



February – 11

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Prime Minister has launched DD Arun Prabha Channel in Itanagar of Arunchal Pradesh. It is Doordarshan's 2nd channel in north-eastern region after DD North East.
- ❖ The Ministry of Textiles in association with Central Silk Board had organized an event "Surging Silk – Accomplishment and Way Forward" on 9th February 2019 at in New Delhi.
- ❖ Ministry of Environment launched a three-year Asiatic Lion Conservation Project in collaboration with the state of Gujarat, which is the last habitat of the big cat.
 - Gujarat government also implemented Rs 80 crore that will be spent on specialised veterinary hospitals and full-fledged ambulances for lions.
- ❖ The Government of Meghalaya has decided to rename the Dikkibandi stadium after P A Sangma.
 - Along with the Dikkibandi stadium, a junction leading to AMPT road in Tura have been renamed after P.A Sangma.
- ❖ The Prime Minister unveiled a statue of Tripura's last ruler, Maharaja Bir Bikram Kishore Manikya at the Agartala airport.

TAMIL NADU

Tamil Nadu Budget 2019-20

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Deputy Chief Minister O. Panneerselvam presented the State's Budget for the Financial Year 2019-20 in the Tamil Nadu Assembly on 8th February 2019.

Highlights

- ❖ Tamil Nadu's fiscal deficit is estimated to be Rs. 44,176.36 crore in 2019-20. It will be 2.56% of state GSDP, below the norm of 3% fiscal norm.
- ❖ 3000 scooters will be provided for differently-abled persons.
- ❖ Organic Certification Centres will be set up in all districts to promote Organic Farming.
- ❖ Government proposes to distribute 240 units of Navic, 160 units Isat-2 satellite phones and 160 units of Navtex instruments to 80 clusters of deep-sea fishing boats.



- ❖ Government proposes to purchase 2,000 electric buses.
- ❖ State govt has earmarked Rs 25 crore to support NGOs for starting new schools in interior tribal areas for the benefit of tribal students.
- ❖ "CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE" under TNeGA to harness artificial intelligence, big data, machine learning, drones and IoT will be set up.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Health Systems Reforms Programme will be launched with World Bank's support.
- ❖ Government proposed solar power projects in Theni, Salem and Erode with a capacity of 250 MW.

NATIONAL

8 medical equipment appraised as 'drugs'

- ❖ The Union Health ministry has notified eight medical equipment, including all implantable devices, as "drugs" under Section 3 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, with effect from April 1, 2020.
- ❖ The medical equipment includes
 - All implantable medical devices,
 - CT scan,
 - MRI equipment,
 - Defibrillators,
 - Dialysis machine,
 - PET equipment,
 - X-ray machine and
 - Bone marrow cell separator.
- ❖ The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), a national medical device regulator is meanwhile working to make a way to regulate the sale and use of medical devices.



INTERNATIONAL

Exercise Cutlass Express 2019

- ❖ The annual multinational maritime exercise Cutlass Express was held from 27 January to 06 February 2019.
- ❖ Exercise Cutlass Express 2019 is the eighth edition of the annual multinational maritime exercise and was held in the vicinity of Djibouti, Mozambique and Seychelles.
- ❖ The Indian Navy was represented in the exercise through INS Trikand.
- ❖ It is aimed to improve law enforcement capacity, promote regional security and progress inter-operability between the armed forces of the participating nations for the purpose of interdicting illegal maritime activity in the Western Indian Ocean.
- ❖ The annual Exercise Cutlass Express is sponsored by U.S. Africa Command (USAFRICOM) and conducted by Naval Forces Africa (NAFAF).

ECONOMY

Authority for regulating all financial services

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved establishment of a unified authority for regulating all financial services in International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs) in India.
- ❖ It is done through International Financial Services Centres Authority Bill, 2019.
- ❖ The first IFSC in India has been set up at GIFT City, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Himalayan Cloud Observatory

- ❖ Himalayan Cloud Observatory has been set up in Tehri district at Uttarakhand with a motive to forecast and monitor cloudburst incidents in the Himalayan region and help minimizing the damage.
- ❖ The Observatory has been established in the SRT campus Badshahithaul and is currently in the testing period.



- ❖ This is the second observatory in the country to monitor cloud activities by the Indian Science and Technology Department and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur that can function in high-altitudes.

STATES

3rd administrative division of Jammu and Kashmir

- ❖ The cold desert region of Ladakh has been declared as the third administrative division of Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ Governor Satya Pal Malik's administration granted divisional status to the cold desert region which remains cut off from the outside world for six months due to harsh winter.
- ❖ This division will comprise Leh and Kargil districts, with Leh as the division's headquarters.
- ❖ The creation of two posts of Divisional Commissioner and Inspector General of Police (IGP) has been sanctioned for the new division.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Pulses Day 2019 - February 10

- ❖ February 10, 2019, was celebrated as the first World Pulses Day.
- ❖ The Year 2016 was celebrated as International Year of Pulses to highlight the contribution of Pulses to sustainable food production and towards food security and nutrition.



- ❖ Building on the positive momentum of the International Year of Pulses, the UN General Assembly passed the resolution to celebrate 10 February as World Pulses Day.
- ❖ It aims to keep the positive momentum surrounding these healthy, nutritious, protein-rich, nitrogen-fixing legumes alive after the FAO's (Food and Agriculture Organization) successful 2016 International Year of Pulses Campaign.

MISCELLANEOUS

ILO Centenary Celebrations

- ❖ International Labour Organisation (ILO) Centenary Celebrations in India were inaugurated by the Minister of State for Labour and Employment Santosh Gangwar at V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, Noida.



- ❖ India being a founding member has played an active role in every field of the organization.
- ❖ India has ratified 47 out of 189 ILO conventions during the century which includes all eight core conventions.

International Labour Organisation

- ❖ The International Labour Organization (ILO) is a United Nations agency that sets international labour standards and promotes social protection and work opportunities for all.
- ❖ ILO has 187-member states, 186 of the 193 UN member states plus the Cook Islands are members of the ILO.
- ❖ The tripartite structure is unique to the ILO where representatives from the government, employers and employees openly debate and create labour standards.
