



November – 22

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Oxford Dictionary has announced the adjective 'Toxic' as the Word of the year 2018. The adjective toxic is defined as 'poisonous'. The sheer scope of its application made toxic the stand-out choice.
 - In 2017, the word was “youthquake” and in 2016 it was “post-truth”.
- ❖ The 9th Session of the India-Kyrgyz Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation (IK-IGC), which held on two days, concluded in New Delhi.
 - The 10th meeting will be held in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic.
- ❖ The Union Government has approved three proposals under the Nirbhaya Fund and they are
 - Setting up of 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) ([Law Ministry proposal](#))
 - Procurement of forensic kits for sexual assault cases ([Home Ministry proposal](#))
 - Setting up video surveillance system at 50 Railway Stations ([Konkan Railway corporation limited proposal](#)).

NATIONAL

Tribunal to decide on banning 2 Tripura militant outfits

- ❖ The Union Home Ministry has set up a tribunal headed by the Delhi High Court Judge Justice Suresh Kait to decide on banning 2 militant groups from Tripura.
- ❖ This was set up under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.
- ❖ The 2 concerned militant groups are
 - The National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT) and
 - All Tripura Tiger Force (ATTF).
- ❖ A fresh ban of 5 years were imposed on the 2 insurgent groups of Tripura by the central government on October 2018 for their “violent and subversive activities”.




- ❖ The rebel outfits, formed in 1990 with the objective of “expulsion of all foreigners who entered the state after 1956”, were first banned in 1997.

ECONOMY

Sunil Mehta panel incorporates 'Sashakt India AMC'

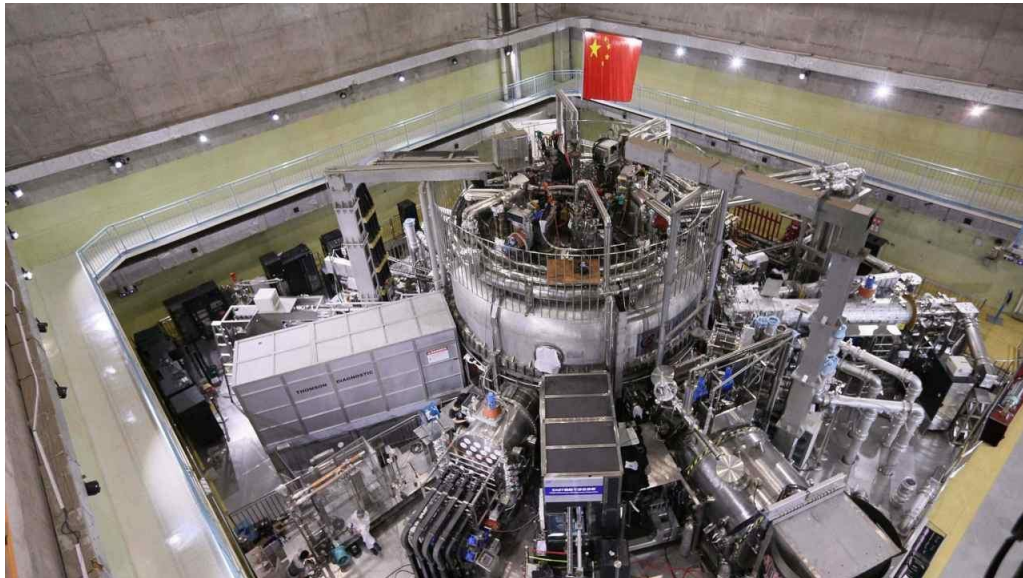
- ❖ The Sunil Mehta committee has announced the formation of an asset management company (AMC) for resolving large bad loans.
- ❖ The name of the AMC is ‘Sashakt India Asset Management’.
- ❖ The committee is working on faster resolution of stressed assets in public sector banks.
- ❖ It was announced by the chairman of a bankers’ panel Sunil Mehta on the sidelines of a CII-CFO summit held in Mumbai.
- ❖ The company will follow a five-pronged strategy under the Project Sashakt to tackle stress in the banking sector.
- ❖ Under the project,
 - The AMC will have an Alternate Investment Fund (AIF) to resolve Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) over Rs 500 crore.
 - The AIF will be formed engaging various potential investors including private sector banks.

Project Sashakt		SME Resolution approach for loans below ₹50 crore
Mehta Panel Recommendations	Bank-Led Resolution Approach (BLRA) for loans of ₹50-500 crore	Banks to develop templated resolution approaches
Five-pronged approach for resolution of loans	Lead bank to implement resolution plan in 180 days	Set up empowered SME steering committee 
PSBs to take lead in setting up asset management company for loans above ₹500 cr	Independent screening committee to validate due process in 30 days	
AIF to raise funds from institutional investors		

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

'Artificial Sun' – China

- ❖ China has built an 'artificial sun' that reaches 100 million °C, which is more than 6 times the temperature of Sun's core of 15 million °C.
- ❖ Scientists from China's Institute of Plasma Physics announced that plasma in their Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak (EAST) also called the "artificial sun", reached 100 million °C.
- ❖ It is the temperature required to perform the nuclear fusion on Earth.
- ❖ The EAST reactor has been designed to replicate processes happening at the Sun to turn hydrogen into cost-effective green energy.
- ❖ But they were able to maintain the state for only about 10 seconds.



ENVIRONMENT

Cyclonic storm 'GAJA'

- ❖ The Cyclonic storm 'Gaja' crossed the Tamil Nadu coast on 16th November 2018 between Nagapattinam, nearly 300 km from Chennai, and vedaranyam.

- ❖ With wind speed gusting up to 120 kmph it caused landfall between Nagapattinam and Vedaranyam.



- ❖ The cyclone moved nearly westwards into Kerala and weakened into a deep depression in the Arabian Sea.
- ❖ Gaja will be the second cyclone to hit the East coastal area in a month after Cyclone Titli wreaked havoc in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh
- ❖ Cyclones are named by various warning centres to provide ease of communication between forecasters and the general public.
- ❖ In the South East Asia, cyclones are named by different countries. Titli was named by Pakistan and Gaja by Sri Lanka.

STATES

Andhra Pradesh unveiled its State Emblem

- ❖ The Andhra Pradesh government unveiled its new emblem for official use on November 15, 2018, 5 years after its bifurcation in 2014.
- ❖ The state emblem has been inspired by the Amaravati School of Art.



- ❖ It consists of “Dhamma Chakka” – “the Wheel of Law” embellished with a ring of Triratnas alternating with pinnate leaves and precious stones.
- ❖ The three circles of decorative beads are in ascending order of numbers: 48 in the inner, 118 in the middle and 148 in the outer circle.
- ❖ It has a “Puna Ghataka” or “The vase of Plenty” is at the hub of the Dhamma Chakka which is decorated with a four-banded garland on the main body with medallions and tassels.
- ❖ Also, there is a braid around the thin neck and a flaring mouth.
- ❖ The National Emblem is placed at the bottom of the emblem, which should never be reduced to a size of less than 24 mm in height.

IMPORTANT DAYS

The World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims – 18 November

- ❖ The World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims is observed every year on the third Sunday of November.
- ❖ This year (2018) the day falls on 18th November.
- ❖ The theme for the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims 2018 is “Roads have stories”.
- ❖ This day remembers people who had killed and injured on the roads across the World, together with their families, friends and others who are affected.
- ❖ This day also thanks the emergency services.
- ❖ This day was started by the Road Peace organization in 1993. In 2005, the United Nations endorsed this day as a global observance.



World Toilet Day (WTD) - 19 November

- ❖ The World Toilet Day (WTD) is an official UN international observance day on 19 November to inspire action to tackle the global sanitation crisis.
- ❖ World Toilet Day was established by the World Toilet Organization in 2001.
- ❖ The UN General Assembly declared the World Toilet Day an official UN day in 2013.

- ❖ The UN-Water is the official convener of World Toilet Day which maintains the official World Toilet Day website and chooses a special theme for each year.
- ❖ The Theme of the day for the year 2018 is 'Nature-based Solutions'.



- ❖ The Slogan for the year 2018 is 'When Nature calls, we need a toilet'.
 - ❖ Since 2016, the same overall annual theme has been used for both World Toilet Day and World Water Day (March 22).
 - ❖ The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6) aims to ensure the availability and management of sanitation and water for all by 2030.
-