

November– 01

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ IIT Kharagpur has recently organised a science and technology competition ‘Young Innovators Programme YIP 2018’ at Raipur, Chattisgarh for students of class 8 to 10 to make the younger generation more oriented towards scientific and technological innovations.

NATIONAL

Gandhian Thought and Swachhata Seminar

- ❖ The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (MDWS) organized a seminar in Wardha district of Maharashtra.
- ❖ The seminar has been titled as “Gandhian Thoughts and Sanitation”.
- ❖ It was centred on the Gandhian ideology on sanitation and the implementation of the same through the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM).

13th India - Japan Annual Summit

- ❖ The annual bilateral summit of India and Japan held on 28 & 29 October 2018 in Japan.
- ❖ The Indian prime minister visited Japan to attend the summit.

Important Outcomes

- ❖ Both nations signed the currency swap agreement worth \$75 billion.
- ❖ Both nations agreed to hold a 2+2 dialogue between the foreign ministers and defence ministers of the two countries.
- ❖ Both countries will cooperate for the first time in the areas of traditional medicinal systems such as Yoga and Ayurveda.
- ❖ Japan announced to join the International Solar Alliance (ISA). Japan will be the 71st country to sign and 48th country to ratify the ISA Framework Agreement.

INTERNATIONAL

Jair Bolsonaro - President of Brazil

- ❖ Former army captain Jair Bolsonaro was elected as the president of Brazil.
- ❖ Jair Bolsonaro won 55.2% of the votes surpassing his rival Fernando Haddad of Workers' Party, who had secured 44.8% in the presidential election.



- ❖ He will replace Michel Temer.
- ❖ Bolsonaro will be the first president with a background in the armed forces since the end of Brazil's 1964-1985 military dictatorship.


ECONOMY

SBI to issue and encash electoral bonds

- ❖ The Union Government has recently notified that the State Bank of India (SBI) has been authorised to issue and encash Electoral Bonds.
- ❖ SBI will issue and encash Electoral Bonds through its 29 Authorised Branches from November 1 to 10, 2018.
- ❖ As per provisions of the Electoral Bond Scheme 2018,
 - Electoral Bonds may be purchased by a person who is a citizen of India or incorporated or established in India.

Electoral Bonds Scheme Notified

To help cleanse the political funding system in the country



Nature

- Bearer instrument in the nature of a Promissory Note
- Interest free banking instrument

Eligibility

- A citizen of India or a body incorporated in India
- On fulfillment of all the extant KYC norms
- By making payment from a bank account

Lifespan

- Shelf life of only 15 days
- Can be used for making donation only to the political parties registered u/s 29A of the Representation of the Peoples Act, 1951

Period of Purchase

- Available for purchase for a period of 10 days each in the months of January, April, July and October, as may be specified by the Government

Value

- Issued/ Purchased in multiples of Rs.1,000, Rs.10,000, Rs.1,00,000, Rs.10,00,000 and Rs.1,00,00,000
- Available from the Specified Branches of the State Bank of India (SBI)

- ❖ Electoral Bonds are valid for 15 calendar days from the date of issue.

NOTE

- ❖ Only the Political Parties registered under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (43 of 1951) and which secured not less than 1% of the votes polled in the preceding election is entitled to receive the electoral bonds.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Web-based tool to monitor fake news

- ❖ Researchers from the University of Michigan in the US have developed a web-based tool to monitor fake news on social media platforms such as Twitter and Facebook.
- ❖ The tool uses a Platform Health Metric called the 'Iffy Quotient', which draws data from two external entities,
 - News Whip and
 - Media Bias/Fact Checker.

SPORTS

North East Olympic Games 2018

- ❖ The 1st edition of North East Olympic Games 2018 was held at Imphal, Manipur.

- ❖ Manipur was crowned as the overall champions. Manipur won 159 medals: 80 Gold, 48 Silver and 31 Bronze.
- ❖ Assam came second with 140 medals and Arunachal Pradesh finished third with 76 medals.

Medal Tally for the 1st North East Olympic Games 2018					
Rank	Participating State	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Manipur	79	47	31	159
2	Assam	45	52	41	140
3	Arunachal Pradesh	18	20	38	76
4	Mizoram	08	15	29	52
5	Nagaland	06	09	26	41
6	Meghalaya	03	08	29	40
7	Sikkim	01	06	18	25
8	Tripura	00	03	17	20

- ❖ The North East Olympic Games 2018 was organized by Manipur Olympic Association (MOA) under the administration of the North East Olympic Association.
- ❖ The 2nd edition of North East Olympic Games will be held in Arunachal Pradesh in 2019.

2018 Egypt Junior & Cadet Open

- ❖ The 2018 Egypt Junior & Cadet Open table tennis tournament was held at Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt.
- ❖ India's Vishal Rajveer Shah defeated Mostafa of Egypt and bagged gold medal and won the mini cadet boys singles' title.
- ❖ India's Raegan Alburquerque settled for silver after losing to China's Ding Shixian in the Junior Boys singles category.

Mexican Grand Prix

- ❖ Lewis Hamilton won his 5th drivers' world championship and equalled Juan Manuel Fangio's Formula One record.
- ❖ Max Verstappen (Red Bull) won the Mexican Grand Prix held at Mexico.
- ❖ Sebastian Vettel (Ferrari) and Kimi Raikkonen (Ferrari) finished in the 2nd and 3rd positions respectively.

- ❖ Lewis Hamilton finished in the 4th position in the Mexican Grand Prix.
- ❖ This is the 3rd time he has won the drivers' world championship title without finishing on the race podium.
- ❖ He has already won the drivers' world championship in 2008, 2014, 2015 and 2017.

WTA (Women's Tennis Association) Finals trophy

- ❖ Elina Svitolina secured the biggest title of her career and became the first Ukrainian player to win WTA Finals trophy in Singapore.
- ❖ She beat the 2017 U.S. Open champion Sloane Stephens and claimed the title.
- ❖ She is the first player to go through the WTA Finals undefeated after Serena Williams in 2013.

Isle of Man International Chess Tournament 2018

- ❖ The 2018 Isle of Man Chess Tournament was held at the Villa Marina, Douglas, in Isle of Man, UK.
- ❖ Grandmaster B Adhiban from India beat Michael Adams of England in the ninth and final round, and finished tied third with 6.5 points.
- ❖ He was the best performing Indian at the tournament.
- ❖ Poland's Radoslav Wojtaszek is the winner of the event.

Asian Hockey Champions Trophy (Men's Hockey)

- ❖ India and Pakistan jointly won the Asian Hockey Champions Trophy title in Muscat, Oman.
- ❖ Both India and Pakistan were declared joint winners of the Asian Hockey Champions Trophy because of heavy rain.
- ❖ India remained unbeaten throughout the tournament and Pakistan was defeated only by India.
- ❖ Earlier, India had won the Asian Hockey Champions Trophy in 2011 and 2016.

ITTF Challenge Belgium Open 2018

- ❖ The International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) Challenge Belgium Open 2018, was held in De Haan, Belgium.
- ❖ India's Anthony Amalraj and Sanil Shetty won bronze medal in the men's doubles after losing to Korean pair of Seungmin Cho and Jaehyun An in the semis.
- ❖ India's Ayhika Mukherjee won silver medal in the under-21 women's singles category. She lost 1-3 to Korea's Youjin Kim in the final.
