

March – 07

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Prime Minister announced that the Chennai Central railway station will be rechristened after the former Chief Minister of the state MG Ramachandran on March 06.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister launched Amma Community Radio (Amma Samudhaya Vanoli) on March 06.
- ❖ Centre has notified a scheme for Transport and Marketing Assistance (TMA) for specified agriculture products.
- ❖ Ministers from the 16 RCEP Participating Countries (RPCs) attended the 7th RCEP Intersessional Ministerial Meeting held in Siem Reap, Cambodia.
- ❖ Malaysia has ratified the Rome Statute making it the 124th State party to the International Criminal Court (ICC).
- ❖ Appointment Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of P V Ramesh appointed as the director-general of the National Archives of India.
- ❖ Kaja Kallas, the leader of the Reform Party has been appointed as the first female Prime Minister of Estonia.

TAMIL NADU

Integrated Textile Policy

- ❖ TN State government announced its Integrated Textile Policy on March 06.
- ❖ It will give thrust to sustainable growth of the entire textile industry, promoting technical textiles, and encouraging textile industry in the southern districts.
- ❖ The earlier State policy for the textile sector was announced in 1998.
- ❖ As per the new policy,
 - State government will provide 100 per cent stamp duty exemption for technical textile projects,
 - State will Give 6 per cent interest subsidy for technical textile projects in addition to incentives from the Central Government,
 - 9 per cent of the project cost as state grant to set up technical textile parks under the Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITPs).



- ❖ For the handloom sector, the interest subsidy extended to primary handloom weavers' cooperative societies has been increased to 6 per cent from the existing 4 per cent.
- ❖ Allocation for the Rebate Subsidy Scheme will be hiked.
- ❖ Government will also make efforts to set up silk parks in clusters such as Kancheepuram, Salem, Arni, and Thirubhuvanam.

NATIONAL

Yuva Vigyani Karyakram

- ❖ ISRO has launched a special programme for school children called 'Young Scientist Programm' or 'YUva Vigyani KARYakram'.
- ❖ The program aims at imparting basic knowledge on space technology, space science and space applications to the younger ones.
- ❖ class 9 onwards will be provided residential training of around two weeks during their summer holidays.
- ❖ Three students from each state/ Union Territory will participate in this programme every year.

NALSA executive chairman

- ❖ President nominated Supreme Court Justice Sharad Arvind Bobde as the Executive Chairman of National Legal Services Authority (NALSA).

National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)

- ❖ National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) is a statutory body constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.
- ❖ It provides a free Legal Services to the weaker sections of the society.
- ❖ NALSA organises Lok Adalats for amicable settlement of disputes.
- ❖ Chief Justice of India is the Patron-in-Chief and the Senior most Judge of the Supreme Court of India is the Executive Chairman of the Authority.

National Annual Rural Sanitation Survey

- ❖ National Annual Rural Sanitation Survey (NARSS) 2018-19 conducted by an Independent Verification Agency (IVA) under the World Bank support project to the Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen (SBM-G).
- ❖ According to the Survey,
 - 93.1% of households were found to have access to toilets.
 - 96.5% of the people who had access to toilets used them
 - 90.7% of villages which were previously declared and verified as ODF were confirmed to be ODF.

Amendment of Form 26

- ❖ Law Ministry made it mandatory for election candidates to reveal their income-tax returns of the last five years, as well as the details of their offshore assets.
- ❖ This was done by amending Form 26, after the Election Commission of India's recommendations.
- ❖ Earlier, a candidate had to only declare the last I-T return (for self, spouse and dependents) and details of foreign assets were not considered.
- ❖ After the amendments, following details are mandatory for candidates:
 - Should reveal their own income-tax returns of the last five years rather than only one,



- Details of offshore assets, as well as the same details for their spouse, members of the Hindu Undivided Family.

Form 26

- ❖ A candidate in an election is required to file an affidavit called Form 26.
- ❖ It has the information of her assets, liabilities, educational qualifications, criminal antecedents (convictions and all pending cases) and public dues, if any.

INTERNATIONAL

Guinness World Record in Yoga

- ❖ Guinness World Record in Yoga was set by more than a thousand people who performed the Virabathrasan or the Warrior II Pose for 3 minutes.
- ❖ It was taking place at Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park, Hong Kong.
- ❖ This record is a first of its kind in the history of Hong Kong, beating the previous record of 387.

AL NAGAH 2019

- ❖ Third edition of the bilateral joint exercise between India and Oman, Al Nagah 2019 will begin at Jabel Al Akhdar Mountains in Oman.
- ❖ The exercise will see both the armies exchanging expertise and experience in tactics, weapon handling and firing.
- ❖ Its aims to enhance interoperability in counterterrorist operations.

IEA Bioenergy TCP











- ❖ Union Cabinet was approving Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas to joining IEA Bioenergy TCP as its 25th member.
- ❖ International Energy Agency's Technology Collaboration Programme on Bioenergy (IEA Bioenergy TCP) is an international platform for co-operation among countries.
- ❖ Its aimed to improving cooperation and information exchange between countries that have national programmes in bioenergy research, development and deployment.

- ❖ IEA Bioenergy TCP works under the framework of International Energy Agency (IEA) and India has "Association" status since 30th March, 2017.

ENVIRONMENT

World Air Quality Report

- ❖ IQAir AirVisual 2018 World Air Quality Report was compiled by Greenpeace in association with IQAir AirVisual.
- ❖ This index measures the presence of fine particulate matter PM2.5 in the air.
- ❖ According to the report,
 - Delhi has been ranked the most polluted capital in the world.
 - Gurugram is the most polluted city.
 - 22 of the top 30 most polluted cities are in India.

Rank	City	2017 AVG	2018 AVG
1	 Gurugram, India	145.6	135.8
2	 Ghaziabad, India	144.6	135.2
3	 Faisalabad, Pakistan	-	130.4
4	 Faridabad, India	123	129.1
5	 Bhiwadi, India	-	125.4
6	 Noida, India	134	123.6
7	 Patna, India	118.5	119.7
8	 Hotan, China	91.9	116
9	 Lucknow, India	119.2	115.7
10	 Lahore, Pakistan	133.2	114.9



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Swachh Survekshan Awards 2019

- ❖ Swachh Survekshan awards 2019 were conferred by President at a ceremony in New Delhi.

TABLE 3: Awarded ULBs - Overall National Level Ranking

Sl. No.	Award Category	Name Of The ULB
1	India's Cleanest City - No. 1	Indore Municipal Corporation
2	India's Cleanest City - No. 2	Ambikapur Municipal Corporation
3	India's Cleanest City - No. 3	Mysuru Municipal Corporation

TABLE 4: Awarded ULBs - National Level (Above 10 Lakh Population)

Sl. No.	Award Category	Name Of The ULB
1	India's 'Cleanest Big City'	Amdavad Municipal Corporation
2	Fastest Mover' Big City	Raipur Municipal Corporation
3	Best Big City in 'Citizens Feedback'	Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation
4	Best Big City in 'Innovation & Best Practices'	Jabalpur Municipal Corporation
5	Best Big City in 'Solid Waste Management'	Surat Municipal Corporation

TABLE 5: Awarded ULBs - ULBs - National Level (3- 10 Lakh Population)

Sl. No.	Award Category	Name Of The ULB
1	India's 'Cleanest Medium City'	Ujjain Municipal Corporation
2	Fastest Mover' Medium City	Mathura-Vrindavan Nagar Nigam
3	Best Medium City in 'Citizens Feedback'	Chandrapur Municipal Corporation
4	Best Medium City in 'Innovation & Best Practices'	Jhansi Nagar Nigam
5	Best Medium City in 'Solid Waste Management'	Latur Municipal Corporation

TABLE 6: Awarded ULBs - National Level (1-3 Lakh Population)

Sl. No.	Award Category	Name Of The ULB
1	India's 'Cleanest Small City'	New Delhi Municipal Council
2	Fastest Mover' Small City	Orai Nagar Palika Parishad
3	Best Small City in 'Citizens Feedback'	Tirupati Municipal Corporation
4	Best Small City in 'Innovation & Best Practices'	Dewas Municipal Corporation
5	Best Small City in 'Solid Waste Management'	Nagda Municipal Corporation

TABLE 7: Awarded ULBs - National Level (State Capital/Union Territory)

Sl. No.	Award Category	Name Of The ULB
1	India's 'Cleanest State Capital/UT'	Bhopal Municipal Corporation
2	Fastest Mover' State Capital/UT	Chennai Municipal Corporation
3	Best State Capital/UT in 'Citizens Feedback'	Ranchi Municipal Corporation
4	Best State Capital/UT in 'Innovation & Best Practices'	Greater Mumbai Municipal Corporation
5	Best State Capital/UT in 'Solid Waste Management'	Chandigarh Municipal Corporation

- ❖ Indore was declared as an India's cleanest city for the third straight year in the central government's cleanliness survey.
- ❖ New Delhi Municipal Council area was given the "Cleanest Small City" award.
- ❖ Uttarakhand's Gauchar was adjudged the "Best Ganga Town".

- ❖ Chennai bagged the award for fastest mover' state capital category.
- ❖ These Cleanliness awards are given by the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

SPORTS

Mexican Open 2019

- ❖ Mexican open 2019 was held at the Princess Mundo Imperial in Mexico.
- ❖ Australia's Nick Kyrgios defeated Germany's Alexander Zverev in the Men's Singles final and claim the fifth ATP title of his career.
- ❖ Other winners,

Category	Winner
Men's Singles	Nick Kyrgios
Women's Singles	Wang Yafan
Men's Doubles	Alexander Zverev and Mischa Zverev
Women's Doubles	Victoria Azarenka and Zheng Saisai
