

November – 14

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Two-day seminar on ‘Emerging Trends in Aviation Engineering and Logistics’ (AVIAMAT-2018) was held at New Delhi.
 - It was organized by the Indian Air Force (IAF).
- ❖ Twitter India has launched #PowerOf18 campaign aimed at encouraging youth to contribute in public debates and participate in civic engagement for the 2019 general election.

NATIONAL

VLT & emergency buttons mandatory in Public service vehicles

- ❖ The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has mandated that all new public service vehicles registered on and after 1st January 2019, will have to be equipped with Vehicle Location Tracking (VLT) with emergency buttons.
- ❖ It exempts auto rickshaws and Rickshaws from the list of public service vehicles.
- ❖ The move aims to ensure safety for the women passengers.
- ❖ The details of each VLT device will be uploaded on the VAHAN database by the VLT device manufacturer.

Navy Commanders Conference 2018

- ❖ The second edition of this years’ (2018) bi-annual Naval Commanders’ Conference was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ The theme of the conference is ‘Optimisation’ and ‘Emerging Technologies’
- ❖ The conference is part a of Prime Minister’s vision of ‘Security and Growth for All in the Region’ (SAGAR) initiative.

‘Samudra Shakti’

- ❖ The inaugural edition of the Bilateral Naval Exercise between India and Indonesia ‘Samudra Shakti’ was held at the port of Surabaya, Indonesia.

- ❖ The aim of the exercise is to strengthen bilateral relations, expand maritime co-operation, enhance interoperability and exchange best practices.
- ❖ The Indian Navy was represented by INS Rana of Eastern Fleet based at Visakhapatnam under the Eastern Naval Command.

WW-I centenary

- ❖ November 11, 2018 marked the 100-year anniversary of the signing of the Armistice to end the First World War.
- ❖ The Vice President of India represented India at the Armistice of World War I centenary held at the historic Arc De Triomphe in the French capital Paris.
- ❖ He also inaugurated the first India-built war memorial in northern France to pay tribute to thousands of Indian soldiers who died fighting in World War I.
- ❖ Indian troops were on the Western Front by winter of 1914 and fought at the first Battle of Ypres.

India's first Multi-Modal Terminal

- ❖ The Prime Minister has inaugurated the country's first Multi-Modal Terminal on Ganga River in Varanasi.
- ❖ It was the first of the four multi-modal terminals.
- ❖ The first multi-modal waterways terminal on the Ganga river is a part of the Centre's Jal Marg Vikas Project.
- ❖ It aims to develop the stretch of the river between Varanasi and Haldia for the navigation of large vessels.
- ❖ The National Waterway-1 (Haldia-Varanasi stretch) is being developed with technical assistance and investment support from the World Bank.
- ❖ The total estimated cost of the project (Rs 5,369.18 crore) will be equally shared between the Government of India and the World Bank.

ECONOMY

RBI cancels 31 NBFC registrations

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India cancelled the certificate of registrations of as many as 31 Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) for unspecified reasons.

- ❖ A majority of 27 of the 31 companies which lost their licences are from West Bengal. It is followed by Uttar Pradesh, which has seen four NBFC licence cancellations.
- ❖ The NBFC sector is facing liquidity troubles following the non-payment of dues by the troubled infra lender IL&FS since late August of this year.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Carbon Nanomaterials for Simultaneous Detection & Destruction of Cancer Cells

- ❖ Researchers at the IIT - Roorkee, have developed fluorescent carbon nanodots for simultaneous detection and destruction of cancer cells.
- ❖ The nano sized (10⁻⁹ metre) carbon materials can serve as therapeutic and diagnostic agents for cancer.
- ❖ They have been extracted from the leaves of the rosy periwinkle plant.
- ❖ The research is supported by the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) and the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Union Ministry of Science and Technology.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

France's highest civilian honour

- ❖ Jawahar Lal Sarin was conferred with France's highest civilian honour 'Knight of the Legion of Honour'.
- ❖ It was given by the French Ambassador to India Alexandre Ziegler.
- ❖ He received the honour due to his outstanding contribution to enhancing Indo-French cultural cooperation and promoting the French language.
- ❖ He is currently the president of the governing body of Alliance Francaise.

London Press Freedom Award for Courage 2018

- ❖ Swati Chaturvedi, an Indian freelance journalist, has won the 2018 London Press Freedom Award for Courage.

- ❖ She received the award at the 1st award ceremony organised by the United Kingdom chapter of Paris-based Reporters Sans Frontieres (RSF) or Reporters Without Borders in London.
- ❖ She was one among the four worldwide winners who received awards at the ceremony.
- ❖ She is the author of the book 'I am a Troll: Inside the Secret World of the BJP's Digital Army'.

SPORTS

11th Asian Air Gun championship

- ❖ The 11th Asian Air Gun championship was held at Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Olympic Shooting Complex at Kuwait City, in Kuwait.
- ❖ India's junior shooters won a total of 11 medals which includes 4 gold, 5 silver and 2 bronze medals.
- ❖ Manu Bhaker and Saurabh Chaudhary won the 10 metre Air Pistol Mixed Team gold.
- ❖ They shattered the junior world record with a score of 485.4 points.
- ❖ Elavenil Valarivan & Hriday Hazarika – Gold (10m rifle mixed team junior).
- ❖ Saurabh Chaudhary – Gold (10m Air Pistol men's junior).
- ❖ Saurabh Chaudhary, Arjun Singh Cheema & Anmol Jain – Gold (10m Air Pistol team junior).

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Diabetes Day 2018 – 14 November

- ❖ The World Diabetes Day is observed every year on 14 November.
- ❖ The theme for the year 2018 and 2019 is 'Family and Diabetes'.
- ❖ It was first observed in 1991 by the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) and the World Health Organisation (WHO).
- ❖ The World Diabetes Day became an official United Nations Day in 2006.

- ❖ The reason why 14 November was picked to observe the day was because it is the birthday of Frederick Banting, who co-discovered insulin along with Charles Best in 1922.



- ❖ The campaign for the day is represented by a blue circle logo, which is also the global symbol for diabetes awareness, after the passage of the UN Resolution on diabetes.

MISCELLANEOUS

Children-for-land incentive scheme – Italy

- ❖ Italy government has announced that it would reward parents who have a third child with the offer of free farmland.
 - ❖ It aims to give parcels of state-held agricultural land for 20 years to parents who give birth to a third child between 2019 and 2021.
 - ❖ This new plan (children-for-land incentive) is aimed at reviving the country's low birth rate.
 - ❖ The Foreigners who have interested in the offer would need to have been resident in Italy for at least 10 years.
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