

**June – 16**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ India has decided to impose retaliatory tariffs on 29 US products including Walnut, chickpeas, Bengal gram, masur dal, boric acid, apples etc.
  - The tariffs will place a burden of \$220-290 million on the U.S.
- ❖ Tripura Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb announced that a museum to showcase the work of revered music composer R.D. Burman would be built in his state.
- ❖ Arctic monitoring website Polar Portal of the Danish (Denmark) Arctic research institutions has reported that the annual melting season in Greenland has started early in 2019.
  - Greenland has lost over 2 billion tonnes of ice in a single day reportedly due to atmospheric circulation in the Arctic and North Atlantic.
- ❖ According to a study published by the Botanical Survey of India, between 2010 and 2019, botanists and taxonomists discovered 23 new species of Balsams from the eastern Himalayas.
  - Because of their bright beautiful flowers, these group of plants are of prized horticultural significance.
- ❖ The Union Cabinet has cleared the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre (NDIAC) Bill, 2019.
  - It provides for setting up of an independent and autonomous body for institutional arbitration.
- ❖ Rajasthan's Suman Rao has been crowned the Miss India 2019.
- ❖ Over 633 scuba divers have set a world record for the largest underwater clean-up in a Florida beach of USA.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India has asked the banks to ensure their ATMs are grouted to a wall, pillar, or floor by the end of September month (except those installed in high secured premises such as airports) to enhance security of the cash vending machines.

## NATIONAL

### NITI Aayog Governing Council

- ❖ The fifth meeting of the Governing Council of NITI Aayog was held under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Rashtrapati Bhawan in New Delhi.
- ❖ The Governing Council of NITI Aayog embodies the principles of cooperative federalism.
- ❖ It presents a platform to discuss inter-sectoral and federal issues to accelerate the implementation of the national development agenda.
- ❖ Members of the council are
  - Prime Minister of India, Chief Ministers of all the States and UTs with Legislatures and Lt. Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
  - Four Union Ministers as ex-officio members
  - Three Union Ministers as Special Invitees.
- ❖ Modi has announced that India is targeting to become a \$5 trillion economy by 2024.



## **Bharath Skills**

- ❖ Directorate General of Training (DGT) under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has partnered with Cisco and Accenture.
- ❖ It aims to skill the youth for the digital economy through its Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs).
- ❖ Nearly 15 lakh students across all the ITIs in India can access the digital learning module via the Bharat Skills portal.

## **Rural Poor and Climate Change**

- ❖ Hyderabad-based National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj has launched a training programme of Sustainable Livelihoods and Adaptation to Climate Change (SLACC).
- ❖ The program aims to help rural poor farm-based households adapt to climate change and sustain their livelihoods.
- ❖ It has been launched under the National Rural Livelihood Mission.
- ❖ 638 drought and flood-prone villages of Madhya Pradesh and Bihar are being covered under the scheme on a pilot basis.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **CICA**

- ❖ External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar attended the 5th Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) Summit in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.
- ❖ Theme of the summit is “Shared Vision for a Secure and More Prosperous CICA Region”.

### **About CICA**

- ❖ CICA is a multi-national forum for enhancing cooperation towards promoting peace, security and stability in Asia.
- ❖ Any country with at least a part of its territory in Asia is eligible to become a CICA member.
- ❖ It was founded in 1999. Headquarters is at Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan.
- ❖ India is a member of CICA since its inception.

## SCO Meet

- ❖ The Prime Minister Modi attended the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in the Kyrgyzstan capital Bishkek.
- ❖ It is his first multilateral engagement post his re-election.
- ❖ He urged member states to make coordinated actions against international terrorism under the SCO-Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS).

## About SCO

- ❖ SCO is a permanent intergovernmental international organisation.
- ❖ It is a Eurasian political, economic, and security alliance.
- ❖ It was established in 2001. It was preceded by the Shanghai Five mechanism.
- ❖ The Heads of State Council (HSC) is the supreme decision-making body of SCO.
- ❖ It has 8 permanent members.



- ❖ Afghanistan, Belarus, Iran and Mongolia are observer states in SCO.

## Kimberly Process

- ❖ The Intersessional meeting of Kimberley Process (KP) is being hosted by India from 17th to 21st June, 2019 in Mumbai.
- ❖ The Kimberley Process is an international certification scheme that regulates trade in rough diamonds and aims to prevent trade of conflict or blood diamonds.
- ❖ India is the Chairman of Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) from 1st January, 2019.

- ❖ Blood diamonds are rough diamonds used by armed rebels in Africa to finance conflicts and undermine legitimate elected governments.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Green Rating

- ❖ Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways, Shipping, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Nitin Gadkari addressed the 10th edition of regional GRIHA summit held in Nagpur.
- ❖ Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment (GRIHA) is a rating tool that assesses the environment friendly conditions in a building.
- ❖ GRIHA Rating is given by GRIHA Council and it aims to promote more green buildings in India.

## STATES

### e-Foreigner Tribunal

- ❖ The Government of India has approved setting up of e-Foreigner Tribunal (e-FT) in Assam.
- ❖ It will be implemented to
  - maintain a state-wide bio-metric and biographic data
  - capture the illegal migrants' data
  - legalize eligible beneficiaries for welfare schemes
- ❖ e-FT is expected to help both judiciary and police department.

### Encephalitis Deaths

- ❖ 84 children have died due to Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) in Muzaffarpur, Bihar.
- ❖ According to the doctors, the deaths due to AES are being caused due to excessive heat and humidity.
- ❖ Locally this fever is being called 'Chamki'.

### AES

- ❖ Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV) is the major cause of AES in India (ranging from 5%-35%).
- ❖ In India, AES outbreaks in north and eastern India have been linked to children eating unripe litchi fruit on empty stomachs.
- ❖ Nipah virus, Zika virus are also found as causative agents for AES.
- ❖ AES most commonly affects children and young adults.
- ❖ It can lead to considerable morbidity and mortality.

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day – June 15**

- ❖ World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is observed every year on June 15.
- ❖ The day is observed to voice opposition to the abuse and suffering inflicted on elderly people.
- ❖ UN General Assembly officially recognized the day in December 2011 following a request by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse.
- ❖ According to the UN, around 1 in 6 older people experience some form of abuse.



### **International Day of Family Remittances - June 16**

- ❖ The International day of family remittances is observed every year on June 16.

- ❖ The day recognizes the contribution of over 200 million global migrant workers to improve the lives of their 800 million family members back home.
- ❖ This day aims at bringing greater awareness on the impact that these contributions have on millions of households, communities, countries, and entire regions.

## International Day of Family Remittances

**16 JUNE**



-----