

January-16

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has given its approval to setup Integrated E-filing & Centralized Processing Center 2.0 Project of the Income Tax Department.
- ❖ 38-year-old K Dhanya Sanal, spokesperson for the Union Ministry of Defence, became the first woman to reach Agasthyarkudam peak, a biodiversity hotspot and the second highest peak of Kerala.
- ❖ Indo-American Raja Krishnamoorthi has been appointed as a member of a Congressional committee on intelligence, becoming the first South Asian to serve in the powerful body tasked to strengthen U.S.'s national security.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's D Gukesh, became the second youngest Grandmaster in the world and the youngest Indian to achieve the feat at 12 years, seven months and 17 days. Gukesh beat the mark set by his state-mate R Praggnanandhaa.
 - Gukesh is now the second youngest Grandmaster in the World after Sergey Karjakin.
- ❖ Mohammed Ali Qamar, the man who won India's first Commonwealth Games gold medal in boxing, has taken over as the chief coach for the country's female boxers.
 - He has replaced veteran Shiv Singh.
- ❖ The Indian cricket team's captain Virat Kohli and coach Ravi Shastri on January 11, 2019 received the honorary membership of the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) for their contribution to the sport of cricket.
- ❖ The Parliamentarians of the Republic of Macedonia voted to change their country's name to the "Republic of North Macedonia". The move now awaits approval from Greece's Parliament.

TAMIL NADU

Chennai Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority (CUMTA)

- ❖ The Chennai Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority (CUMTA) Act and its relevant rules were finally notified in the Gazette after Eight years it has received the Governor's assent (November 27, 2010).

- ❖ The Chief Urban Planner (Transport) of Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) will be the Chief Executive officer of CUMTA under whose control the authority will function.
- ❖ The Eminent person in traffic and transportation expert having knowledge of and experience in the field of transport planning, management, operations, engineering economics and disciplines related to urban transport will be nominated by government.

Robo cop 'Rodeo'

- ❖ Rodeo, a Robo cop was inaugurated by the Chennai city police commissioner in the road safety gallery at the Chennai traffic police office at vepery.
- ❖ A team consisting of 23 kids from SP Robotic Works have designed the robot.
- ❖ It can do multiple tasks like rotating to face the visitors and deliver road safety related messages.

Tamil Nadu defence industrial corridor

- ❖ The Union Government will launch a defence industrial corridor in Tamil Nadu on 20th January.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu industrial corridor will connect Chennai, Hosur, Coimbatore, Salem and Tiruchirappalli.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh corridor was launched at Aligarh in August 2018 and saw investment announcements to the tune of Rs 3,732 crore being made.





NATIONAL

103rd Constitutional Amendment Act

- ❖ The President has given his assent to the 124th constitutional Amendment Bill (which is now 103rd Constitution Amendment Act) providing 10 per cent reservation for economically weaker sections on 12 January 2019.
- ❖ The Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment Thaawarchand Gehlot introduced the Reservation Bill in Lok Sabha on 08 January 2019 and the bill was passed with 323 'yes' and only 3 'nos'.
- ❖ Rajya Sabha also passed the Bill with 165 votes in its favour and 7 against on 09 January 2019.

Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2019

- ❖ The National awards for children have been revamped as Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2019 and will include the bravery awards category too.
- ❖ Till last year, national Bravery category were organised by the NGO 'Indian Council for Child Welfare'.
- ❖ For the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2019 the Ministry of Women and Child Development ministry has shortlisted 26 awardees.
- ❖ The awards will be given by the President of India on January 22 in the run-up to Republic Day.
- ❖ Except for bravery, children in the other categories were earlier given the national awards on Children's Day.

National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (2018-2023)

- ❖ The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has drafted a five-year action plan for addressing the problem of drug and substance abuse in the country.
- ❖ Its aims to employ a multi-pronged strategy to address the issue.
- ❖ It involves education, de-addiction and rehabilitation of affected individuals and their families.



Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Protsahan Yojana

- ❖ The Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY), the flagship scheme of the Union Government for employment generation, crossed the milestone of one crore beneficiaries on January 14, 2019.
- ❖ This scheme was announced on August 07, 2016 and is being implemented by the Union Ministry of Labour and Employment through the Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO).
- ❖ A direct benefit of the scheme is that these workers have access to social security benefit through Provident Fund, Pension and Death Linked Insurance.

STATES

10 % Reservation for economically weaker sections

- ❖ Days after the bill on 10 per cent reservation was passed in the parliament, the Gujarat government implemented the amended law of reservation in state government jobs and education for the economically weaker sections (EWS) in the general category from 14th January, 2019.
- ❖ With this, Gujarat has become the first state in the country to implement the new provision.
- ❖ After Gujarat, Telangana is also set to become the 2nd state in the country to implement the 10% reservation for economically weaker sections (EWS).

Jai Kisan Rin Mukti Yojana

- ❖ The Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath launched his government's Rs 50,000-crore farm debt-waiver scheme named 'Jai Kisan Rin Mukti Yojana'.
- ❖ The State cabinet gave its nod to waive crop loans of 55 lakh farmers while extending the eligibility cut-off date to December 12, 2018, from March 31, 2018.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Indian Army Day – January 15


- ❖ The Indian Army celebrated its 71st Army Day on January 15, 2019.

- ❖ Every year Indian Army celebrates 15th January as 'Army Day' to commemorate the day when General (later Field Marshal) K M Cariappa took over the command of Army from General Sir FRR Bucher, the last British Commander-in-Chief in 1949 and became the first Commander-in-Chief of Indian Army post Independence.

MISCELLANEOUS

World's Youngest to Climb 7 Volcanic Peaks

- ❖ The Mountaineer Satyarup Siddhanta, 35, climbed Antarctica's highest point, Mount Sidley.
- ❖ With this he become the youngest man in the World to have climbed the seven highest volcanic peaks.
- ❖ He holds the record of conquering several summits such as Mt Kilimanjaro in Africa, Mt Elbrus in Europe, Mt Denali in Alaska and Mt Mont Blanc in France.



Brink of breaking the world record – Youngest person to climb the 7 summits and 7 volcanic summits


To be the **first Indian** to climb the 7 volcanic summits
To be the **first Indian** to climb Mt Sidley, the highest volcano in Antarctica
To be the **first Indian** to climb both the 7 summits and 7 volcanic summits

5th civilian from India to climb the 7 summits - the highest mountain of each of the continents

2nd Indian to climb the highest volcano in the world – Mt Ojos Del Salado

1st person to play the **National Anthem** of India in flute at Antarctica
Skied the last degree to **South Pole** covering 111 km over 6 days

1st person to sing the **National anthem** at the top of Pico De Orizaba – the highest volcano of North America



7 Summits

Kilimanjaro	Denali	Everest
Elbrus	Kosciuszko	
Aconcagua	Vinson Massif	
Mont Blanc	Carstensz Pyramid	
Wilhelm		

Volcanic 7 Summits

Ojos Del Salado	Damavand
Elbrus	Kilimanjaro
Giluwe	Pico De Orizaba
	Mt Sidley

