



January – 28

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Union Minister Rajyavardhan Rathore has inaugurated a National declamation contest on Patriotism and nation-building. It was organized by Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKC) along with Department of Youth affairs.
- ❖ The Oxford Dictionaries announced that the word 'Nari Shakti' (women empowerment) which is derived from Sanskrit has been chosen as the Hindi Word of the year for 2018.
- ❖ The historic Diggi Palace is hosting the 12th (5-day) Jaipur Literature Festival. The Jaipur Literature Festival is an annual literary festival which takes place in the Indian city of Jaipur each January.
 - It was founded in 2006, and from 2008 it has been produced by Teamwork Arts.

NATIONAL

Bio-Jet fuel for Military Aircraft

- ❖ The Centre for Military Airworthiness and Certification (CEMILAC), a premier military certification agency, has cleared the use of indigenously produced bio-fuel for use in the military aircraft.
- ❖ The Indian Air Force is expected to use bio fuel for its transport fleet and helicopters following this clearance.
- ❖ In a first for the Republic Day parade, the IAF flew an An-32 aircraft in 'vic' & 'satluj' formation, whose lead plane used a mix of traditional and biofuel during the grand event.
- ❖ The bio-jet fuel has been produced from seeds of Jatropha plant sourced from Chhattisgarh and processed at CSIR-IIP's lab at Dehradun.

LRSAM Test from coast of Odisha

- ❖ India has successfully flight-tested Long Range Surface-to-Air Missile (LRSAM) from a warship off Odisha coast.
- ❖ The LRSAM successfully destroyed a low flying aerial target.

- ❖ LRSAM has been jointly developed by DRDO, India and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) for the Indian Navy.
- ❖ The LRSAM was test fired in operational configuration on board INS Chennai positioned in the Arabian Sea.

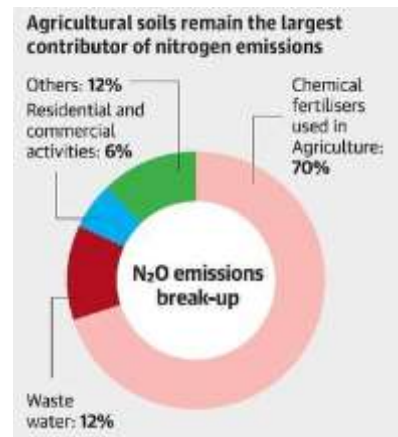
New norms for Jan Shikshan Sansthan

- ❖ The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has issued new guidelines for Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS).
- ❖ The new guidelines are issued as part of an attempt by the MSDE to re-energize and reinvigorate the Jan Shikshan Sansthan.
- ❖ Some of the highlights of these guidelines are,
 - Aligning of JSS program and curriculum to Nationwide Talent Qualification Framework (NSQF) to enhance teaching.
 - Decentralisation of powers for JSSs by supplying additional accountability and independence to district administration.
- ❖ JSS were established to provide vocational training to non-literate, neo-literate, as well as school dropouts by identifying skills as would have a market in the region of their establishment.

INTERNATIONAL

UK to support nitrogen research in India

- ❖ The UK government has announced a research project to study Nitrogen pollution in India and South Asia.
- ❖ The South Asian Nitrogen Hub will be led by United Kingdom's "Centre for Ecology and Hydrology" under the new partnership programme.
- ❖ India is the only South Asian country which has completed its Nitrogen Assessment and now it is Co-leading the South Asian Assessment for the UN Environment.
- ❖ The five-year programme is being established with funds from the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI).





- ❖ Nitrogen pollution is one of the emerging environmental problem and it is caused by emissions from chemical fertilizers, livestock manure & burning of fossil fuels.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

World's longest 3D printed concrete bridge opened in china

- ❖ The World's longest 3D printed concrete bridge was opened in China.
- ❖ It is located on the Wenzaobang River in Shanghai.



- ❖ The Bridge is designed by Professor Xy Weiguo from Tsinghua University in China.
- ❖ The bridge is of 26.3 metre-long and 3.6-metre-wide and is made out of 44 hollowed-out 3D printed concrete blocks.

ENVIRONMENT

State Tiger Protection Force - Telangana

- ❖ The Telangana government has decided to form a 'State Tiger Protection Force' to save the Big Cat population in the State.
- ❖ The State Forest Protection Committee headed by Chief Secretary S K Joshi took the decision to form the STPF.
- ❖ The 112-member-armed STPF will be headed by an Assistant Conservator of Forests to protect the tiger population in Amarabad and Kawal Tiger Reserves.
- ❖ The State and Central government will share the cost of the force on 40:60 basis.

STATES

Yuva Swabhiman Yojana

- ❖ The Madhya Pradesh CM Kamal Nath has launched 'Yuva Swabhiman Yojana' for youths of the weak section in urban areas of Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ Under this scheme, 100 days of employment will be provided to youths from economically weaker sections in urban areas.
- ❖ They will also be given skill training.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Best Miniratna PSU

- ❖ Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) received best Miniratna PSU in strategic performance financial category award at 6th PSU awards function held in New Delhi.
- ❖ NRL is a mini ratna company in Assam owned by Bharat Petroleum.
- ❖ It is a joint venture between Bharat Petroleum, Oil India and Government of Assam.
- ❖ The awards are given out in recognition to the effect of Public Sector Undertakings (PSU) who have played a key role in Country's growth.

SPORTS

Australian Open 2019

- ❖ The Australian Open which is the first of the four Grand Slam tennis event concluded at Melbourne in Australia.
- ❖ The Winners of the Australian Open 2019 are

Category	Winners
Men's Singles	Novak Djokovic (Serbia)
Women's Singles	Naomi Osaka (Japan)
Men's Doubles	Pierre-Hugues Herbert & Nicolas Mahut - France
Women's Doubles	Samantha Stosur (Australia) & Zhang Shuai (China)



Mixed Doubles	Barbora Krejcikova (Czech Republic's) & Rajeev Ram (US)
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- ❖ Novak Djokovic of Serbia become the first man to win seven titles at Australian Open.



- ❖ Apart from Australian Open, Other Grand Slam tennis events are French Open, Wimbledon, and the US Open.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Leprosy Day - last Sunday of January

- ❖ The World Leprosy Day is observed internationally every year on the last Sunday of January to increase the public awareness of the Leprosy or Hansen's Disease.
- ❖ In 2019 the World Leprosy Day falls on 27th January and will be observed in India on January 30 (Gandhi's death anniversary).
- ❖ This year the day focuses on the target of zero cases of leprosy-related disabilities in children.
- ❖ The day was initiated in 1954 by French philanthropist and writer, Raoul Follereau, as a way to raise global awareness of this deadly ancient disease.
