



**SHANKAR  
IAS ACADEMY™**

The Best IAS Academy In South India SINCE 2004

**ENGLISH  
FEBRUARY(1-15)  
2019**

# TNPSC ZERO CURRENT AFFAIRS PRELIMS

**0%**  
Effort

**100%**  
Results



[www.tnpscervupettagam.com](http://www.tnpscervupettagam.com)



[tnpscfeedback@shankarias.in](mailto:tnpscfeedback@shankarias.in)



Available @Bookmark Store.

Plot No 1742, 1st Floor, 18th Main Road, Anna Nagar West, Chennai – 600 040

**Contact : 044-43533445 | 044-45543082.**

**Centres :** Chennai - Annanagar & Adyar | Salem | Madurai | Trichy | Coimbatore | Namakkal.

## **FEBRUARY – 2019**

### ***TAMIL NADU***

- 1) **Digicop App: Chennai Police and Actor Vijay Sethupathi** jointly launched the mobile app “Digicop” through this app people can track the stolen two wheelers and mobile phones also know the nearest police station and traffic alerts.
- 2) **No-caste-No-religion Certificate: Snegha Parthibaraja**, a lawyer from Vellore becomes the 1<sup>st</sup> Indian to obtain ‘No-caste-No-religion’ certificate
- 3) Tamil Nadu Government released a new **“Tamil Nadu Solar Energy Policy 2019”** on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019
- 4) Tamil Nadu government planned to started “Amma Ambulance” soon **for the maintenance of livestock**
- 5) State Cooperative Aavin milk is now available in Qatar
- 6) Aavin launched **full cream milk (200 ml) at a price of Rs 10** in Tirunelveli and Tuticorin districts
- 7) **Pallavan Grama Bank and Pandyan Grama Bank will be merged to form the Tamil Nadu Grama Bank** under the sponsorship of Indian Bank.
- 8) Chennai Metro Rail line between **Washermenpet to AG-DMS** started to function on **10<sup>th</sup> February 2019**
- 9) UK-based **‘Laureti Automotive Corporation’** has proposed to set up in Puducherry
- 10) **Robo Boat:** Chennai based National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) developed Robo boat to study about oceans
- 11) Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami announced to open the **‘Integrated livestock park’** in **Salem district**
- 12) Tamil Nadu government has passed a bill to promote **‘Contract farming’** on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019

## NATIONAL

### 1) PULWAMA ATTACK:

- ✓ On 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019 countries one of the worst attack on security personnel (CRPF) took place at Awantipora in Jammu and Kashmir's Pulwama district.
- ✓ The National Highway NH1 that connects Srinagar and Jammu passes through Pulwama.
- ✓ 44 CRPF Jawans were killed by an attack purported by Jaish-e-Mohammed
- ✓ Pulwama is nicknamed as the rice bowl of Kashmir

- 2) India has set the target to eliminate Tuberculosis in India by 2025.
- 3) The Union government renamed Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) as **the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade**
- 4) **Smart Village Campaign:** The Punjab government approved a rural development scheme "Smart Village Campaign" to build village infrastructure and provide essential amenities.
- 5) President opened "Rashtrapati Bhavan" for public to celebrate the annual "**Udyanotsav**"
- 6) CJI Ranjan Gogoi opened the newly built **High Court for Andhra Pradesh** in Nelapadu, Andhra Pradesh.
- 7) **Kisan Credit Card:** The union govt to launch a campaign to saturate farmers for financial inclusion under KCC
- 8) **Kerala** becomes the 1<sup>st</sup> state to set up **price monitoring and research unit** to track violation of prices of essential drugs and medical devices under the Drugs Price Control Order (DPCO)
- 9) **Zero Fatality Corridor:** Delhi Government has launched Zero Fatality Corridor **aims to curb the number of accidents.**
- 10) Textile Minister **Smriti Irani** has launched the **India Size project** (first-of-its-kind project in the history of the country) in Mumbai.

- 11) **Great Indian Bustard** announced as the for Conference Of Parties (COP-13)
- 12) **Himalayan Cloud Observatory** has been set up in **Tehri district, Uttarakhand**
- 13) Railways Minister Piyush goyal launched IEA's "**The Future of Rail**" Report
- 14) **Shehri Samridhi Utsav**: An initiative of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) aims to extend the outreach of Deendayal Antyodaya Mission – National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM)
- 15) '**Darwaza Band- Part 2**' campaign launched by Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen focuses on sustaining the open defecation free status of villages across the country.
- 16) The State Government of Jammu and Kashmir issued a notification of creation of **Ladakh as 3<sup>rd</sup> Administrative Division in the state**.
- 17) The Ministry of Environment launched a **three-year Asiatic Lion Conservation Project** in collaboration with the state of **Gujarat**.
- 18) PM Modi launches channel "**DD Arunprabha**" for Arunachal Pradesh
- 19) The Meghalaya Cabinet has decided to rename the **Dikkibandi stadium** in Tura town after former Lok Sabha **Speaker Purno A Sangma**.
- 20) India's 1<sup>st</sup> Aqua Mega Food Park Commissioned in **Andhra Pradesh**
- 21) India's 1<sup>st</sup> District cooling system will come up in **Amravati, Andhra Pradesh**
- 22) **India's 1<sup>st</sup> Geographical Indication (GI) store** was inaugurated at **Goa International Airport in Dabolim**.
- 23) **Ghumot** to be declared **Goa's heritage musical instrument**
- 24) The President of India Ram Nath Kovind has unveiled the life size portrait of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

- 25) **Sarthi Sandesh Vahini vehicles** were flagged off by **Uttar Pradesh** Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath *to spread awareness regarding family planning in urban and rural areas*
- 26) **ASCEND 2019** is an ambitious initiative of the **Kerala government** *to position the state as an investment hotspot.*
- 27) PM Narendra Modi laid Foundation Stone for the **Sela Tunnel Project** *in Arunachal Pradesh across Sela Pass*

### INTERNATIONAL

- 1) **State Bank of India's Uk chief Mr. Sanjiv Chadha** has been honored with the **'Freedom of the City Of London'** by the city of London Corporation in recognition of his contribution to promoting the bilateral relations.
- 2) The US president Donald Trump on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019 had declared a national emergency to fund the US-Mexico border without congressional approval
- 3) **Thailand** named **Siamese Fighting Fish** its **National Aquatic Animal.**
- 4) **Dubai airport** retains the 1<sup>st</sup> position as **"World's Busiest Airport"**
- 5) **Macedonia** Officially Changed its Name to **North Macedonia**
- 6) **Sultan Abdullah** sworn in as new **Malaysian King.**
- 7) **UAE** to build church, mosque named after Saint Francis and Grand Imam in Abu Dhabi
- 8) **Indus River dolphin** declared as **state aquatic animal of Punjab**
- 9) **Abu Dhabi** declaring Hindi as the **Third official language** in courts after Arabic and English.
- 10) India withdraws most favoured nation status to Pakistan.
- 11) India And Germany Join Hands On Water And Waste Management.
- 12) 5th India-Bangladesh Joint Consultative Committee Meet Held in New Delhi



13) India and Norway Launched Initiative To Combat Marine Pollution

**SUMMITS & CONFERENCES**

| SUMMITS / CONFERENCES                                      | PURPOSE / THEME / OUTCOME  | PLACE                        | DATE  |
|--|--|------------------------------|---|
| <b>ICT Academy Bridge 2019</b>                             | Theme: "Fostering India for Industry 4.0"  | Tamil Nadu                   | 5 <sup>th</sup> February 2019                     |
| <b>World Sustainable Development Summit 2019</b>           |  | New Delhi                    | 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2019                    |
| <b>PETROTECH-2019</b>                                      | International Oil and Gas Conference   | Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh | 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2019                    |
| <b>National Conference on Unani Medicine</b>               | On this occasion, AYUSH Awards for Unani Medicine were conferred   | New Delhi                    | 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2019                    |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of Asia LPG Summit 2019</b>      | Two-day event will focus on "LPG – Energy for Life"  | New Delhi                    | 5 <sup>th</sup> - 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2019   |
| <b>Parmanu Tech 2019 - Nuclear Energy Conference</b>       | The main motive of this conference is to showcase India's capabilities in Nuclear Energy with environmental responsibility | New Delhi                    | 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2019                     |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> LAWASIA Human Rights Conference 2019</b> | Theme: "State Power, Business and Human Rights: Contemporary Challenges"   | New Delhi                    | 9 <sup>th</sup> - 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2019  |
| <b>5<sup>th</sup> International Dam Safety Conference</b>  |  | Bhubaneswar, Odisha          | 13 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2019 |
| <b>7<sup>th</sup> World Government Summit</b>              | The main objective of the summit is to shape the future generation of governments  | Dubai, UAE                   | 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2019                    |
| <b>Asia LPG Summit</b>                                     | Theme: "LPG – Energy for Life"   | New Delhi                    | 5 <sup>th</sup> February 2019                     |

**SCHEMES / YOJANAS**

| SCHEMES / YOJANAS   | PURPOSE / Why in News?  | MINISTRY / CABINET | DATE                           |
|---|---|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Mukhyamantri Vridhajan Pension Yojna</b>               | Universal old age pension scheme  | Bihar government   | 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2019 |
| <b>Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan pension scheme</b> | Under the scheme, workers of the unorganised sector will receive a minimum assured pension of three thousand rupees per month after attaining the age of 60 years | Union government   | 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2019 |
| <b>Arundhati Scheme</b>                                   | Provide gold at free of cost to the brides  | Assam government   | 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2019  |

|                                   |  |                   |                               |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>KALIA Chhatra Bruti Yojana</b> | Children of farmers will be provided scholarships to pursue higher education in professional courses at free of cost | Odisha government | 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2019 |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------------------|

### INDICES

| INDEX                              | PURPOSE / RELEASED BY                  | INDIA'S RANKING | TOP RANKING |
|------------------------------------|--|-----------------|-------------|
| <b>International IP index 2019</b> | Global Innovation Policy Center (GIPC) | 44              | 50          |

### WOMEN IN NEWS

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Hina Jaiswal    | Becomes the First Woman Flight Engineer of Indian Air Force                                 |
| Bhavana Kasturi | 1 <sup>st</sup> Woman officer to lead an all men Army contingent in the Republic Day parade |
| Suman Kumari    | 1 <sup>st</sup> Hindu Woman in Pakistan to be appointed as a civil judge                    |
| Mithali Raj     | 1 <sup>st</sup> Indian woman to play 200 ODI Cricket Matches                                |

### MILITARY EXERCISES IN FEBRUARY 2019

| EXERCISE NAME                | HELD BETWEEN | TYPE OF EXERCISE   | PLACE  | DATE   |
|------------------------------|--------------|--|--|--|
| <b>Aman 19</b>               | 46 countries | Multinational Maritime Exercise                            | Karachi, Pakistan                                | 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2019                           |
| <b>Exercise Topchi 2019</b>  |              | Indian Army Annual Exercise                                | Nashik, Maharashtra                              | 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2019                           |
| <b>Cutclass Express 2019</b> |              | Multinational Naval Exercise                               | Vicinity of Djibouti, Mozambique and Seychelles. | 27 <sup>th</sup> January – 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2019 |
| <b>Exercise Rahat</b>        |              | Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Exercise | Rajasthan  | 11 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2019        |

### ROCKETS LAUNCHED IN FEBRUARY 2019

| SATELLITES   | COUNTRY | LAUNCH VEHICLE  | PURPOSE   | LAUNCH DATE                   |
|--|---------|-----------------|---|-------------------------------|
| <b>GSAT-31 (India's 40<sup>th</sup> communication)</b> | India   | Ariane-5 VA-247 | Augment the Ku-band transponder capacity in Geostationary Orbit | 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2019 |

## DEFENCE & SPACE

- 1) ISRO Sets Up the Human Space Flight Centre for **Gaganyaan Mission in Bengaluru**
- 2) ISRO has launched a special programme for School Children called “Young Scientist Programme” **“YUva Vigyani KAryakram”**
- 3) India has successfully undertaken the demonstration of the **indigenously developed propulsion technology (Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet technology)**
- 4) **NASA’s** 1<sup>st</sup> Mini – Spacecraft named **“MarCO CubeSats”** has lost touch in atmosphere.

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- 1) **iAPS:** Scientists have developed an artificial pancreas Smartphone app “iAPS” for regulating the blood sugar levels in diabetes patients.
- 2) AYUSH Minister launches **e-AUSHADHI Portal:** for online licensing of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy drugs
- 3) **Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) App** has Launched
- 4) Year 2018 was the fourth warmest year on record after 2015, 2016, 2017
- 5) **LADIS:** The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) launched a new portal LADIS – Least Available Depth to aid in ensuring of optimum use of National Waterways

## ECONOMICS

- 1) **Union Interim Budget 2019-20:**
  - ✓ **Started on: 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019** – President Presented Joint sitting of the Houses
  - ✓ **Presented on: 1<sup>st</sup> February 2019**
  - ✓ **Presented by:** Union Minister for Finance, Corporate Affairs, Railways & Coal, Mr. Piyush Goyal



✓ **Concluded on: 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

**New Schemes Introduced in the Budget:**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme | Assistance to the small and marginal farmers with an assured supplemental income              |
| Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Mandhan        | Provide unorganized sector workers a comprehensive social security coverage for their old age |
| Rashtriya Kamdhenu Aayog                 | Enhance production and productivity of cows   |

- 2) **India's tourism** sector registers **19% growth in 2018**.
- 3) **The Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme 2018-19:** issued from 4<sup>th</sup> February – 8<sup>th</sup> February 2019 in India
- 4) **RBI cuts repo rate by 25 basis points to 6.25% in bi-monthly policy review of 2018 – 19:**

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| <b>Repo Rate</b>                       | <b>6.25%</b> |
| <b>Reverse Repo Rate</b>               | <b>6.0 %</b> |
| <b>Marginal Standing Facility Rate</b> | <b>6.50%</b> |
| <b>Bank Rate</b>                       | <b>6.50%</b> |

- 5) **Kisan Suvidha loan** for small and marginal farmers has been launched by Ujjivan Small Finance Bank.

**AWARDS**

| <b>AWARDS / PRIZES</b>                           | <b>PERSON / ORGANIZATION</b>                      |
|--|---|
| France highest Legion of Honor                   | Francois Laborde                                  |
| Lifetime Achievement Award from Canadian Academy | Deepa Mehta                                       |
| Israel's Dan David Prize 2019                    | Indian Historian Sanjay Subrahmanyam              |
| Swachhata Excellence awards 2019                 | Raigarh of Chhattisgarh – 1 <sup>st</sup> Place   |
|  | Ambikapur of Chhattisgarh – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place |
|  | Kumbakonam of Tamil Nadu – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place  |

**APPOINTMENTS & PERSONS IN NEWS**

| <b>PERSONS</b>     | <b>POSITION / DESIGNATION</b> |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Rishi Kumar Shukla | CBI Director                  |
| Sushil Chandra     | new Election Commissioner     |

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Lt. General Rajeev Chopra | Director General of NCC                          |
| Suman Kumari              | Pakistan's 1 <sup>st</sup> Hindu Woman Judge     |
| P V Bharathi              | CEO of Corporation Bank                          |
| Egypt President El-Sissi  | Elected as chairman of the African Union         |
| Pradeep Singh Kharola     | Civil Aviation Secretary                         |
| Ashwani Lohani            | Chairman and managing director of Air India      |
| Sanjiv Ranjan             | Ambassador of India To The Republic Of Colombia  |
| Dinesh Bhatia             | Ambassador of India To The Republic Of Argentina |
| P V Bharathi              | CEO Of Corporation Bank                          |

## SPORTS

- 1) **Smriti Mandhana** reached the No.1 spot in Women's ODI Batting Ranking. (also ICC Women Player of the Year 2018)
- 2) Indian opener Smriti Mandhana scored the fastest fifty for India in Women's T20Is just 24 balls
- 3) **Qatar** wins Asian Football Champions 2019 against Japan in Abu Dhabi
- 4) **Vani Kapoor** has become the 1<sup>st</sup> Indian golfer to receive the **Australian Women's PGA Tour card.**
- 5) **Vidarbha** grab second successive Ranji Trophy Title 2018 against Saurashtra in Nagpur.
- 6) **Mirabai Chanu** notched up gold at EGAT Cup in Thailand
- 7) **Rohit Sharma** becomes highest run-scorer in T20 cricket
- 8) **Ramit Tandon** wins Seattle Squash Open
- 9) **Ricky Ponting** named Australia assistant coach for World Cup 2019 campaign
- 10) Former Australian Spinner Shane Warne named **brand ambassador of Rajasthan Royals in IPL**
- 11) **Clouded Leopard** to be the Mascot for National Games 2022
- 12) **INS Dronacharya** Wins Kochi Area Boat Pulling Regatta 2019

- 13) **Haryana Hammers** won the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Pro Wrestling League (PWL) by defeating Punjab

### **FESTIVALS**

- 1) **33<sup>rd</sup> Surajkund** International Crafts Mela Held at Faridabad, **Haryana**.
- 2) **Kala Ghoda Arts Festival:** India's largest multi – cultural street festival “Kala Ghoda Arts Festival” held at **Mumbai**.
- 3) **Boori Boot Yollo Festival:** Nyishi tribe from **Arunachal Pradesh** celebrated Boori Boot Yollo festival.
- 4) **Challachitram National Film Festival** will be held at **Guwahati** in March 2019

### **BOOKS AND AUTHORS**

| BOOKS  | AUTHORS  |
|--|--|
| <b>Let's Talk On Air: Conversations with Radio Presenters</b>              | Rakesh Anand Bakshi  |
| <b>Undaunted: Saving the Idea of India</b>                                 | P Chidambaram (former Finance Minister)                            |
| <b>What Marx Left Unsaid</b>   | Dr. Malay Chaudhari, Dr. Arindam Chaudhari and Che Kabir Chaudhari |
| <b>“Law, Justice and Judicial Power – Justice P N Bhagwati's Approach”</b> | Mool Chand Sharma  |

### **IMPORTANT DAYS**

| DAYS              | EVENTS  | THEMES/ SIGNIFICANCE   |
|-------------------|---|--|
| <b>February 2</b> | 8 <sup>th</sup> Annual Pulicat day                                | Create an awareness among people to protect the Lagoons                          |
|                   | World Wetland day   | Theme: “Wetlands and Climate change”   |
| <b>February 4</b> | World Cancer day  | Theme: “I Am and I will”   |
|                   | 71 <sup>st</sup> Independence day of Srilanka                     | Chief guest: Ibrahim Mhd Solih – Maldives President                              |
| <b>February 6</b> | International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation | Recognized internationally as a violation of the human rights of girls and women |

|                    |   |  |
|--------------------|---|--|
| <b>February 8</b>  | National Deworming day                          |  |
| <b>February 10</b> | World Pulses day                                |  |
|                    | International Day of Women and Girls in Science | Theme: “Investment in Women and Girls in Science for Inclusive Green Growth” |
| <b>February 11</b> | International Day Of Women And Girls In Science |  |
|                    | Unani day 2019                                  |  |
| <b>February 12</b> | National Productivity Day                       | Theme: “Circular Economy for Productivity & Sustainability”                  |
| <b>February 13</b> | World Radio day                                 | Theme: “Dialogue, Tolerance and Peace”                                       |

- **National Productivity Council is celebrating National Productivity week from February 12th to 18th, 2019. THEME: “Circular Economy for Productivity & Sustainability”**
- **India is celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> Road Safety Week from 04<sup>th</sup> February (Monday) to the 10<sup>th</sup> February (Sunday)**