

January – 19

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ 6-time women's world boxing champion and Olympic medallist M C Mary Kom was named as the event ambassador for the 16th Tata Mumbai Marathon which will be held in January 20, 2019.
 - It would be organized by Procam International.
- ❖ The Centre has ordered moving a strategic Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) command from its current base in Chandigarh to the border of Leh in Jammu and Kashmir, despite the growing concerns over the Chinese military build-up along the eastern edge of the country.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh became the 3rd state after Jharkhand and Gujarat to approve the 10% reservation for economically backward among upper castes in jobs and educational institutions.
- ❖ The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, organized the 2nd regional conference at Nehru Centre, Mumbai, on a scheme titled 'Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS)'.
- ❖ The 2019 edition of 'Saksham', an annual high intensity one-month long people-centric mega campaign of Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA) under the aegis of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas was launched in New Delhi.
- ❖ Stephen Constantine steps down as the head coach of the Indian Football team following the team's exit from 2019 AFC (Asian Football Confederation) Asian Cup. India faced failure against Bahrain at the Sharjah Stadium.
 - This was Constantine's second regime as India's Head Coach after 2005.
- ❖ RBI has recently imposed a Rs 1-crore penalty on state-owned Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) for non-compliance of Know Your Customer (KYC) guidelines and fraud-classification norms.
- ❖ A volcano has erupted on Kuchinoerabu Island of Japan. The eruption occurred on Mount Shindake. Mount Shindake had experienced explosive eruption in 2015.
- ❖ Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen has appointed Su Tseng-chang as Prime Minister, during a Cabinet reshuffle following the ruling Democratic Progressive Party's heavy losses in local elections.



TAMIL NADU

MGR birth anniversary Commemorative coins

- ❖ Two commemorative coins in the denomination of Rs 100 and Rs 5 were released to mark the 102nd birth anniversary of late Tamil Nadu chief minister M G Ramachandran.
- ❖ As part of birth anniversary celebrations, 66 feet wide and 52 feet tall "Dr MGR Centenary Arch", constructed across the Kamarajar road, off the famous Marina beach, was also unveiled.



NATIONAL

IAF AN-32 lands in Pakyong Airport

- ❖ For the first time, an AN-32 (Antonov-32) class of aircraft of the IAF has carried out a successful landing at Sikkim's Pakyong, one of the highest airfields in the country.
- ❖ The successful landing has assumed great importance due to its strategic location of 60 km from the India-China border and it is located 4,500 ft. above sea level.
- ❖ A Dronier aircraft of the IAF had landed at this airport last year.



INTERNATIONAL

India and Australia mining safety agreement

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has given its approval for signing a memorandum of understanding with the Australian state of Queensland to improve mining safety in both countries.
- ❖ This agreement will establish a partnership between
 - Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS), the department of the Indian Government responsible for granting mining permits and enforcing safety legislation, and
 - Safety in Mines, Testing and Research Station (SIMTARS), Australian research group that works to improve the conditions of mines and provide safety training to workers.
- ❖ This two groups will work together to establish a safety management system, train employees in best safety practices, and organise a number of meetings, including conferences and seminars.

ECONOMY

'Know Your Budget' series in Twitter - MoF

- ❖ The Union Finance Ministry has started the Know Your Budget series on Twitter to educate the general public about the budgetary process.
- ❖ The series contains definitions of various terms used in the budget.
- ❖ The series began with explaining the terms: Union Budget and Vote on Account.
- ❖ The government on February 1, 2019 would unveil the interim Budget for 2019-20.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

SpaceX 's communications satellites

- ❖ The SpaceX rocket delivered 10 satellites to low-Earth orbit, completing a two-year campaign by Iridium Communications.



- ❖ This will replace its original fleet with a new generation of mobile communication technology and added global aircraft tracking capability.
- ❖ Previously used first stage was recovered again with a bullseye landing on a "droneship" in the ocean while the upper stage continued on to orbit.
- ❖ The 8th and final launch of the Iridium NEXT project completed the delivery of 75 new satellites to orbit for the McLean Virginia company.
- ❖ Sixty-six will be operational and nine will serve as in-orbit spares. Six other satellites remain on the ground as spares.

STATES

Kerala HC disqualifies MLA Karat Razack

- ❖ The High Court of Kerala had disqualified an independent MLA Karat Razack from the Koduvally Assembly constituency
- ❖ He has been disqualified for his defamatory campaign against the rival candidate during the 2016 Assembly polls.
- ❖ The disqualification was as per the provisions of the Representation of the Peoples Act 1951.

SPORTS

Laureus World Comeback of Year Award

- ❖ The Indian female wrestler **Vinesh Phogat**, who hails from Haryana, became the first Indian athlete to receive a nomination in the prestigious Laureus World Comeback of the Year Award.
- ❖ She was nominated due to her comeback after battling a long injury lay-off to win a gold medal at the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games and Jakarta Asian Games.
- ❖ Besides her, US Tour Championship winner Tiger Woods, Canadian snowboarder Mark McMorris, American alpine ski racer Lindsey Vonn, Japanese figure skater Yuzuru Manyu, and Dutch para-snowboarding star Bibian Mentel-Spee have also been nominated for the same.



MISCELLANEOUS

World Orange Festival

- ❖ The 2nd world Orange Festival commenced for the first time in the city of oranges, Nagpur on 18th January, 2019.
- ❖ The festival will also showcase and brand the exquisite fruit in order to boost its export.
- ❖ The festival is being presented by UPL and hosted by the Maharashtra Tourism.
