

**October – 12**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ Sunil Bhaskaran has been selected as the new Chief Executive and Managing Director at Air Asia India.
  - Air Asia is jointly owned by Tata Group and AirAsia Berhad of Malaysia.

## **TAMIL NADU**

### **Puratchi Thalaivar Dr.MGR Bus Stand**

- ❖ The Chennai Mofussil Bus Terminus (CMBT) at Koyambedu was renamed as 'Puratchi Thalaivar Dr.MGR Bus Stand'.



- ❖ This change came into effect from October 10, 2018.

### **New buses – Tamilnadu**

- ❖ Tamilnadu Chief Minister flagged off 471 new buses at a simple function held at the Secretariat on October 10, 2018.
- ❖ Eight semi-sleeper buses with attached toilet buses will be introduced in the Chennai-Karur-Coimbatore, Chennai-Salem, Chennai-Trichy and Chennai-Thanjavur routes.



- ❖ He also declared open the Madhavaram suburban bus terminus constructed by Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority, through the video-conferencing facility.

## **NATIONAL**

### **Water flow target – Ganga**

- ❖ The Union government has mandated ecological flow for various stretches of the Ganga river.
- ❖ Ecological flow/ Environmental flow describes minimum quantity, timing, and quality of water flows required to sustain freshwater and estuarine ecosystems and the human livelihoods and well-being that depend on these ecosystems.
- ❖ The National Mission for Clean Ganga has laid down the flow specifications.

### **India for Humanity**

- ❖ External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj formally launched 'India for Humanity' initiative to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- ❖ The initiative will feature a year-long series of artificial limb fitment camps in a number of countries.
- ❖ The MEA (Ministry of External Affairs) is collaborating with the renowned charitable organisation - "Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti" (BMVSS).
- ❖ BMVSS is among the world's largest organisations for the fitment of artificial limbs.

- ❖ It was founded in 1975 and better known by its trademark limb 'Jaipur Foot'.

## STATES

### Urban Local Body Polls – Jammu and Kashmir

- ❖ The second phase of municipal polls was held in Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ Nearly 80 percent voters exercised their franchise in Jammu.
- ❖ Only 3.4 percent electorate have cast their votes in Kashmir.
- ❖ Two key parties in the state - the National Conference and Mehbooba Mufti's PDP (Peoples Democratic Party) - have abstained from the elections over the Centre's stand on Article 35-A.

### Article 35-A

- ❖ Article 35A was incorporated into the Constitution in 1954 by an order of the then President Rajendra Prasad on the advice of the Jawaharlal Nehru Cabinet.
- ❖ Article 35A of the Indian Constitution is an article that empowers the Jammu and Kashmir state's legislature to define “permanent residents” of the state and provide special rights and privileges to those permanent residents.

### Puri's Jagannath temple – Police Entry

- ❖ The Supreme Court took note of the October 3 violence at Puri's Jagannath temple (Odisha) during a protest against the introduction of a queue system for devotees.
- ❖ The Supreme Court has said that no policeman should enter the temple with weapons and shoes.

### Country's first biofuel plant – Odisha

- ❖ Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) will complete the commissioning of its second generation (2G) ethanol bio-refinery at Baulsingha village in Bargarh district by 2020.
- ❖ This is the first bio fuel plant in the country where ethanol will be produced from rice straw.
- ❖ Ethanol will be blended with petrol and used as fuel.

- ❖ As per the National Biofuel Policy-2018, India has set the target of 20% ethanol blending to petrol by 2030.
- ❖ Currently only 3% or 4% Ethanol blending in petrol is available due to unavailability of the biofuel.

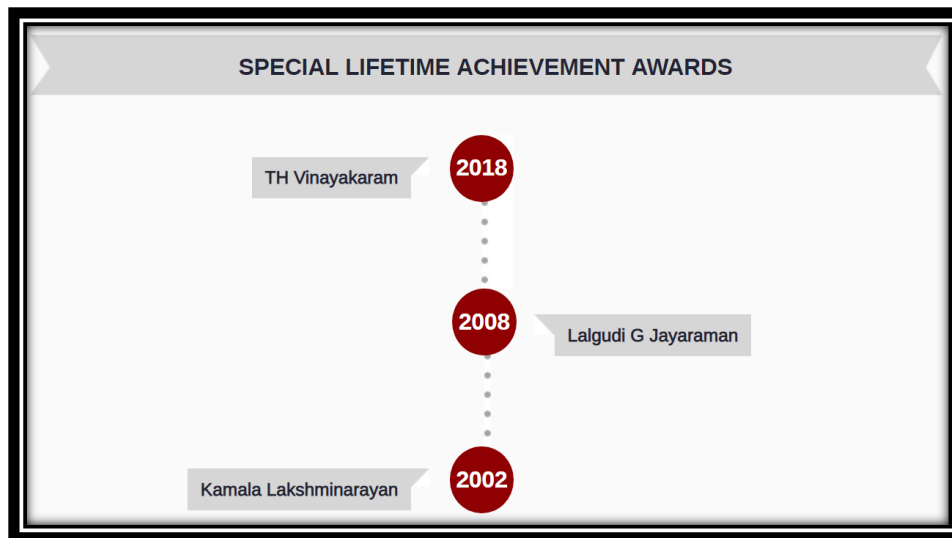
### **International Film Festival – Goa**

- ❖ The Goa International Film Festival 2018 is scheduled from November 20 to November 28.
- ❖ This year Jharkhand will be a partner state.
- ❖ This will allow Jharkhand to showcase its culture and favourable film making incentives announced by the state government.

## **PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS**

### **Special Lifetime Achievement Award- Vikku Vinayakram**

- ❖ Veteran percussionist Vikku Vinayakram was presented with the Special Lifetime Achievement award by The Music Academy.
- ❖ Mr. Vinayakram is the third musician to receive special lifetime achievement award from the Music Academy.



## **RBI Directors**

- ❖ The government has appointed Sachin Chaturvedi in place of Nachiket Mor on the central board of the Reserve Bank of India.
- ❖ Revathy Iyer was also nominated to the RBI board.



- ❖ Both are appointed for a period of four years with effect from September 19, 2018.
- ❖ With these appointments, RBI will now have 18 members on its central board, including four deputy governors and the governor.

## **Solicitor General - Tushar Mehta**

- ❖ The Centre has appointed Additional Solicitor General Tushar Mehta as Solicitor General of India.
- ❖ He will hold office till June 30, 2020.



- ❖ The Solicitor General is the second most important post of law officer after the attorney general.
- ❖ The post fell vacant on October 20, 2017, when senior advocate Ranjit Kumar resigned from the post.

## SPORTS

### Harvinder Singh – Asian Para Games

- ❖ Harvinder Singh notched up India's maiden archery gold in the Asian Para Games.
- ❖ Harvinder defeated China's Zhao Lixue in the W2/ST category final.



- ❖ W2 category - Athletes with paraplegia, diplegia or double leg amputation below the knee, requiring wheelchair.
- ❖ ST category - Archers with limited impairment and who may take aim without having to need a wheelchair.

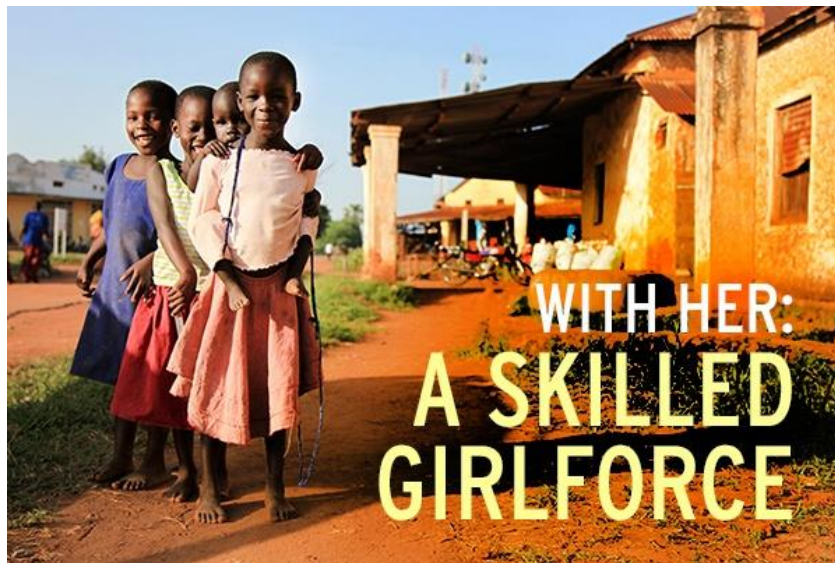
### Shooting – Youth Olympics

- ❖ Saurabh Chaudhary gunned down the men's 10m air pistol gold at the Youth Olympics .
- ❖ This was India's fourth podium from shooting in four days, as the four individual shooters at the Games - Shahu Mane, Mehuli Ghosh, Many Bhaker and Chaudhary - won two gold and two silver medals between them.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### International Day of the Girl Child - October 11

- ❖ On December 19, 2011, United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution to declare October 11 as the International Day of the Girl Child.
- ❖ Since 2012, 11 October has been marked as the International Day of the Girl Child.



- ❖ 2018 theme - With Her: A Skilled GirlForce.
  - ❖ Under the theme, With Her: A Skilled GirlForce, the International Day of the Girl Child will mark the beginning of a year-long effort to bring together partners and stakeholders to advocate for the most pressing needs and opportunities for girls to attain skills for employability.
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