



March – 08

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Ajit Kumar Mohanty has been appointed as a Director of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre for the period of three years.
- ❖ Reliance Industries Chairman, Mukesh Ambani, jumped six positions to rank 13th on Forbes World's Billionaires list and leads 106 billionaires from India on the list.
- ❖ Google India has unveiled an app "Bolo" which focuses on improving the reading and comprehension skills of students, especially the ones in rural areas.
- ❖ International Cricket Council (ICC) has banned former Zimbabwe Cricket director Enock Ikope for a period of 10 years for the offence of breaching 3 ICC's anti-corruption codes.

TAMIL NADU

GI tag for Erode turmeric

- ❖ Erode turmeric got a Geographical Indication (GI) tag from the Geographical Indication Registry.
- ❖ Erode Manjal Vanigargal Matrum Kidangu Urimaiyalargal Sangham applied for the GI tag at the office of the Deputy Registrar of GI Registry in Chennai.
- ❖ Geographical Indication is a name or sign used on certain products that correspond to a specific geographical location or origin.
- ❖ Erode turmeric is a rhizome obtained from the Erode local cultivator.
- ❖ In its claim for uniqueness, the mean length of the fingers of Erode turmeric was about 4.15 cm and the mean circumference was about 3.03 cm.



NATIONAL

Amendment in Hazardous Waste Rules-2016

- ❖ The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has amended the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management & Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016.
- ❖ Its aims to strengthen the implementation of environmentally sound management of hazardous waste in the country.
- ❖ The features of the Amendments:
 - Solid plastic waste has been prohibited from import into the country.
 - Exporters of silk waste have now been given exemption from requiring permission from the MoEFCC.
 - Reverse import of defective electrical and electronic assemblies and components manufactured can be exported from India, within a year of export can be undertaken without any prior permission from MoEFCC.



PM-STIAC Nine Missions

- ❖ Prime Minister's Science, Technology and Innovation Council (PM-STIAC) has identified 9 national missions to address major scientific challenges to ensure India's sustainable development.
- ❖ Through the nine missions, the PM-STIAC aims to facilitate collaboration to solve complex problems.
- ❖ Identified missions are,
 - Natural Language Translation
 - Quantum Frontier
 - Artificial Intelligence
 - National Biodiversity Mission
 - Electric Vehicles
 - Bio Science for Human Health
 - Waste to Wealth
 - Deep Ocean Exploration
 - Agnii

STATES

Yuvashree Arpan Scheme

- ❖ Chief Minister of West Bengal Mamata Banerjee has unveiled a new scheme Yuvashree Plan II or Yuvashree Arpan to encourage entrepreneurship among youth.
- ❖ Under this Scheme around 50000 Youths who have passed out of ITI or other polytechnic institutes will be eligible to get financial support of Rs One Lakh from the state MSME department to set up their own business initiatives.
- ❖ Yuvashree I was launched by the labour department of the state of West Bengal.
- ❖ Under the scheme, an unemployment allowance of Rs 1500 per month was provided per month to 1,00,000 unemployed youth.



Mukhya Mantri Karigar Sahayata

- ❖ Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched the scheme 'Mukhya Mantri Karigar Sahayata' for financial assistance to craftsmen.
- ❖ The nodal department of the scheme is the Directorate of handicrafts.
- ❖ Craftsmen with 10 years of experience and having annual income below Rs.1 lakh are eligible to get an assistance of Rs.800 per month.
- ❖ Craftsmen above 80 years of age would get Rs.1000 per month allowance for those has the same experience and annual income as above.
- ❖ For selection of beneficiaries, a selection committee will be constituted in the district level under collectors of the respective districts.

ONE Delhi App

- ❖ Delhi Government has launched a commute planning mobile app, ONE Delhi.
- ❖ It can be used to plan travel across multiple government transport facilities such as metros and buses.
- ❖ It had earlier launched a common mobility card, ONE Delhi card, which can be used in tandem with the new app.
- ❖ The app offers facilities such as:
 - Obtaining the estimated time of arrival for buses and metros.
 - Tracking the real-time location of buses and metros.
 - Providing information about their fares.
 - Providing the best route and mode of travel between two places.
 - List of tourist spots in Delhi.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Pritzker Prize 2019

- ❖ Japanese architect Arata Isozaki has been named 2019 laureate of the Pritzker Prize, architecture's most prestigious award.
- ❖ He is the 46th recipient of the Pritzker Prize, and the eighth Japanese architect to receive the honour.

Pritzker Prize

- ❖ Pritzker Prize is an annual award to honour a living architect or architects whose built work demonstrates a combination of those qualities of talent, vision, and commitment.
- ❖ The award constituted by Pritzker family of Chicago through Hyatt Foundation in 1979.
- ❖ It is often referred to as “architecture’s Nobel” and “the profession’s highest honour.”
- ❖ Earlier awardees of the coveted prize include India’s Balkrishna Doshi, Jorn Utzon who designed the Sydney Opera House.



IMPORTANT DAYS

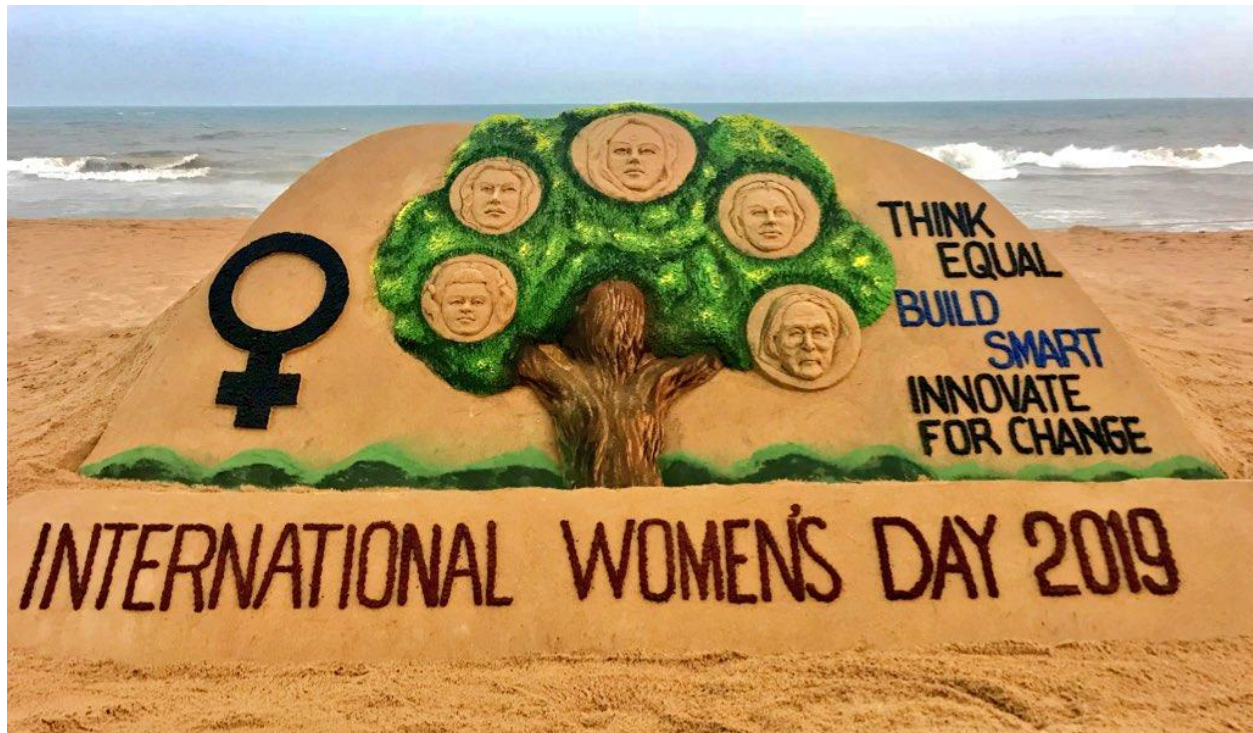
Janaushadhi Diwas - March 7

- ❖ Union Minister of State for Chemicals & Fertilisers, Mansukh Mandaviya, announced that March 7 will be observed as Janaushadhi Diwas across India.
- ❖ It aims to create awareness and provide further impetus to the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) scheme.
- ❖ The government plans to have at least one PMBJP Kendra in each block by 2020.
- ❖ The scheme has led to total savings of approximately Rs.1000 crores for common citizens, as these medicines are cheaper by 50 to 90% of average market price.



International Women's Day- March 8

- ❖ International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated on March 8 every year.
- ❖ It is a focal point in the movement for women's rights.
- ❖ Socialist Party of America organized a Women's Day on February 28, 1909 in New York.
- ❖ Women gained suffrage in Soviet Russia in 1917, March 8 became a national holiday there.
- ❖ That day was then predominantly celebrated by the socialist movement and communist countries until it was adopted in 1975 by the United Nations.
- ❖ Theme for 2019 International Women's Day 2019 is: 'Think equal, build smart, innovate for change'.



MISCELLANEOUS

World's cheapest mobile data

- ❖ India has the cheapest mobile data in the World as per the research by price comparison site cable.co.uk.
- ❖ Compared to global average of about Rs. 600, 1GB is costing just Rs. 18.5 (USD 0.26) in India.
- ❖ In the same case countries like UK has USD 12.37 for the same amount of data.
- ❖ India is the second largest smartphone market in the world after China with over 4.30 million smartphone users.
- ❖ India is followed by Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Ukraine and Rwanda.

