

**November - 7**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ 84-year-old Poongani amma, the oldest living 'vilupaattu' performer in the country, passed away.
- ❖ NCC (National Cadet Corps) Directorate of Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Andamans has struck gold by winning the championship trophy in the all-India Vayu Sainik competition held at Jodhpur.
  - It is the second time in a row that the Directorate created history by winning the championship trophy.
- ❖ The Odisha government will set up a State Vigilance Academy in the capital to upgrade the knowledge and skills of vigilance officers on a continuous basis so as to retain their professional edge.
- ❖ Lt Gen P S Rajeshwar took over as the 12<sup>th</sup> Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to Chairman of Chiefs of Staff Committee (COSC).
  - He was the current Director General (Perspective Planning) at the Integrated Head Quarters, Ministry of Defence and succeeds Lt Gen Satish Dua, who retired on October 31.
- ❖ The Ministry of Tourism signed a MoU with the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Government for the Republic of Korea for strengthening cooperation in the field of Tourism in New Delhi.
- ❖ Minister of AYUSH and Minister of State (Independent charge) Culture inaugurated the two day 'National Seminar on Entrepreneurship and Business Development in Ayurveda' at New Delhi.
  - It is aimed to encouraging entrepreneurs and Ayurveda stakeholders towards businesses opportunities in the sector.
- ❖ India will participate in China's first international import expo in Shanghai as a part of its efforts to reduce the over USD 51 billion trade deficit with the neighbouring nation.
- ❖ The Central and Andhra Pradesh government along with the World Bank have signed the loan agreement for a \$172.20 million project to enhance agricultural productivity, profitability, and climate resilience of poor and marginalised farmers in Andhra Pradesh.

## NATIONAL

### Operation Greens

- ❖ Union Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) approved the operationalisation strategy for Operation Greens on the line of “Operation Flood”.
- ❖ Operation Greens was announced in the Budget speech of 2018-19 with an outlay of Rs 500 crores to stabilise the supply of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) crops.
- ❖ This scheme aims to reduce post-harvest losses by creation of farm gate infrastructure, agro-logistics and storage capacity.
- ❖ It would help to increase the processing capacities and value addition.
- ❖ It also ensures availability of TOP crops throughout the country round the year without price volatility.

### In-house think tank at Supreme Court

- ❖ Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi has established an in house ‘think tank’ to strengthen the knowledge infrastructure of Supreme Court of India.
- ❖ CJI has redefined the mandate of Centre for Research and Planning (CRP) to meet the “fast expanding knowledge needs of judiciary”.
- ❖ New CRP will:
  - Create a network of “leading independent scholars”
  - Create a permanent and accessible database of relevant knowledge through a series of working papers, thematic briefs and case notes.
  - Prepare summary of key judgments of Supreme Court for general audience in non-technical language.
  - Conduct periodic seminars on doctrinal issues and engage with members of the Bar engaged in academic works, especially younger members.
- ❖ It will be independent of bias, presenting all major points of view and will be posted in public website for transparency.

## INTERNATIONAL

### Lions of the Great War statue

- ❖ The 'Lions of the Great War' statue in honour of Indian soldiers who fought during World War I was unveiled in the town of Smethwick in the West Midlands region of England.
- ❖ Guru Nanak Gurdwara Smethwick had commissioned this monument.



- ❖ It depicts a turbaned Sikh soldier to honour the sacrifices made by millions of South Asian service personnel of all faiths who fought for Britain in the world wars and other conflicts as part of the British Indian Army.
- ❖ The 10-foot bronze statue was unveiled to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I in November 1918.

### Korea Marine Exercise Program (KMEP)

- ❖ South Korea and the United States will resume battalion-level marine exercises.
- ❖ It has been suspended for six months since May, 2018 as part of efforts to help facilitate a compromise with North Korea.
- ❖ The allies had planned to carry out 19 rounds of KMEP training in 2018 fiscal year but only 11 were conducted.
- ❖ It will involve 500 troops from the South Korean Marine Corps and the US III Marine Expeditionary Force.

## ECONOMY

### Digital Public Credit Registry

- ❖ The Reserve Bank has initiated steps to set up a wide-based digital Public Credit Registry (PCR) to capture details of all borrowers.
- ❖ The details will include wilful defaulters and pending legal suits.
- ❖ Aim of the move is to check financial delinquencies.
- ❖ The PCR will also include data from:
  - Entities like market regulator SEBI,
  - Union corporate affairs ministry,
  - Goods and Service Tax Network (GSTN) and
  - Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI).
- ❖ This will enable banks and financial institutions to get a complete profile of existing and prospective borrowers on a real-time basis.

## STATES

### QR code enabled 'Fridge Magnets' - Delhi

- ❖ New Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC) will distribute quick response-enabled smiley fridge magnets to consumers to facilitate digital payment of utility bills.
- ❖ Under the “smart” initiative, the magnets will be personalised and each customer will have a unique QR (Quick Response) Code mapped to their consumer account number.
- ❖ Separate magnets will be provided by the NDMC for electricity and water bills.
- ❖ Consumers will be able to stick these magnets on their refrigerators and use their smartphones to scan the QR Code on the magnet to pay their bills instantly.

### Volunteers mobile medical service

- ❖ Delhi Chief Minister launched the volunteers mobile medical service by flagging off a mobile medical van.

- ❖ The mobile medical van will be a key component of this initiative and will be integrated with medical camps that will target communities within 10-15 km radius of Alshifa Multi speciality Hospital, Okhla.



- ❖ The van is equipped with all facilities to provide diagnostic, laboratory, medical check-ups, consultation, and first aid treatment.
- ❖ This initiative will help in early detection of lifestyle diseases like diabetics and hypertension while also educating the public about the importance of hygiene in general with a special focus on mothers and kids.

## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

### First chairperson of Lokayukta - Meghalaya

- ❖ Retired Gauhati High Court judge Pranoy Kumar Musahary was sworn in as the first chairperson of Lokayukta in Meghalaya.



- ❖ The Lokayukta is empowered to probe allegations of corruption against public functionaries such as the chief minister, deputy chief minister, ministers, speaker and deputy speaker of Assembly, MLAs, besides government officials.

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **National Cancer Awareness Day - November 7**

- ❖ National Cancer Awareness Day is observed across the country on November 7<sup>th</sup> every year to stress upon the early detection and cure of cancer.
  - ❖ It was started in 2014 when it was first announced by the former Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan.
  - ❖ World Cancer Day is being observed in global level on 4<sup>th</sup> February of every year.
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