



March – 30

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Governor of Reserve Bank of India, Shaktikanta Das launched the book “Indian Fiscal Federalism” authored by Dr. Y.V. Reddy and G.R. Reddy.
- ❖ Skytrax World Airport Awards named Singapore’s Changi Airport as the world’s best aviation hub for the seventh time.
 - Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport, New Delhi climbed 8 places to rank at 59th Position.
- ❖ Delhi government school teacher, Manu Gulati has been honoured with the Martha Farrell Award for Excellence in Women’s Empowerment 2019.
 - This was awarded for promoting gender equality and women’s empowerment.
- ❖ After acquiring majority stake in REC Ltd (formerly Rural Electrification Corporation Limited), centre backed Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has become the India’s second largest Govt-owned Financial Firm.
 - It is preceded by the State Bank of India (SBI), based on market capitalization.
- ❖ Adani Port and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ), a part of Gautam Adani-led Adani Group becomes the first Indian port to achieve a new record of handling 200 million tonnes (MT) cargo movement in 2018-19.
 - This Port achieved this milestone before their estimate time that is by 2020.

NATIONAL

National Family Health Survey

- ❖ Tripura ranks second in the list of states with child marriages among the girls between the age of 15 and 19.
- ❖ The study titled ‘Young Lives’ has been prepared from data taken from National Family Health Survey (NFHS) 2015-2016.
- ❖ Tripura occupies 21.6 percent which is significantly higher than the national average of 11.9 percent of child marriage incidents.
- ❖ The four districts include Dhalai, South Tripura, North Tripura, and West Tripura have the highest number of child marriage.



- ❖ It is a collaborative research project coordinated by a team based at the University of Oxford.

Biomedical Research Career Programme

- ❖ Union Cabinet chaired has approved the extension of the Biomedical Research Career Programme beyond its initial 10-year term (2008-09 to 2018-29).
- ❖ It is an Alliance between the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and Wellcome Trust (WT).
- ❖ It was launched in 2008 and has fulfilled its objectives of building and nurturing talent of highest global standards in cutting-edge biomedical research in India.

INTERNATIONAL

World's longest salt cave

- ❖ The Israeli cave explorers discovered the world's longest salt cave named Malham near the Dead sea.
- ❖ This is surpassed the record-holder in Iran.
- ❖ The cave is spread in an area of 10 kilometers (6.25 miles) and it runs through the Israel's largest mountain - Mount Sodom and spills out to the southwest corner of the adjacent Dead Sea.





SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Blockchain based coffee e-marketplace

- ❖ Union commerce ministry launched a blockchain-based coffee e-marketplace to help farmers integrate with markets.
- ❖ This will help integrate farmers with markets in a transparent manner and lead to realisation of fair price for the coffee producer.
- ❖ This blockchain will also reduce the number of layers between coffee growers and buyers and help farmers double their income.

Discovery of planets using AI

- ❖ Astronomers from the University of Texas at Austin, in partnership with Google have discovered two hidden planets in the data collected by the Kepler space telescope.
- ❖ They have created an algorithm that has explored the data taken by Kepler to find out signals that were missed by traditional planet-hunting methods.
- ❖ The two new planets discovered are located in the constellation of Aquarius.
- ❖ Both were named as K2-293b and K2-294b, they gravitate around a star located 1300 and 1230 light-years from our solar system respectively.

ENVIRONMENT

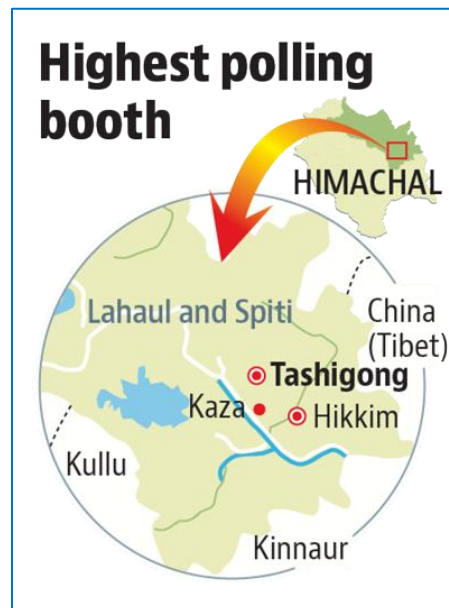
State of the Global Climate Report

- ❖ World Meteorological Organization (WMO) released the "The State of the Global Climate in 2018" report.
- ❖ It is the 25th annual record of the Global climate.
- ❖ According to this report, there is a significant impact on temperatures, as 2018 was the fourth warmest year on record and almost 1°C above from the period of 1850 to 1900.
- ❖ The first statement was released in 1994.

STATES

World's highest Polling station

- ❖ Tashigang become the world's highest polling station which is located in the sleepy hamlet of Himachal Pradesh.
- ❖ It is in the Buddhist-dominated Lahaul-Spiti district of Himachal Pradesh at an altitude of 15,256 feet.
- ❖ This polling station falls in one of the 17 assembly segments that form the Mandi Lok Sabha seat.
- ❖ Mandi is the second largest constituency in the country.



Bhonga App

- ❖ A hyper-local connectivity app called “Bhonga” has been developed by Mumbai-based Company Linkus Infratech.
- ❖ It aims to connect users to their neighbourhood people in the city even without an Internet connection.
- ❖ “Bhonga” is a Marathi word which means megaphone or loudspeaker.
- ❖ This app automatically provides the lists the user living within the radius of one kilometre.
- ❖ The app also supports voice notes as well as photos.



Portal for MSMEs

- ❖ Telangana government has launched a digital business networking portal for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises MSMEs.
- ❖ The portal, Telangana State GlobalLinker (ts-msme.globallinker.com) will digitise over 2.3 million MSMEs in the State which would connect them to the global economy.

Enajori initiative

- ❖ Assam Chief Electoral Officer Mukesh Sahu launched the Enajori initiative in Guwahati.
- ❖ It is a special initiative for persons with disabilities with an aim that 'No Voter to be Left behind'.
- ❖ It is a joint initiative of Chief Electoral Officer of Assam and Social Welfare Department with an objective to make Lok Sabha Elections accessible to Persons with Disability, PwD voters.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Bodley award

- ❖ Nobel Prize-winning economist Amartya Sen has been honoured with the prestigious Bodley Medal.





- ❖ The highest honour bestowed by the University of Oxford's world-famous Bodleian Libraries for his contribution in literature, culture, science, and communication.
- ❖ He was awarded the prestigious Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences for his work in welfare economics and social choice theory in 1998.

MISCELLANEOUS

Indian Green Building Council Ratings

- ❖ Vijayawada railway station has received Gold Rating by the Indian Green Building Council.
- ❖ The council has developed the Green Railway Stations Rating System to facilitate adoption of green concepts with the support of the Environment Directorate of Indian Railways.

Global Council to Advise on AI

- ❖ Google has constituted an eight-member Advanced Technology External Advisory Council that will examine the ethical challenges related to artificial intelligence (AI) and other emerging technologies.
 - ❖ The aim of the council is to provide recommendations for Google and other companies and researchers regarding the AI.
 - ❖ This council will meet four times, beginning in April and will publish its report by the end of 2019.
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