

**December – 20**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ The Merriam-Webster dictionary has declared 'Justice' as the 2018 Word of The Year. As per Merriam-Webster, the word 'Justice' is used in many phrases like racial justice, social justice and obstruction of justice.

## **TAMIL NADU**

### **TN fishermen get ISRO Gadgets**

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has distributed 200 NavIC powered and satellite enabled communication devices to 80 fishing boat groups in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ These gadgets will help the Tamil Nadu fishermen to get cyclone and weather updates on a real-time basis.
- ❖ The NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation) can be understood as the Indian version of the American GPS (Global Positioning System).
- ❖ The alerts will be in the Tamil language and these gadgets have been given free of cost.

### **TN Govt. to take over IRT (Indian Road Transport) medical college**

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government will take over the administration and management of IRT-Perundurai Medical College and Hospital in Erode from the 2019-2020 academic year.
- ❖ The move comes as the transport corporations are unable to administrate the institution with dwindling funds.
- ❖ With this, the State health department will have one more college to its existing bouquet of 22 medical colleges.

## **NATIONAL**

### **WEF gender gap index 2018**

- ❖ The World Economic Forum (WEF) has recently released the Global Gender Gap Report for the year 2018.

- ❖ India has come at 108th position, remains unchanged from the position in 2017 rankings.



- ❖ India's gap is widened in the health and survival sub index and for the very first time it has been able to fully close the gender gap in the tertiary education.
- ❖ Iceland has been ranked as number 1 in the WEF's Gender Gap Index for the 10th consecutive year.
- ❖ Norway came at 2nd spot, followed by Sweden at 3<sup>rd</sup>, Finland at 4<sup>th</sup> and Nicaragua at 5<sup>th</sup> spot in the rankings.
- ❖ According to the report, the World has closed 68 % of its gender gap and at the current rate of change, it will take
  - 108 years to close the overall gender gap and
  - 202 years to bring about gender parity in the workplace.

## INTERNATIONAL

### Theresa May survives no-confidence vote

- ❖ The UK Prime Minister Theresa May survived a vote of no-confidence triggered by the members of her own Conservative party.
- ❖ In secret ballot, 200 lawmakers backed May and 117 lawmakers voted against her.
- ❖ Her victory means fellow Conservatives cannot challenge her for another year.
- ❖ May could still face a challenge in Parliament if the opposition Labour Party seeks a confidence vote in the House of Commons (Lower House) over the European Union (EU) divorce plan.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### World's oldest plant virus discovered

- ❖ The World's oldest plant virus dating back 1,000 years named Zea Mays Chryso Virus 1 (ZMCV1) has been discovered by the scientists at a Native American archaeological site.
- ❖ The previous oldest was found about 750 years ago.
- ❖ They discovered it from the Antelope House, an Ancestral Puebloan ruin located at Canyon de Chelly National Monument, Arizona of the USA.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Mount Soputan volcano erupted

- ❖ Central Indonesia's Mount Soputan Volcano erupted twice on Sulawesi Island sending ash about 7.5 km high in the sky.
- ❖ Mount Soputan was located on the northern part of Sulawesi island, Indonesia.
- ❖ Indonesia has around 129 active volcanoes and Mount Soputan is one of them.
- ❖ The most active volcanoes of Indonesia are Kelud and Merapi.
- ❖ Indonesia is prone to earthquakes and volcanic eruptions due to its location on the Pacific "Ring of Fire."



## STATES

### Chief Minister of Rajasthan

- ❖ Ashok Gehlot took oath as the Rajasthan 12th Chief Minister of Rajasthan on 17 December 2018.



- ❖ Whereas Sachin Pilot took oath as the Deputy Chief Minister. The Governor Kalyan Singh administered the oath.
- ❖ Ashok Gehlot was a senior congress leader who has been selected for Chief Minister 3<sup>rd</sup> time.

### Election result

- ❖ The poll was held in 199 seats out of 200, the Congress bagged 99 seats, and the BJP 73.

### Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh

- ❖ The Congress leader Bhupesh Baghel Sworn in as 3rd Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh at Raipur, Capital of Chhattisgarh on 17 December 2018.
- ❖ The Swearing in Ceremony was administered by Governor Anandiben Patel.



- ❖ Bhupesh Baghel Succeeds Raman Singh, who was the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh from 2003 to 2018.

### Election result

- ❖ Congress got a massive majority in 90-member Vidhan Sabha of Chhattisgarh where the party won 68 seats, and the BJP got just 15 seats.

### Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh

- ❖ The Congress leader **Kamal Nath**, took oath as **18<sup>th</sup> Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh** at Kanpur, Madhya Pradesh on 17 Dec 2018.





- ❖ The Governor Anandiben Patel administered the oath of office of Kamal Nath.
- ❖ He **Succeeds Shivraj Singh Chouhan**, who hold the Office as Chief Minister from 2005 till 16th December 2018.

### Election result

- ❖ The Congress won 114 seats.
- ❖ With the support of 1 Samajwadi Party legislator and 2 Bahujan Samaj Party legislators and 4 independents, it crossed the majority mark of 116 seats in the 230-member Assembly.

## **PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS**

### **Madhavi Divan - New Additional Solicitor General**

- ❖ The Union government has appointed advocate Madhavi Goradia Divan as the Additional Solicitor General (ASG) in the government of India.
- ❖ She will hold office of ASG till 30 June, 2020 and will appear in the Supreme Court on behalf of the government of India.
- ❖ She is the 3<sup>rd</sup> woman to hold the post of ASG.
- ❖ Senior advocate Indira Jaising was the 1<sup>st</sup> woman in India to become ASG. Pinky Anand was the 2<sup>nd</sup> woman and she still holds the post.
- ❖ ASG is the 3<sup>rd</sup> ranked law-officer in the Indian government. The post of ASG is not constitutional as the constitution does not have any provisions regarding this.

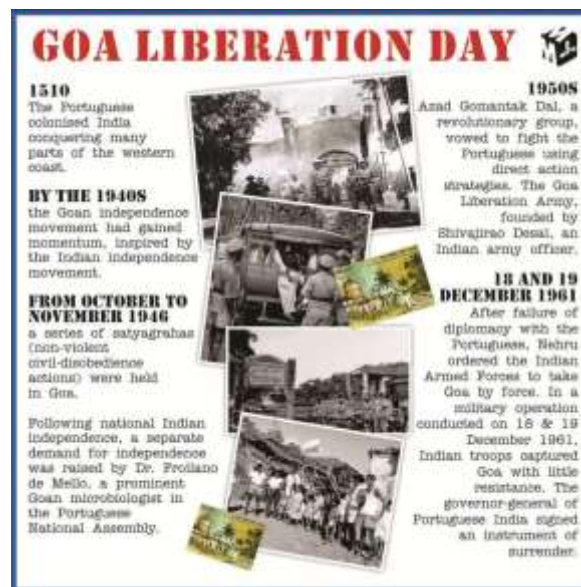
## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **Minorities Rights Day – 18 December**

- ❖ The Minorities Rights Day is Celebrated on 18th of December every year.
- ❖ The day is aimed at promoting, preserving and safeguarding the rights of the people belonging to linguistic, religious, caste and colour minorities in India.
- ❖ On 18th December 1992 the UN promulgated the “Declaration on the Rights of Persons belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities” to strengthen the cause of the minorities.
- ❖ The National Commission for Minorities celebrates the Minority Rights Day every year on 18<sup>th</sup> December.

## Goa Liberation Day - 19 December

- ❖ Goa Liberation Day is observed every year on 19th of December,
  - To celebrate the liberation of Goa from Portuguese control after almost 450 years of colonial rule.
  - To pay their homage to the martyrs who laid down their lives on 19 Dec 1961 in the “Operation Vijay”.
- ❖ It was provided the statehood in 1987 and thereby became one of the richest and top per capita income states of India.
- ❖ It is 57th Liberation Day for Goa.
- ❖ It was on 19 December, 1961 the “Operation Vijay” was undertaken by the Indian Navy for liberation of Anjadiv Islands and Territories of Goa, Daman and Diu from the Portuguese rule.
- ❖ The deposed Governor General of Portugal in India Manuel Antonio vassalo e silva surrendered to the then Chief of Army Staff General Pran Nath Thapar.



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