

**November - 09**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ The 18th Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Council of Ministers Meeting was held in Durban, South Africa.
  - This meeting took place during the on-going celebrations of the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and the 100th birth anniversary of Nelson Mandela.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister and South Korean First Lady Kim Jung-sook inaugurated the Queen Huh Memorial at Queen Huh Park in Ayodhya.
- ❖ Arunima Sinha, the Indian mountaineer who became the world's first woman amputee to climb Mount Everest in 2013, has been awarded an honorary doctorate by a prestigious UK university for her inspirational achievements.
- ❖ Bengaluru-based cab aggregator Ola, has officially commenced its operations in New Zealand, offering rides in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch.
  - This came after it launched its operations in Australia and the UK earlier this year.
- ❖ British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) devised a new campaign that is aimed at fighting back against disinformation and fake news with a major focus on global media literacy, including workshops and debates in countries like India.

## **NATIONAL**

### **Hot Air Ballooning Expedition "Jai Bharat"**

- ❖ To showcase the adventurous spirit of the Indian Army to the youth of the country, the Army Adventure Wing flagged off a Trans India North-South Hot Air Ballooning Expedition from Jammu and Kashmir to Kanyakumari.
- ❖ Army dedicated the Expedition 'Jai Bharat' to the jawans who made supreme sacrifices for the country and for the national integration.
- ❖ As a part of the Expedition, the Army will be flying two balloons across the country, touching a total of 31 stations.



### **Mahila-E-Haat portal**

- ❖ The Women and Child Development Ministry has set up an online marketing portal “Mahila-E-Haat” for unique organic products of the women farmers and entrepreneurs from across the country.
- ❖ It is also serving as an e-platform to bring them together and promote and celebrate their achievements.
- ❖ This portal was launched ahead of the "Women of India National Organic Festival, 2018”.
- ❖ The 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the 10-day “Women of India National Organic Festival 2018” was organised by the Ministry of Women & Child Development at Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts in Delhi.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **5<sup>th</sup> World Buddhist Forum**

- ❖ 5<sup>th</sup> World Buddhist Forum concluded in the city of Putian, east China's Fujian Province, with proposals for promoting Buddhist interactions and cultural relics protection.
- ❖ More than 1,000 Buddhists, scholars and representatives from 55 countries and regions attended the forum.
- ❖ It was jointly hosted by the Buddhist Association of China and the China Religious Culture Communication Association.

- ❖ World Buddhist Forum was initiated by the Buddhist circles in the Chinese mainland, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao in 2005.



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### First-ever foldable smartphone model

- ❖ Samsung has unveiled its first-ever foldable smartphone prototype, which, when opened, transforms into a small pocket-sized tablet.



- ❖ Samsung calls its foldable phone technology the 'Infinity Flex Display'.
- ❖ This device looks like a standard smartphone when closed. It opens like a book to reveal another 7.3-inch display.
- ❖ This would be one of the largest phone screens ever released.

## 'Heavenly Palace' Space Station

- ❖ China unveiled a replica of its first permanently crewed space station.
- ❖ It would replace the international community's orbiting laboratory and symbolises the country's major ambitions beyond Earth.
- ❖ The 17-metre (55-foot) core module was a star attraction at the biennial Airshow China in the southern coastal city of Zhuhai.



- ❖ The International Space Station (ISS) - a collaboration between the United States, Russia, Canada, Europe and Japan has been in operation since 1998 but is due to be retired in 2024.
- ❖ China will then have the only space station in orbit, though it will be much smaller than the ISS which weighs 400 tonnes and is as large as a football pitch.

## World's first AI (Artificial Intelligence) News anchor

- ❖ China's state-run news agency just unveiled the AI-powered anchor at China's World Internet Conference.
- ❖ The news anchor is modelled on a real presenter named Zhang Zhou.
- ❖ This anchor learns from live broadcast videos and is able to man the news desk 24-hours a day.
- ❖ AI anchor is made to simulate real-life broadcasters to present a 'life like image' instead of a cold robot.



## STATES

### **Sangwari Polling booths- Chhattisgarh**

- ❖ The Election Commission has set up ‘Sangwari’ polling booths in various constituencies of Chhattisgarh to encourage women voters to exercise their franchise in the Assembly elections.
- ❖ In Chhattisgarhi dialect, ‘Sangwari’ means friend.
- ❖ These women friendly booths will be manned by all-female staff including presiding officers, supervisors and security personnel.

### **‘Mo bus’ service – Odisha**

- ❖ The Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched the technology-driven and citizen-friendly “Mo bus” service.
- ❖ It has features like free wi-fi, CCTV surveillance, public information display system and on-board announcements in the city.
- ❖ 'Mo bus' service will cover nine routes in the state capital in the first phase.
- ❖ It will also provide the “Mo Bus” mobile app through which passengers can book their tickets and get to know the locations of the vehicle.



### **Aquaculture Mission 2.0 - Meghalaya**

- ❖ The Meghalaya government announced Rs 378 crore investment in the second phase of the state's flagship aquaculture mission.
- ❖ It is aimed to cutting down fish imports into the hill state.
- ❖ The mission- Meghalaya State Aquaculture Mission 2.0 was announced by State Fisheries Minister at the 5<sup>th</sup> state aqua festival.
- ❖ Under the mission, the willing partners will need to contribute only 15 % while another 25 % will be from credit linkages and the rest from 60 % government assistance.

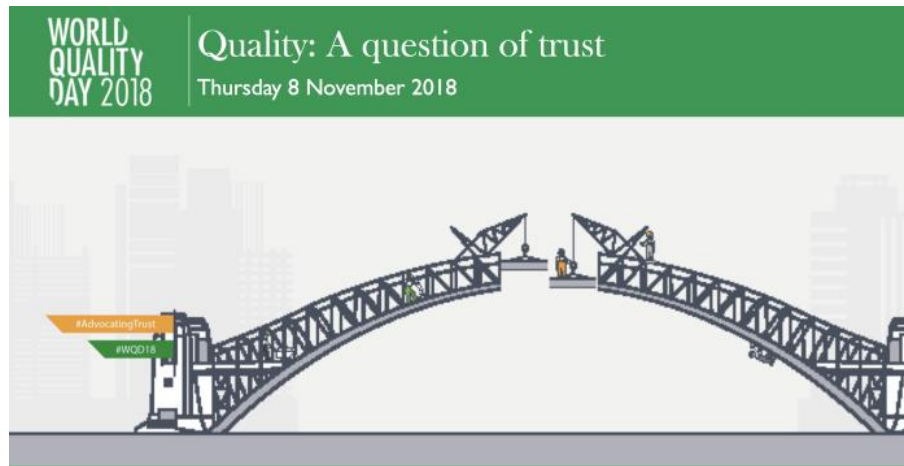
### **'Bhubaneswar Me Wifi' project - Odisha**

- ❖ The Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched 'Bhubaneswar Me WiFi' project to make Capital a fully Wifi enabled city ahead of World Cup Hockey.
- ❖ This will initially have 100 hotspots enabled locations with 275 access points.
- ❖ Gradually, the hotspot locations will be increased to 518 with 1,800 access points.
- ❖ There will be no charge on data usage for citizens, when they access government services through this network.
- ❖ Besides, access up to 250 MB of data will be free for any user on a given day.
- ❖ After the consumption of 250 MB, the government provides low-cost top up plans for the users.

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **World Quality Day - November 08**

- ❖ World Quality Day is an annual event held on the second Thursday of November and this year was observed on November 08.
- ❖ This day was designed to increase the worldwide awareness of the important contribution that quality makes towards both organisational and national growth, and prosperity.
- ❖ Theme for 2018 quality day is 'Quality: A question of trust'.



### **World Radiography Day - November 08**

- ❖ On 8 November, the world celebrates the international day of radiography endorsing health professionals specialized in imaging of human anatomy.
- ❖ This annual event recognizes the achievements in medical imaging.
- ❖ This year is the 123<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen's discovery of X-rays, which led to the production of the first radiographs.

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