

April – 15

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ For the 1st time, ISRO has partnered with the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) to map, validate and protect smaller wetlands in the coastal region and preserve them through coastal livelihood programmes.
 - This has been done to build a strong foundation against the effects of climate change.
- ❖ Lucknow's Christ Church College has announced that Extra "Ten marks will be added to those students' final results whose parents voted in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections.
- ❖ Prasar Bharati Chairman, A Surya Prakash released a booklet of the 'Selected speeches of Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar in the Constituent Assembly' in New Delhi.
- ❖ During the state visit of the President Ram Nath Kovind to Bolivia, Bolivia signed the framework agreement to join as the 122nd member in the International Solar Alliance.
- ❖ Google has introduced a new Cloud Based open platform called Anthos to run and manage apps from anywhere.
 - Anthos lets users run applications on existing on-premise hardware investments or in the Public Cloud.
- ❖ Emirates Islamic a bank in Dubai, UAE has announced the launch of Chat Banking services for customers via WhatsApp.
 - With this, it will become the world's first Islamic Bank to launch Banking Service via WhatsApp.

ENVIRONMENT

Yellow weather warning

- ❖ The Meteorological Department has issued a fresh yellow weather warning for thunderstorm in Himachal Pradesh.
- ❖ The Met office issues colour-coded warnings to alert the public ahead of severe or hazardous weather which has the potential to cause "damage, widespread disruption and/or danger to life.
- ❖ Yellow is the least dangerous out of the weather warnings, it indicates the possibility of severe weather over the next few days that could affect the public.

24x7 pollution charge zone

- ❖ London became the first city in the world to implement a special Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ).
- ❖ It would charge an entry fee for older vehicles if they do not meet the emission standards.
- ❖ This is an attempt to reduce air pollution and protect public health.
- ❖ This ULEZ will be operational for 24 hours and seven days a week.

First carbon-positive village

- ❖ Phayeng Village in Imphal, West district of Manipur has become India's first carbon-positive settlement.
- ❖ Phayeng Village is a scheduled caste village of the Chakpa community.
- ❖ The residents transformed the village with funding under the National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC), a central scheme to support adaptation to climate change impact in various states.
- ❖ A village is given carbon-positive tag if it sequesters more carbon than it emits, slowing accumulation of greenhouse gases (GHGs) and mitigating effects of climate change.

STATES

M3 version of EVMs

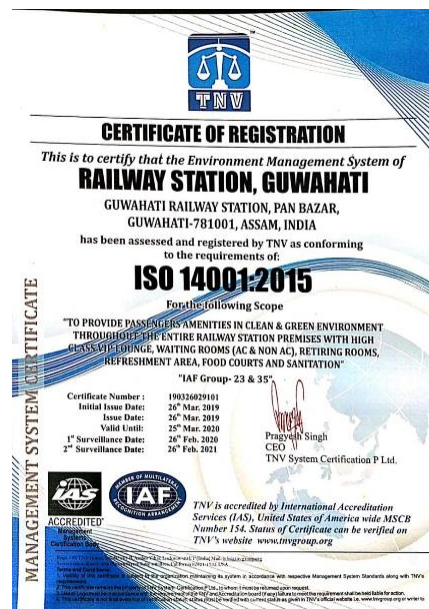
- ❖ Election Commission of India has used the M3 EVMs to accommodate a whopping 185 candidates in contention at the Nizamabad parliamentary constituency of the Telangana.
- ❖ Also, the Election officials have approached the Guinness Book of records to recognise the usage of large number of Electronic Voting Machines (EVM) in a constituency.
- ❖ Total of 12 EVMs in each polling station was linked to one control unit in each of the 1,778 polling centres.
- ❖ It became the first constituency in the country to witnessed polling with EVMs for a large number of candidates (185 candidates).

M3 version EVMs

- ❖ This new M3 version EVMs, came after 2013, with a maximum capacity of 384 candidates including NOTA.
- ❖ It has an additional feature like Tamper Detection and Self Diagnostics.
- ❖ This was developed by the Electronics Corp of India Ltd (ECIL) and Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL).

1st ISO Certified Railway Station

- ❖ Assam's Guwahati Railway Station has become the first ever railway station in the Indian Railways to get an ISO certification.
- ❖ This certification is given by the National Green Tribunal (NGT) for "providing passenger amenities in a clean and green environment".
- ❖ Many types of ISO (International Organisation for Standardisation) certification exist and the one received by Guwahati Railway Station is ISO-14001.
- ❖ It is for Environment Management System as per international norms which were upgraded in 2015. Thus, the station's certificate reads ISO 14001: 2015.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

World Press Photo Awards 2019

- ❖ A photograph of an infant crying helplessly near the US-Mexico border has won the prestigious World Press Photo of the Year award.
- ❖ This image was Captured by Getty Images senior staff photographer John Moore on June 12, 2018 and the image titled "Crying Girl on the Border".
- ❖ This picture shows infant Yanela Sanchez crying as she and her mother, Sandra Sanchez, are taken into custody by US border officials in McAllen, USA.
- ❖ The award was announced by the foundation at a ceremony in Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- ❖ Since 1955 the World Press Photo Contest has recognised professional photographers for the best pictures contributing to the past year of visual journalism.



SPORTS

Asian Cup Table Tennis Tournament 2019

- ❖ The Chinese players swept both the men's and women's singles titles at the Asian Cup table tennis tournament 2019.
- ❖ The 2019 Asian Cup competition took place in Yokohama, Japan.

- ❖ It was the 32nd edition of the event, and the fourth time that it had been held in Japan.

Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Men's Singles	Fan Zhendong	Ma Long	Koki Niwa
Women's Singles	Zhu Yuling	Chen Meng	Kasumi Ishikawa

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Human Space Flight- April 12

- ❖ Every year April 12th celebrated as an International Day of Human Space Flight to commemorate the first ever flight of human in space.
- ❖ On April 12, 1961 a citizen of the Soviet Union, first lieutenant Yuri Gagarin orbited the **Earth** onboard "Vostok" spacecraft for the first time in mankind history.



- ❖ Since 2001, Yuri's Night, also known as the "World's Space party" is held every April 12 worldwide to commemorate milestones in space exploration.
- ❖ On 7 April 2011, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution declaring April 12 as the International Day of Human Space Flight.

Jallianwala Bagh Massacre Day - April 13

- ❖ Jallianwala Bagh Massacre Day observed every year April 13 to Commemorate Amritsar Massacre which was took place on 1919 at Jallianwala Bagh, Punjab.
- ❖ It is named after the famous Jallianwala Bagh, which is a public garden stretched over an area of 7 acres, with walls covering all of its sides.
- ❖ People had assembled for a peaceful to condemn the arrest and deportation of two national leaders, Satya Pal and Saifuddin Kitchlew.
- ❖ The troops of the British Indian Army under the command of Colonel Reginald Dyer fired rifles into a crowd of Indians.



- ❖ While the official enquiry by the British informed about 379 deaths, the death toll was quoted to be around 1,000 by Congress.
 - ❖ This year marks the 100th year of the black episode in the Indian freedom struggle.
 - ❖ Also, the Vice President of India released a postage stamp and a coin commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre.
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