

January – 27

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Ministry of Defence has launched 'RDP INDIA 2019' mobile app on the 70th Republic Day. Using the mobile application, people can watch the highlights of this year's Republic Day parade at the Rajpath.
 - The new initiative is in sync with the Digital India campaign of the government.
- ❖ The coast guards of India and Japan undertook disaster control, search and rescue exercises off the coast of Yokohama in Japan. India had hosted the Japanese ships for the exercise last year and this time Japan is hosting the exercise.
 - ICGS Shaunak is the main Indian ship taking part in the drills.

TAMIL NADU

TN bagged awards for BBBP scheme

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu State government bagged 2 awards for its performance pertaining to the Union government's Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme at the National Girl Child Day celebrations in New Delhi.



- ❖ Tamil Nadu was selected for its good performance on BBBP in the category “overall support, guidance, monitoring and achieving the targets of BBBP”.
- ❖ The State won praise for bringing out a guide book on BBBP in Tamil.
- ❖ Tiruvannamalai district was selected for district-level BBBP award under the category of “Effective community management”.

Global Investors Meet (GIM) 2019

- ❖ The second edition of Global Investors Meet (GIM) 2019 was held (Jan 23,24) at Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The T.N. government signed 304 Memoranda of Understanding and agreements entailing investments to the tune of over Rs.3,00,431 crore at GIM-2.

GIM IN NUMBERS The MoUs include investment commitments from companies from countries like Japan, Korea and Germany, the CM said

Sector	No. of MoUs	Investment commitment (₹ Cr)	Employment potential
Major industry (manufacturing)	146	1,54,648	4,73,871
MSME (small businesses)	12,360	32,206	2,90,057
Housing	70	57,381	92,526
Energy	15	40,700	14,235
IT	10	11,674	1,66,171
Higher Education	50	1,013	6,797
Tourism	8	642	1,284
School Education	3	157	1,200
Agriculture	2	2,010	10,000

POLICIES IN PIPELINE

TEXTILE | The government is working on a new policy for the textile industry. “A new integrated textile policy will be unveiled soon. It will have incentives for the sector,” said textile minister OS Manian

ELECTRONIC MANUFACTURING | “With an eye on capturing ‘at least 10%’ of the \$1-trillion electronics market opportunity in India, a draft policy is almost ready and we are hoping to release it in February,” said IT secretary Santhosh Babu. The policy will be in line with the National Electronics Policy 2.0

RENEWABLE ENERGY | TN Solar Energy Policy has been drafted and finalised. It will be released in a week, said state energy secretary Md Nasimuddin. Apart from incentives for solar power projects, the policy will also speak about rooftop solar power projects.

- ❖ MSME ‘s alone account for 11% of the total investments, a significant increase from 7% in the inaugural GIM.
- ❖ The first edition of the Global Investors Meet was held on 2015 at Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

NATIONAL

Indian Africa Field Training Exercise (IAFTX)

- ❖ Indian Africa Field Training Exercise (IAFTX) will be held at Pune from 18 March to 27 March 2019.



- ❖ IAFTX joint exercise is being conducted between India and a dozen African Countries.
- ❖ The joint exercise aims at synergising humanitarian mine action and joint peace operations.
- ❖ The exercise is being conducted with an aim to synergise United Nations peacekeeping operations.

INTERNATIONAL

Bloomberg Innovation Index 2019

- ❖ The 2019 Bloomberg Innovation Index' of 60 economies, which lists most innovative countries in the world, has been released recently.
- ❖ India has been placed in the Index for the first time ever and has grabbed 54th spot in the Bloomberg Innovation Index.



- ❖ UAE, Saudi Arabia, Mexico, Vietnam, Brazil, Kuwait, Qatar, Chile, Argentina, Slovenia are the countries which have been ranked for the first time.
- ❖ South Korea has topped the Bloomberg Innovation Index for the sixth time in a row with a total score of 87.38.
- ❖ It is followed by Germany, Finland, Switzerland, Israel, Singapore, Sweden, U.S., Japan and France in the top 10.
- ❖ The United States has regained its position under the top 10 this year after the nation had been dropped from the top 10 from 2018 Bloomberg Innovation Index.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

BSNL to Offer Data Connectivity Services via SMS in India

- ❖ BSNL has signed a partnership agreement with the French company Be-Bound to offer data connectivity through SMS in areas where there is no Internet connectivity or signal breaks.
- ❖ This technology was first introduced in France and it is also being tested in some of the African countries.
- ❖ The SMS based data connectivity will work with the help of a technology embedded in a mobile App.
- ❖ The app will detect if the user's area has poor network connectivity. If yes, then the app will send commands to the Be-Bound server.
- ❖ Be-Bound server will facilitate SMS based data connectivity after getting a command from the app.
- ❖ The connectivity is based on SMS sent to-and-fro between the app and the Be-Bound server.



'Lightest satellite' Kalamsat V2 launched into orbit

- ❖ ISRO has launched the Kalamsat-V2 from Sriharikota space centre using Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) – a four-stage rocket.
- ❖ The satellite is named after former president and Indian scientist Dr Abdul Kalam.
- ❖ It is the lightest satellite to be ever built and launched into orbit and it is also ISRO's first launch of a satellite built by a private firm.
- ❖ It is a communications satellite for ham radio transmission, a form of wireless communication used by amateurs for non-commercial activities.

- ❖ The satellite is being built by students belonging to Space Kidz India, a Chennai-based space education firm.
- ❖ The satellite cost 1.2m Indian rupees and was built during the span of six days.
- ❖ ISRO has made an attempt to recover the dead rocket stage in this launch by converting 4th stage into an experimental orbital platform to conduct small experiments in space.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Bharat Ratna Award 2019

- ❖ The President conferred the 2019 Bharat Ratna Award, country's highest civilian honour, on former president and Congress leader Pranab Mukherjee.
- ❖ The award was also conferred on RSS ideologue Nanaji Deshmukh and singer Bhupen Hazarika, both posthumously.
- ❖ Bharat Ratna is the highest civilian award of India that was instituted on January 2, 1954 by the order of Rajendra Prasad, the former President of India.

Ashoka Chakra

- ❖ India's highest peacetime gallantry honour, Ashoka Chakra was awarded to Lance Naik Nazir Wani posthumously.



- ❖ Lance Naik Nazir Wani also holds the distinction of being the first Kashmiri to be conferred the Ashoka Chakra.

- ❖ He single-handedly killed two terrorists during the Shopian operation and injured a third one despite receiving serious injuries.
- ❖ Ashoka Chakra is India's highest peacetime military decoration awarded for valour, courageous action or self-sacrifice away from the battlefield.

SPORTS

Chennai Open International Grand Master chess tournament

- ❖ Georgia's Levan Pantsulaia defeated GM Maxim Lugovskoy (Russia) and won the 11th Chennai Open International Grand Master chess tournament.
- ❖ This was Levan's second successive win after he had won the Delhi open a fortnight ago.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's M Pranesh, secured his maiden International Master (IM) norm during the tournament.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International holocaust Remembrance Day – 27 January

- ❖ International Holocaust Remembrance Day was observed all over the world on 27th January 2019.
- ❖ The day commemorates the tragedy of the Holocaust that occurred during the 2nd World War.
- ❖ 27th January was designated as the International holocaust Remembrance Day by the UNGA resolution on 1st November 2005 in the 42nd Plenary session.
- ❖ On 27 January 1945, Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi concentration and death camp, was liberated by the Red Army.


