

December - 01

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Medical education Ministry of the Maharashtra government has appointed Dr Jagannath Dixit as the brand ambassador of its anti-obesity campaign.
- ❖ The 59th edition of Subroto Cup International Football Tournament (Junior Boys category) was won by Bangladesh's Krida Shiksha Prothishtan (BKSP) defeating Amini School of Afghanistan.
- ❖ SpaceX CEO Elon Musk has announced that he is changing the name of "BFR" rocket to "Starship". BFR was referred as the "Big Falcon Rocket."
- ❖ Four new horned frogs' species have been discovered by a team of biologists from Delhi University, University College Dublin (Ireland) and Natural History Museum (UK) in the Himalayan regions of Northeast India.
 - Team of biologists also includes S D Biju, who is known as the "Frogman of India".
- ❖ NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) has selected **Jezero Crater** as the landing site for its upcoming Mars 2020 rover mission.
 - The rover mission is scheduled to launch in July 2020.
- ❖ Australia and Poland refused to sign a UN pact on migration because the agreement would undermine their existing immigration policies.
- ❖ Dr. Tamilisai Soundarajan receives Emerging star of Indian politics award from American's Global community Oscar. Tamilisai Soundararajan was nominated for Emerging Indian politician category.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister has released the book titled 'Tamil Nadu Police Gallant Heroes' at Kalaivanar Arangam in Chepauk. The book honours the lives all those police personnel who had sacrificed their lives in the line of duty.

TAMIL NADU

TN Receives Best performance award - Organ Donation Programme

- ❖ Tamil Nadu health department received Union ministry of health and family welfare's best performance award for its successful organ donation programme.
- ❖ It is for the fourth time in a row Tamil Nadu is receiving this award.

Other Awards

- ❖ Best State for promoting awareness on organ donation – Maharashtra
- ❖ Award for Performing First Hand Transplant - Dr. Subramania Iyer K, AIIMS Kochi
- ❖ Award for conducting 1st Uterine Transplant in India - Dr. Shailesh Puntambekar, Pune.

India Today Awards

- ❖ Vice President of India has recently presented the 15th India Today State of State Awards 2018 in New Delhi.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu received the awards for the best performing state in the categories of
 - Overall performance,
 - Maintenance of law & order and
 - Tourism.
- ❖ TN has become the second largest state economy in India, contributing 8.4% to national GDP.



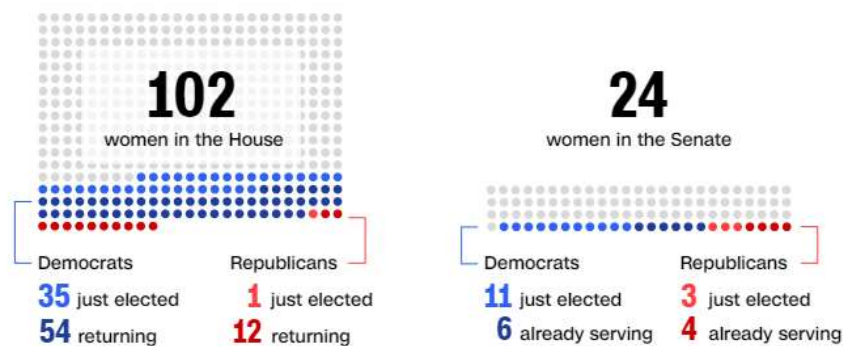
- ❖ The India Today State of the States Survey 2018 was conducted by the leading research agency, MDRA.

INTERNATIONAL

Mississippi Senate election

- ❖ Republican Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith defeated challenger Mike Espy, a Democrat, in the runoff election for the U.S. Senate in Mississippi.
- ❖ Hyde-Smith is the first woman elected to the Senate from Mississippi. Vermont is now the only state to have never elected a woman to Congress.

Women in the House and Senate



- ❖ Hyde-Smith's victory also means that there will be 24 women in the Senate next year.
- ❖ That will set a new record for women serving in the Senate, one more than the current high, set during this Congress.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

World's first total-body scanner

- ❖ The world's 1st medical imaging scanner that can capture a 3D picture of the entire human body at once in as little as 20-30 seconds has produced its 1st scans.
- ❖ The scanner dubbed as Explorer has been developed by scientists from
 - The University of California – Davis in the US in partnership with
 - Shanghai-based United Imaging Healthcare (UIH)
- ❖ It can scan with a radiation dose up to 40 times less than a current PET scan.
- ❖ It is a combined positron emission tomography (PET) and X-ray computed tomography (CT) scanner that can image the entire body at the same time.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development 2018

- ❖ Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) has recently won 2018 Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development.
- ❖ It is conferred by Indira Gandhi Trust every year on the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's birth anniversary.
- ❖ CSE was established in 1980 under the leadership of late Anil Agarwal.
- ❖ It has been working on various issues like air and water pollution, food safety, waste water management, climate change etc.

Golden Peacock award

- ❖ Donbass, won the **coveted Golden Peacock award** at the 49th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) at Panaji, Goa.
- ❖ Donbass tells the story of a hybrid war taking place in a region of Eastern Ukraine, involving an open armed conflict.
- ❖ Lijo Jose Pellissery won the **Silver Peacock for Best Director** for the Malayalam film Ee.Ma.Yau.

Ustad Imrat Khan passed away

- ❖ Indian classical music stalwart Ustad Imrat Khan, who dedicated his life to propagating the Sitar and the surbahar worldwide, passed in the United States.
- ❖ He famously turned down the Padma Shri last year saying the recognition had come too late and diminished his achievements.

Africa Industrialization Day (AID) – 20 November

- ❖ The Africa Industrialization Day was celebrated on 20th November every year by UN General Assembly.
- ❖ The Theme for the 2018 edition is: “Promoting Regional Value Chains in Africa: A pathway for accelerating Africa’s structural transformation, industrialization and pharmaceutical production”.
- ❖ It focused on the context of the Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) and the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III).
- ❖ It was first established in 1989 by UNGA to raise awareness about the importance of Africa’s industrialization and the challenges faced by the continent.

India Rivers Week 2018

- ❖ The India Rivers Week (IRW) 2018, a unique meeting on rivers in India was held at the World-Wide Fund for Nature-India (WWF), New Delhi from November 24 to 26, 2018.
- ❖ The focus of this year’s three-day meet was ‘Can India Rejuvenate Ganga?’
- ❖ This year’s event was dedicated to Dr G D Agrawal also known as Swami Gyanswarup Sanand, who passed away recently.

MISCELLANEOUS

India gifts e-rickshaws to Senegal

- ❖ External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj handed over 2 e-rickshaws to the Ambassador of Senegal in New Delhi.
- ❖ The move is in a gesture symbolising the partnership between the two countries in the clean energy sector.

- ❖ Responding to the request of Senegal President India is supplying 250 e-rickshaws with lithium-ion batteries on grant basis to Senegal.
 - ❖ The e-rickshaws to be supplied to Senegal were manufactured by Goenka Electric Motor Vehicles Private Limited.
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