



January-15

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY), the flagship scheme of the Central Government for employment generation has crossed the milestone of one crore beneficiaries as on January 14, 2019.
- ❖ The President of India conferred the Honorary Rank of General of the Indian Army on Sukirtimaya Rashtradeep General Purna Chandra Thapa.
 - The Chief of the Army Staff, Nepalese Army is awarded for fostering Nepal's long and friendly association with India.

NATIONAL

Sita Rama Irrigation Project

Godavari water for irrigation		
	Sita Rama LI Project	Kannepalli LI Scheme
Proposed water utilisation 	70.4 TMC ft	4.5 TMC ft
Proposed ayacut 	9,36,000 acres	45,527 acres
	₹ 11,932 crore	₹ 499 crore
Land required	12,212 acres	3,642 acres
Forest land	4825 acres	645 acres
Submergence area	4825 acres	

- ❖ Telangana government has been given the green nod for its Sita Rama Lift Irrigation Project.
- ❖ The lift irrigation project will divert Godavari river water from upstream of existing Dummugudem Anicut to irrigate 2,72,921 hectares of Bhadradri Kothagudem, Khammam and Mahabubabad districts of Telangana.



- ❖ The objective of the project is to provide water for irrigation as well as to enroute tanks, villages, towns and supplement some of the existing/ proposed irrigation schemes.

Trishna gas project

- ❖ The National Wildlife Board has given its approval for the Trishna Gas project of ONGC.
- ❖ The state-owned ONGC Tripura Asset would soon start extracting the natural gas from Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary in Belonia subdivision of Gomati district.
- ❖ The National Wildlife Board, following recommendations from the state Wildlife Board, has cleared the project.

National Wildlife Board

- ❖ National Board for Wild Life (NBWL) is a “Statutory Organization” constituted under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
- ❖ The NBWL is chaired by the Prime Minister.
- ❖ It serves as apex body to review all wildlife-related matters and approve projects in and around national parks and sanctuaries.

Global Housing Technology Challenge

- ❖ The Centre will offer about Rs150 crore as a technology innovation grant to build 6,000 homes – cheaper, faster and better using alternative technologies and materials.
- ❖ In charge Ministry: Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation.

Judges of Supreme Court

- ❖ The Justices Dinesh Maheshwari and Sanjiv Khanna were sworn-in as Supreme Court judge.
- ❖ The Chief Justice of India (CJI) Ranjan Gogoi administered the oath of office to justices Maheshwari and Khanna during the swearing-in ceremony.

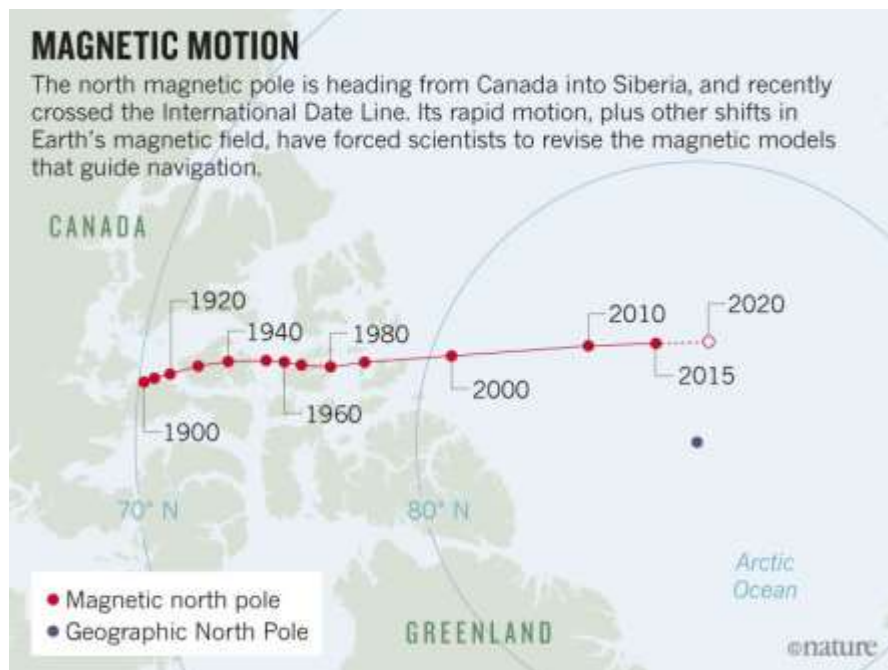


- ❖ The sanctioned strength of judges in the Supreme Court is 31. With the swearing-in of justices Maheshwari and Khanna, the strength has now gone up to 28.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Magnetic North Pole movement

- ❖ Researchers say the magnetic North Pole is skittering away from Canada, towards Siberia.
- ❖ It is driven by liquid iron sloshing within the planet's core.



- ❖ On 15th January, Scientists are set to update the World Magnetic Model, which describes the planet's magnetic field and underlies all modern navigation, from the systems that steer ships at sea to Google Maps on smartphones.

STATES

Ban on formalin fishes

- ❖ The Bihar government banned the sale, transportation and storage of fish for 15 days in Patna Municipal corporation area.
- ❖ The ban was imposed after high contents of formalin, lead, mercury and cadmium were found in fish samples.

SOMETHING FISHY ABOUT IT		HOW TO DEAL WITH IT?
WHAT IS FORMALIN? > Formalin (chemical formaldehyde in water), is a common adulterant used by traders and suppliers to extend the storage life of fish  > There is increasing use of formalin in freshwater fish sent from AP to northeastern states	ITS DANGERS Ingesting large amounts of formaldehyde can cause abdominal pain, vomiting, coma, renal injury and possible death 	> Wash fish thoroughly with running tap water > Cook fish to a temperature of 75 degrees C > Check fish for adulteration with a paper strip-based kit, 'CIFTest' 
		SOME STATES AT SEA Goa, Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, TN, Kerala & Meghalaya

- ❖ The ban has been imposed under the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.
- ❖ The use of formalin and other heavy metals beyond the normal limit may cause various ailments in humans like pneumonia, bronchitis, Hepatitis and cancer.

Turtle Festival – Odisha

- ❖ Odisha's Puri beach witnessed its first turtle festival on January 13, 2019.



- ❖ Odisha has half of the world's Olive Ridley turtle population and 90 per cent of India's turtle population lives in the state.

Background

- ❖ There are five sea turtle species in the Indian waters — Leatherback (Vulnerable), Loggerhead (Endangered), Hawksbill (Critically Endangered), Green (Endangered) and Olive Ridley.
- ❖ In India, sea turtles are protected under the Indian Wildlife Protection Act of 1972.
- ❖ Olive Ridley is recognized as Vulnerable by the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) Red list.



- ❖ International trade in these turtles and their products is banned under CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) Appendix I.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Philip Kotler Presidential award

- ❖ The Prime Minister Narendra Modi was awarded the “first ever” Philip Kotler Presidential Award by the World Marketing Summit India.
- ❖ The WMS has previously only given awards to recognise achievements in advertising and marketing.
- ❖ The Award focuses on the triple bottom-line of People, Profit and Planet.



- ❖ It will be offered annually to the leader of a Nation.

Gandhi Peace Prize

- ❖ The Gandhi Peace Prize for the years 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 has been conferred on the following
 - 1) Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari for the year 2015 for their contribution in Rural Development, Education, Development of natural resources.
 - 2) For 2016 jointly to Akshaya Patra Foundation for its contribution in providing mid-day meals to millions of children across India and Sulabh International for its contribution in improving the condition of sanitation in India and emancipation of manual scavengers.
 - 3) Ekal Abhiyan Trust for the year 2017 for their contribution in providing Education for Rural and Tribal Children in remote areas of pan India, Rural Empowerment, Gender and Social Equality
 - 4) Yohei Sasakawa for the year 2018 for his contribution in Leprosy Eradication in India and across the world.



- ❖ The annual award was instituted by the Government of India in 1995 during the commemoration of 125th Birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

Gandhi Peace Prize

- ❖ The Gandhi Peace Prize is given to individuals and institutions for their contribution towards social, economic and political transformation through non-violence and other Gandhian methods.
- ❖ The Ministry of Culture is the nodal agency to receive the proposals for conferring the award.
- ❖ This is the first time that the awardees of four years have been announced together ever since the award was instituted in 1995.
- ❖ The award carries a cash prize of Rs 1 crore, a citation and a handicraft item.

The Hindu Prize 2018

- ❖ The Hindu Literary Prize or The Hindu Best Fiction Award is an Indian literary award sponsored by The Hindu Literary Review which is part of the newspaper The Hindu.
- ❖ It was established in 2010.
- ❖ It recognizes the Indian works in English and English translation.

The Hindu Prize 2018 Fiction Shortlist

Book	Author
Half the Night is Gone	Amitabha Bagchi
A Day in the Life: Stories	Anjum Hasan
All the Lives We Never Lived	Anuradha Roy
Requiem in Raga Janki	Neelum Saran Gour
Poonachi	Perumal Murugan & N Kalyan Raman
The Aunt Who Wouldn't Die	Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay & Arunava Sinha



The Hindu Prize 2018 Non-Fiction Shortlist

Book	Author
Interrogating My Chandal Life	Manoranjan Byapari & Sipra Mukherjee
The Bengalis	Sudeep Chakravarti
Remnants of a Separation	Aanchal Malhotra
Indira Gandhi: A Life in Nature	Jairam Ramesh
The Most Dangerous Place: A History of the United States in South Asia	Srinath Raghavan

Sushila Devi Literature Award



- ❖ The Writer Namita Gokhale has won the Sushila Devi Literature Award for her novel “Things to Leave Behind”.
- ❖ She was awarded in the ‘Best Book of Fiction Written by a Woman Author’ category at the inaugural edition of the Bhopal Literature and Art Festival (BLF).
