

**October – 09**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ Goa will be hosting the 36th National Games which will be held from March 30 to April 14, 2019.

## **TAMIL NADU**

### **Fingerprint Analysis and Criminal Tracing System**

- ❖ A new Fingerprint ID system, FACTS 7.0 (Fingerprint Analysis and Criminal Tracing System)”, has been Installed at all the district headquarters and police Commissionerate of Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ FACTS 7.0, developed by Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has been in use, since October 4, 2018.
- ❖ It will be linked with the state crime records bureau’s (SCRB) data base in Chennai.

## **NATIONAL**

### **‘JIMEX 18’**

- ❖ The 3rd edition of Japan-India Maritime Exercise (JIMEX) commenced at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ JIMEX-18 is aimed at enhancing interoperability, improve understanding and imbibe best practices between navies of two countries.

### **JIMEX**

- ❖ India and Japan maritime exercise JIMEX was started in January 2012 with special focus on Maritime Security Cooperation.
- ❖ First time it was conducted off the Japanese coast.
- ❖ The second edition of JIMEX was conducted in December 2013 off Chennai.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Project Cyber Shikshaa

- ❖ Microsoft India and Data Security Council of India (DSCI) have launched a new programme called Cyber Shikshaa.
- ❖ Project Cyber Shikshaa focus on skilling women engineering graduates in the niche field of Cyber Security.
- ❖ It has been launched in association with Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY).
- ❖ The primary objective is to connect with underserved women from Tier 2 / Tier 3 cities and to align a career path for them in Cyber Security.
- ❖ Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC) will impart training to the selected women candidates from all over India.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Reconstitution of Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority

- ❖ Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has reconstituted Supreme Court-empowered Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA).
- ❖ This comes after tenure of the last EPCA expired on October 3, 2018.
- ❖ The reconstituted EPCA has 20 other members.
- ❖ Former IAS officers Bhure Lal will continue to be Chairman of reconstituted EPCA.
- ❖ EPCA is tasked with taking various measures to tackle air pollution in the National Capital Region.
- ❖ The EPCA is also mandated to enforce Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) in the city as per the pollution levels.

### MoU for environmental cooperation

- ❖ Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has signed MoU with UN Environment for coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development.



- ❖ The MoU aims to cover all major interest common areas of both CII and UN Environment.
- ❖ The major activity planned by CII and UN Environment under this MoU includes #Un-plastic Initiative.
- ❖ It will begin with 'Call to Action' which will include commitments by industry to take action to curb plastic pollution.

### **'Status of Ambient Noise Level in India 2017' report**

- ❖ According to the 'Status of Ambient Noise Level in India 2017' report, Delhi is ranked as the noisiest metro followed by Kolkata, Bengaluru and Chennai.
- ❖ It is a report published by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).
- ❖ As per the National Environment Policy (NEP)-2006, ambient noise is included as an environmental quality parameter and has to be monitored in specified urban areas regularly.
- ❖ Thus, CPCB has developed National Ambient Noise Monitoring Network Programme which includes installation of Noise Monitoring Stations all over India.
- ❖ The cities include Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow and Mumbai.

### **Vaccination against deadly Canine Distemper Virus**

- ❖ Gujarat Forest Department has started vaccination of lions in Gir sanctuary to protect them from a deadly Canine Distemper Virus (CDV) and protozoa infections.
- ❖ The virus is blamed for the death of as many as 23 lions in Gujarat's Gir sanctuary in less than a month.
- ❖ According to the last census conducted in 2015, the number of lions in Gir sanctuary stood at 523.
- ❖ Gir sanctuary is the only wild population of Asiatic lions in the world.
- ❖ CDV is highly contagious disease that attacks gastrointestinal, respiratory, central nervous systems, immune system and other vital organs in animals.

## Battling infection

### What's killing the Gir lions?

- 23 lions have died since Sept. 12 at the sanctuary. Four lions died of Canine Distemper Virus infection while 17 died of Babesiosis Protozoa infection, which is spread by ticks. Reason for the deaths of two lions is yet to be ascertained.
- Currently, 33 lions are being treated at the Jamvala rescue centre while 3 are undergoing treatment at the Jasadhar rescue centre. All 36 lions under treatment have been isolated.



- As per a 2015 count, there were 523 lions in the Gir forest areas and also in revenue areas in as many as eight districts in the Saurashtra region of Gujarat. As per the census figures, there were 109 males, 201 females and 213 cubs.

- ❖ CDV is considered dangerous virus and is blamed for wiping out 30% population of African lions in East African forests.

## STATES

### 'Nirman Kusuma' programme

- ❖ Odisha has launched 'Nirman Kusuma' programme for providing financial assistance to the children of construction workers for their technical education in the state.
- ❖ Besides this programme, the state government has also increased financial assistance for girl students by 20%.
- ❖ State government also has doubled death benefits and accidental benefits for the construction workers.

### Website, Application to analyze drought situation

- ❖ Maharashtra has launched a website and a mobile application to analyse the drought situation in the state by collecting data on rainfall, crop situation and underground water.

- ❖ The website 'Maha Madat' has been created by the Relief and Rehabilitation Ministry with the help of the Maharashtra Remote Sensing Application Centre (MRSAC).
- ❖ The Region is declared as Drought based on the two criteria laid down by the Centre in 2016.
- ❖ Drought can be declared if a region does not receive rain for a span of 21 days.

## **SPORTS**

### **IBSF World U-16 Snooker Championships**

- ❖ Keerthana Pandian (India-Karnataka) has won the Girls title in the IBSF (International Billiards and Snooker Federation) World Under-16 Snooker Championships held at St Petersburg, Russia.
- ❖ This is her maiden international title, defeating her Belarussian rival Albina Leschuk in the final.

### **Japanese Formula One Grand Prix**

- ❖ Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton from Great Britain has won the Japanese Formula One Grand prix.
- ❖ This was the 71st win of his career, only 20 behind the record of 7-time World champion, Michael Schumacher.
- ❖ Finland's Valtteri Bottas (Mercedes) secured 2nd place while the Dutch driver, Max Verstappen (Red Bull) finished 3rd.

### **Japanese Grand Prix**

- ❖ It was started in 1963 and was the Only Asian nation to host a Formula One race until Malaysia joined the calendar in 1999.
- ❖ The 2018 Japanese Grand Prix, the 17th round of the 2018 Formula One season, taking place at Suzuka.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### **Air Force Day - 08 October**

- ❖ 86th Indian Air Force (IAF) day was celebrated on 8 October 2018 to commemorate its official foundation day of the force.
  - ❖ The celebration of day seeks to increase the awareness about the importance of IAF as an important part of the national security.
  - ❖ IAF is the world's fourth largest air force (after US, Russia and China).
  - ❖ Air Force Day was officially celebrated for the first time on October 8, 1932 as an auxiliary air force of Indian Empire.
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