖ In November 2018, a World Tolerance Summit was held in Dubai.
- ❖ The Year of Tolerance will focus on “Five Pillars”.

MISCELLANEOUS

Symbol for the year 2018

- ❖ Japan has selected Chinese-character of “Disaster” as a defining symbol for the year 2018.
- ❖ The year 2018 saw the country hit by deadly floods, earthquakes and heat storms.



- ❖ A kanji symbol for peace came at second place.
- ❖ The symbol was chosen in a public vote.
- ❖ "North" won the vote in 2017 after the North Korea's missile launches.



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