

December – 04

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The UK's Cambridge Dictionary has declared **nomophobia**, the word that describes the stress and anxiety caused by being separated from your mobile device, as the **People's Word of 2018**.
 - For the first time, the Cambridge editors asked the public to vote for the word that best summed up 2018.
- ❖ United Nations selected **Noida and Greater Noida**, twin cities in Gautam Buddha Nagar district of Uttar Pradesh, adjoining New Delhi to participate in its Global Sustainable Cities 2025 initiative in the **"University City"** category.
 - It is the only invitee from India.

TAMIL NADU

Tamil Nadu increased health insurance cover

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government hiked the health insurance cover under the **Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme** (CMCHIS) from Rs 2 lakh to Rs 5 lakh.
- ❖ This would come into effect from December 1, 2018 and would benefit 1.58 crore families as a cashless scheme.
- ❖ This follows the decision of the State Government to link the scheme with Centre's Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana under the Ayushman Bharat programme.
- ❖ The beneficiaries can get treatment in government hospitals or at more than 700 empanelled private hospitals, with nearly 40% of them with NABH (National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers) accreditation.

Tejas Express

- ❖ The Indian Railways operated Integral Coach Factory (ICF) has rolled out modern and feature filled coaches for Tejas Express.
- ❖ The second feature-rich Tejas superfast express train [will be operated between Chennai and Madurai](#).

- ❖ This is the **first time** that we have manufactured an ultra-modern train for **Tamil Nadu**.
- ❖ The first Tejas train is being operated between Mumbai and Goa since 2017.



Tamil Nadu sets up animal welfare board

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has set up an animal welfare board with chief minister Edappadi K Palaniswami as its chairman.
- ❖ The Animal husbandry minister is the vice-chairman of the 14-member board, which will have the chief secretary and heads of various departments as ex-officio members.
- ❖ There will be honorary members representing 'Society for prevention of cruelty to animals' (SPCA), which is to be established by the board.
- ❖ The move came to ensure the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 implemented in both letter and spirit.

LATE TO THE SHOW

The State Animal Welfare Board will work with the government/ local authority for/ to:

- Form societies which will establish, manage infirmaries, animal shelters, cattle pound and monitor private gaushalas
- Suggest measures to prevent suffering of animals during

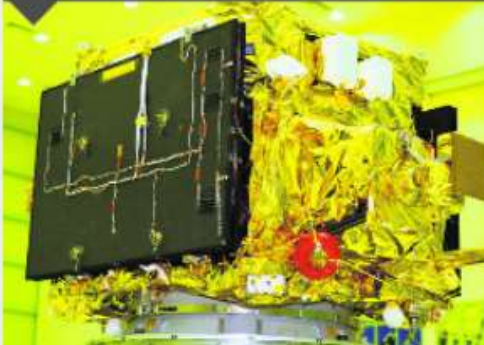
transportation

- Advise in design, maintenance of slaughter houses in humane ways, ensure destruction of terminally ill animals whenever necessary
- Advise the state on matters relating to vaccinations, medical care & animal birth control

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

ISRO successfully launches earth observation satellite HysIS

- ❖ ISRO has successfully launched country's first advance earth observation satellite Hyper Spectral Imaging Satellite (HysIS) along with 30 other satellites from 8 countries.

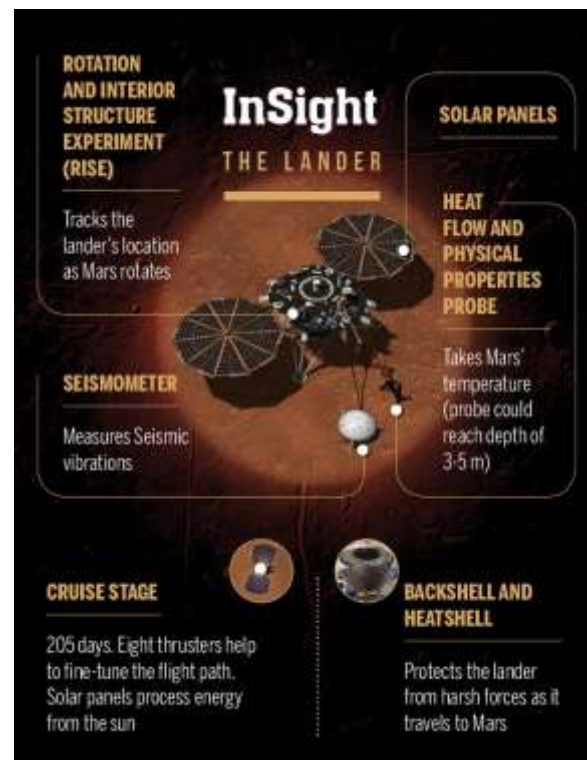
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSLV-C43 mission will launch 31 satellites in total into 2 orbits • Slated to last just under 2 hours, it will be ISRO's 3rd longest mission • 30 co-passengers include a micro satellite (100-kg class) and 29 nano satellites (under 10 kg). They are from United 	<p>States of America (23), Australia, Canada, Columbia, Finland, Malaysia, Netherlands and Spain (one satellite each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They foreign satellites together weigh around 261 kg • Their launches were booked with ISRO's arm Antrix Corporation 	<p>The main payload HysIS (in pic) - developed by ISRO - is built to work for five years. It will aid detailed, high-definition study of Earth's surface. It will be placed in a polar orbit 636 km away at an inclination of 97.957 degrees. It alone weighs 380 kg</p> 
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- ❖ These satellites were launched on board of ISRO's workhorse PSLV-C43 from Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) at Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ It is India's first hyperspectral imaging satellite for advanced earth observation developed indigenously by ISRO.

- ❖ PSLV-C43 was 45th flight of Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) and it was 'Core Alone' version of PSLV i.e. lightest version of the launch vehicle.
- ❖ PSLV is four stage launch vehicles with alternating solid and liquid stages.
 - **Hyperspectral imaging** - combines power of **digital imaging and spectroscopy**.

Nasa's InSight probe lands on Mars

- ❖ NASA's InSight spacecraft has landed safely on the surface of Mars at Elysium Planitia after a six-month journey.
- ❖ It was NASA's 9th attempt to land at Mars since the 1976 Viking probes with 8 of them successfully landing on the Mars.
- ❖ The last landed spacecraft on Mars by NASA was on the year 2012.
- ❖ InSight will spend 24 months – about one Martian year.
- ❖ The InSight has carried with itself, the instruments that detect planetary heat and seismic rumblings never measured anywhere else but Earth.
- ❖ InSight stands for Interior Exploration Using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy and Heat Transport.



STATES

Open Transit Data portal

- ❖ Delhi Government launched a dedicated Open Transit Data portal in the website www.otd.delhi.gov.in – to spot the locations of cluster buses at intervals of 10 seconds.
- ❖ This portal was designed and developed by IIT-Delhi.

- ❖ Thus, Delhi became the first city in the country to open up transit data of city buses.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

First Indian to be elected ISSF's vice-president

- ❖ Raninder Singh became the first Indian to be elected as the vice-president of the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF).
- ❖ The elections were held during the General Assembly meeting of ISSF in Munich.
- ❖ The 51-year-old Raninder is currently the president of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI).
- ❖ **Vladimir Lisin**, of Russia was elected as the **7th president of ISSF** and **Alexander Rather** was elected as the **new secretary general of ISSF** in the same General Assembly meeting.
- ❖ Also, Indian Shooter and 2008 Olympic gold medalist, **Abhinav Bindra** was honoured with the **prestigious Blue Cross**, the highest recognition of the ISSF in the meeting.
- ❖ He is the first Indian to be conferred with shooting's highest award now.

SPORTS

Tata Motors Senior National Championship

- ❖ Vinesh Phogat has won the Gold medal in 57 kg Wrestling at the Tata Motors Senior Women's National Championship hosted by Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ Sakshi Malik has won the Gold medal in the 62 kg category.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Armed Forces Week – 1 to 7 December

- ❖ The Armed Forces Flag Day was first celebrated in India on 7th of December in the year 1949.
- ❖ The 70th Armed Forces Flag Day will be observed on December 7, 2018.

- ❖ The day celebrates the wellbeing of the staff of the Indian Armed forces by means of funds collected from all around the country.

World Aids Day – 01 December

- ❖ World AIDS Day is celebrated on December 1 every year since 1988.
- ❖ This year it marks the 30th anniversary of World AIDS Day.
- ❖ It is dedicated to raise awareness, educate and improve the understanding of HIV as a global public health problem.
- ❖ The Theme of the day for the year 2018 is ‘Know Your Status’.
- ❖ The World Health Organization (WHO) had designated 1st December as World AIDS Day in 1987.
- ❖ It is one of the eight official global public health campaigns marked by the WHO.

International Day for Abolition of Slavery – 02 December

- ❖ The International Day for Abolition of Slavery will be marked on December 2 every year.
- ❖ It aims to end slavery which includes sexual exploitation, forced marriage, trafficking of persons and recruitment of child labour.
- ❖ This year the day marks the 32nd anti-slavery day.
- ❖ The day marks the 1949 adoption of the UN Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others.
- ❖ This day was first celebrated by the United Nations General Assembly on 2 December, 1986.

World Computer Literacy Day – 02 December

- ❖ The World Computer Literacy Day will be celebrated on December 2 every year.
 - ❖ It aims to “create awareness and drive digital literacy in underserved communities worldwide”.
 - ❖ World Computer Literacy Day was founded by Indian computer company NIIT to mark its 20th anniversary in 2001.
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