



January – 22

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The President of the Indian Weightlifting Federation (IWF), Birendra Prasad Baishya, has been named Chef de Mission for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.
 - It is for the first time that the Weightlifting has been accorded with the honour of Chef de Mission for the Olympics.
- ❖ The Constitutional court of Democratic Republic of Congo confirmed the President's election victory of Felix Tshisekedi of UDPS party making path for the first peaceful, democratic transfer of Power since Congo's Independence in 1960.

NATIONAL

Aadhaar – A Valid Travel document

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has announced that Aadhaar Cards are now valid travel documents for Indians under 15 and over 65 years travelling to Nepal and Bhutan.
- ❖ However, Indians belonging to the age bracket of 15 to 65 years will not be able to use Aadhaar to travel to the two neighbouring countries.
- ❖ Earlier, people over 65 and under 15 years could show PAN card, driving licence, ration card, but not the Aadhaar, to prove their identity to visit the two countries.

ECONOMY

Committee on GST Revenue Shortfall

- ❖ Bihar Deputy CM Sushil Modi will head the seven-member committee to analyse the revenue shortfall faced by states after the GST rollout.
- ❖ The shortfall in collection stood between 14-37% in the April-November period for states including Punjab, Gujarat, Goa, Bihar and Himachal Pradesh.
- ❖ Among the union territories, Puducherry is facing maximum shortfall of 43%.
- ❖ Only Andhra Pradesh and 5 north-eastern states Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Sikkim and Nagaland have recorded revenue increase post the GST roll out.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Website to Aid Handloom Weavers

- ❖ Microsoft India launched a new e-commerce platform 're-weave.in' under its project ReWeave to aid handloom weavers.
- ❖ This e-commerce platform will help to connect the artisans to buyers directly, enabling them to expand to newer customers and markets.
- ❖ Microsoft in association with the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) has also curated a special curriculum in 'CAD and Colour for Handloom Weaving' to provide digital training in handloom design.
- ❖ Project ReWeave was initiated by Microsoft India (R&D) Private Limited in 2016 as part of its Philanthropies efforts.

US spy satellite

- ❖ A US spy satellite has been launched into orbit from California.
- ❖ A powerful Delta 4 Heavy rocket carrying the National Reconnaissance Office satellite blasted off from Vandenberg Air Force Base.
- ❖ The mission, dubbed as NROL-7, is the company's 132nd successful launch since it was formed in December 2006.
- ❖ This was the second attempt after the launch was postponed because of a communication problem between the control centre and the launch site.
- ❖ The National Reconnaissance Office is responsible for U.S. intelligence satellites.
- ❖ United Launch Alliance is a joint venture of Lockheed Martin and Boeing.

STATES

Logo for Tripura tea unveiled

- ❖ The CM of Tripura has recently unveiled the official logo of Tripura Tea.
- ❖ The Tripura Tea logo features Neermahal, the iconic landmark of Tripura.
- ❖ Neermahal was built by then Tripura King Bir Bikram Kishore Debbarman Manikya in the middle of Rudrasagar Lake, as his summer residence.



- ❖ This is the largest water palace in India and one of two water palaces in India. The other water palace of India is located at Jal Mahal in Rajasthan.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Franco-German human rights award

- ❖ A detained Chinese rights lawyer Yu Wensheng has won a Franco-German human rights award.



- ❖ It has been awarded to him for his 'exceptional contribution' to the protection and promotion of human rights.
- ❖ Yu Wensheng, who is in pretrial detention on subversion charges, has been held incommunicado by authorities in Jiangsu's Xuzhou city for more than a year.



- ❖ His wife Xu Yan received the Franco-German Prize for Human Rights and the Rule of Law on her husband's behalf from the French and German ambassadors to China.

ICSI lifetime Achievement award

- ❖ Industrialist and Godrej Group Chairman Adi Godrej was conferred the ICSIs Lifetime Achievement Award for 'Translating Excellence in Corporate Governance into Reality.



- ❖ The awards were instituted by The Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI), which is celebrating its golden jubilee.
- ❖ The 18th ICSI National Awards for Excellence in Corporate Governance were bagged jointly by Cipla Ltd and Dabur India Ltd and 5 others
 - ACC Ltd, Hindustan Unilever Ltd, Indian Oil Corp, Tata Metaliks Ltd and Indian Hotels Co Ltd.
- ❖ The 3rd CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) Excellence Awards
 - GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd, (Emerging category)
 - Tata Power Co Ltd. (Medium category)
 - Ambuja Cements Ltd. (Large category)

Woman's Voice Award - AKLF 2019

- ❖ US Based Indian poet Ranjani Murali was awarded with the "Woman's Voice Award" on the last day of Apeejay Kolkata Literary Festival (AKLF).
- ❖ The Objective of the award is to recognize and encourage creative writing by women in India.



- ❖ Ranjani Murali's second book "Clearly you are ESL" won the Great Indian Poetry Collectives (GIPCs) Editor's Choice award.
- ❖ Her first book "Blind Screens" was published in July 2017.

Sansad Ratna Award

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Governor Banwarilal Purohit presented the Sansad Ratna Award to BJP leader Anurag Thakur in Chennai.
- ❖ He was bestowed with Sansad Ratna Award for his distinguished performance as a parliamentarian.
- ❖ With the win he became the first MP from the BJP, besides being the only Member of Parliament from north India, to have been awarded by the Jury Committee Special Award.
- ❖ The Sansad Ratna Awards was set up in 2010 upon the suggestion of former President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, with the purpose of celebrating the performers of Indian Parliamentarians.

Sheikh Saud International Prize for Materials Research

- ❖ Eminent Indian scientist, CNR Rao, was chosen for the first Sheikh Saud International Prize for Materials Research by the Centre for Advanced Materials of the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- ❖ Chintamani Nagesa Ramachandra Rao, popularly known as CNR Rao was awarded with the highest Civilian award, Bharat Ratna in 2014.
- ❖ Presently he is working as the Honorary President of Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research.

IMPORTANT DAYS

47th Statehood Day – 21 January

- ❖ Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura are celebrating their 47th statehood day on 21 January, 2019.
- ❖ On this day in 1972, all the 3 states became full-fledged states under the North Eastern Region (Reorganisation) Act, 1971.



- ❖ The erstwhile princely states of Tripura and Manipur were merged with India in 1949.
- ❖ Meghalaya was a part of Assam before it was carved out as a full-fledged state.

