

July - 03

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The University Grants Commission has approved a new scheme called STRIDE 'Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy'.
 - It aims to strengthen the culture of research and innovation in colleges and Universities.
- ❖ Indian pro boxer Vaibhav Yadav became the WBC Asia Silver Welterweight champion after defeating Thailand's Fahpetch Singmanassak in the title match held in Pattaya, Thailand.
 - The fight was conducted by the Asian Boxing Council and approved by the World Boxing Council (WBC).
- ❖ Ms. Rashika Raj of Tamilnadu has become the first transperson to have received her B. Sc Nursing degree from Tamil Nadu Governor at the convocation of the university.
- ❖ Haryana government has introduced a scheme called 'Jal Hi Jeevan Hai' in its northern districts.
 - It is a crop diversification scheme and promotes farmers to diversify paddy area into maize, arhar dal (pigeon pea) and soybean crops which require less water.

TAMIL NADU

Startup India List

- ❖ Data from the commerce ministry on the number of start-ups registered with Department for promotion of industry and internal trade (Start-up India) initiative shows Tamil Nadu is in the seventh spot with 1,004 start-ups.
- ❖ Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Delhi are in the top three slots with 3,661 & 2,847 and 2,552 start-ups respectively.
- ❖ Registered start-ups gain access to a host of benefits including exemption from angel tax, intellectual property fast-tracking and more.

NATIONAL

Ayush Grid

- ❖ The Electronics and Information Technology Ministry has agreed to give technical support to the AYUSH Ministry for planning and development of AYUSH GRID Project.
- ❖ It is aimed at digitisation of AYUSH knowledge, greater research, education, delivery of various health care programmes and better drug regulations.
- ❖ Formed in 2014, the Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) is headed by Minister of State (Independent Charge) Shripad Naik.

Transformation of Agriculture

- ❖ The Prime Minister of India has set up a High-Powered Committee of Chief Ministers for 'Transformation of Indian Agriculture'.
- ❖ Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis is the Convenor of the committee.
- ❖ CMs of Karnataka, Haryana, Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, UP, MP & Union Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj are the members of the committee.

Garuda – VI

- ❖ Indian Air Force (IAF) and French Air Force are participating in Garuda VI, a bilateral air exercise at Mont de Marsan in France.





- ❖ The last edition of joint exercise between IAF-FAF was held in June 2014 at Air Force Station Jodhpur, Rajasthan.
- ❖ This 6th edition of joint exercise takes place from 1 July to 12 July 2019.
- ❖ Such an exercise is aimed at enhancing interoperability level of French and Indian crews in air defence and ground attack missions.

3 New NIMZ

- ❖ Minister of Commerce and Industry has granted final approval to establish three new National Investment and Manufacturing Zone (NIMZ).
- ❖ They will be set up at
 - Kalinganagar, Jajpur district of Odisha
 - Prakasam district of Andhra Pradesh
 - Sangareddy district (erstwhile Medak district) of Telangana.

About NIMZ

- ❖ NIMZs are one of the important components of National Manufacturing Policy, 2011.
- ❖ They are planned as large areas of developed land with the requisite eco-system for promoting world class manufacturing activity.
- ❖ It is based on the principle of industrial growth in partnership with States.

INTERNATIONAL

Iran's Nuclear Program

- ❖ Iran has exceeded the 300-kilogram limit on its enriched uranium reserves set by the 2015 nuclear deal.
- ❖ In 2015, due to international pressure Iran had agreed to limit its sensitive nuclear activities and allow international inspectors in return for the lifting of economic sanctions.
- ❖ But due to rising tensions between Iran and the US and continuing economic blockade Iran has reverted back to enriching Uranium.
- ❖ This may eventually lead to production of nuclear weapons.

NATO-ally Like Status

- ❖ The National Defence Authorisation Act (NDAA) for the fiscal year 2020 was passed by the US Senate recently.
- ❖ It brings India at par with America's traditional NATO allies like South Korea, Australia and Japan.
- ❖ It provides for increased US-India defence cooperation in Indian Ocean in the areas of humanitarian assistance, counterterrorism, counter-piracy and maritime security.
- ❖ In 2016 India was conferred the "Major Defence Partner" designation by the US.

ENVIRONMENT

Single-use Plastic Ban

- ❖ New Zealand has officially banned single-use plastic shopping bags with effect from 1 July 2019.



- ❖ Single-use plastic bag is defined as any plastic bag which has handles and is less than 70 microns thick.

- ❖ As per United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP) more than 80 countries have already introduced similar bans.

Whaling Resumes in Japan

- ❖ Japan has resumed commercial whaling after a period of 31 years, but will do whale hunting within country's exclusive economic waters only.
- ❖ Large scale whale meat consumption started in Japan due to post World War 2 induced poverty.
- ❖ In 1986, Japan stopped commercial whale hunting and allowed only hunting for research purposes.
- ❖ It has now withdrawn from the International Whaling Commission (IWC) so is no longer subject to its rules.



STATES

Rhino Protection Force

- ❖ An 82-member Special Rhino Protection Force (SRPF) has been deployed in the Kaziranga National Park, Assam.
- ❖ The SRPF personnel will be posted under eight ranges of Kaziranga National Park.
- ❖ They aim to control rhino poaching as well as tiger poaching since Kaziranga is also a tiger reserve.

- ❖ Kaziranga National Park houses the largest population of One Horned Rhinoceros in the world.
- ❖ It has about 68% of the entire world population of One-horned Rhinoceros.

St. Mariam Thresia of Kerala

- ❖ Pope Francis will declare the Kerala Nun and foundress of the Sisters of the Holy Family “Mariam Thresia” as Saint on October 13.
- ❖ The nun belongs to the Syro-Malabar Catholic Church and worked for education girls and orphans.
- ❖ Sainthoods are conferred by The Vatican church.
- ❖ It had earlier declared three Kerala-born Indian Catholics as Saints (Fr Kuriakose Elias Chavara, Sister Euphrasia and Sister Alphonsa)

SPORTS

Asian Junior Squash

- ❖ Veer Chotrani has won the Asian junior individual squash championship finals in the Under-19 category by defeating Yash Fadte.



- ❖ He became the third Indian to win the trophy after Ravi Dixit and Vela Senthilkumar.
- ❖ He was also the first Indian to win in Under-13 Asian Junior championships held at Iran in 2014.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Van Mahotsav Week / July 1 - 7

- ❖ The annual van Mahotsav week is celebrated in India in the first week of July.
- ❖ During this festival thousands of trees are planted all over India.
- ❖ It was started in 1950 by K. M. Munshi, the then Union Minister for Agriculture and Food at that time.
- ❖ This celebration aims to create awareness in the minds of the people for the conservation of forests and planting of new trees.


