

July – 06

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamilnadu shooter Elavenil Valarivan has claimed a silver medal in the 10m Air Rifle event in the 30th World University Games held at Napoli in Italy.
 - Elavenil is also a three-time Junior World Cup gold medallist.
- ❖ Army Chief General Bipin Rawat has released a Kargil Tribute Song on the war's 20th Anniversary to honour, salute and pay homage to the Kargil martyrs and war veterans.
 - It has been composed by eminent Hindi lyricist Sammer Anjaan and sung by Shatadru Kabir.
- ❖ The World's Largest burn and plastic surgery institute in Dhaka, Bangladesh has commenced its operation.
- ❖ The current Chief of International Monetary Fund (IMF) Christine Lagarde has been nominated as the first woman to head the European Central Bank.
 - She was also the first woman to be appointed as IMF Chief in 2011.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India has imposed a penalty of Rs 1.75 crore on four public-sector banks for non-compliance with KYC requirement and norms for opening of current accounts.
 - They are PNB, Allahabad Bank, UCO Bank and Corporation Bank.

TAMIL NADU

Schizophrenia Gene

- ❖ Indian and Australian scientists in a collaborative effort have identified a new gene directly linked to schizophrenia.
- ❖ Researchers from the University of Queensland and the Schizophrenia Research Foundation led by R. Thara in Chennai analysed the genomes of more than 3000 Chennai residents.
- ❖ They identified a gene called NAPRT1 which is directly linked to Schizophrenia.
- ❖ Schizophrenia is a chronic and severe mental disorder that affects how a person thinks, feels, and behaves.

NATIONAL

RRB Exams in Regional Languages

- ❖ The Union government has announced that recruitment examination of Regional Rural Banks (RRB) will be conducted in 13 regional languages in addition to English and Hindi.
- ❖ The regional languages are Tamil, Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Konkani, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Telugu and Urdu.
- ❖ At present, there are 45 Regional Rural banks functioning in the country with a staff strength of around 90 thousand employees.

Training Bangladeshi Officials at Mussoorie

- ❖ Eighteen hundred Bangladeshi mid-career civil servants will be trained at the National Centre for Good Governance in Mussoorie between 2019-2025.
- ❖ The first batch of 30 civil servants attending the 2-week long training programme in Mussoorie paid a visit to the Indian High Commission in Dhaka.
- ❖ This is expected to develop foster deeper ties between the two countries.

INTERNATIONAL

Henley Passport Index

- ❖ The Indian passport has been ranked at the 86th position with a mobility score of 58 in the latest Henley Passport Index 2019.
- ❖ The score points out that Indian passport holders can access 58 countries around the world without a prior visa.
- ❖ The list is topped by Japan & Singapore with a mobility score of 189.
- ❖ The ranking is based on exclusive data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA).
- ❖ Started in 2005, The Henley Passport Index (HPI) is a global ranking of countries according to the travel freedom for their citizens.

Facebook, Google Taxed by France

- ❖ France's Lower House of Parliament has approved a small, pioneering tax on Internet giants like Google, Amazon and Facebook.
- ❖ The Bill aims to stop the tech-multinational companies from avoiding taxes by setting up headquarters in low-tax European Union countries.
- ❖ Currently these companies pay nearly no tax in countries where they have large sales like France.

Pirates of West Africa

- ❖ According to the International Maritime Bureau (IMB), West Africa's Gulf of Guinea became the world's most pirate-infested sea in 2018.
- ❖ The region witnessed 72 attacks in 2018 and 30 attacks till now in 2019.
- ❖ Founded in 1981, IMB is a specialized department of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC).
- ❖ It is mandated to fight crimes related to maritime trade and transportation, particularly piracy.

UNFAO's Chinese head

- ❖ China's deputy Agriculture minister Qu Dongyu has been selected as the Director-General of UN's Food and Agriculture Organization.
- ❖ Qu will be the first head of the agency from China, and will succeed Brazil's José Graziano da Silva.
- ❖ His four-year term will start on 1 August.

About FAO

- ❖ FAO is a specialized agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger.
- ❖ It was founded in 1945 and head quartered currently at Rome, Italy.
- ❖ With around 11,500 employees, it is the UN's largest technical agency.
- ❖ FAO helps developing countries modernize and improve agriculture, forestry and fisheries practices, ensuring good nutrition and food security for all.

ECONOMY

Aadhar and PAN

- ❖ The Union Budget 2019-20 has proposed to make Aadhaar interchangeable with PAN.
- ❖ It allows people without PAN to file income tax returns using only their Aadhaar.
- ❖ Aadhar number can be used wherever PAN Number details are sought after.
- ❖ According to data with the Central Board of Direct Taxes only 23 crores PAN out of 42 crores have been linked to Aadhar.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Great South American Eclipse

- ❖ The only total solar eclipse of 2019 occurred in South American continent.



- ❖ A total eclipse happens when the dark silhouette of the Moon completely covers the intense bright light of the Sun.
- ❖ Only the much fainter solar corona is visible during a total eclipse which is known as a Totality.
- ❖ The path of totality in this eclipse covered land mass beginning near La Serena, Chile and ended near Buenos Aires, Argentina.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Global Excellence Awards 2019

- ❖ US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) has selected MasterCard CEO and President Ajay Banga and Wipro Chairman Azim Premji for its 2019 Global Excellence Awards.
- ❖ The prestigious awards are being conferred on them for significant contribution made by towards strengthening economic ties between US and India.
- ❖ Jared Kushner, senior adviser to US President will be presenting the awards during summit.

About USISPF

- ❖ Established in 2017 this non-profit organization aims to strengthen U.S.-India bilateral and strategic partnership.
- ❖ USISPF 2nd Annual Leadership Summit will be held in Washington, D.C. on 11 July 2019.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Cooperatives – July 6

- ❖ The international day of cooperatives is an annual celebration of cooperatives movement held annually on July 6.
- ❖ It was first celebrated on the first Saturday of July in 1923.
- ❖ Since 1995 the first Saturday of July is observed the world over as UN International Day of Cooperatives.
- ❖ The event underscores the contributions of the cooperative movement in resolving the major problems addressed by the United Nations.
- ❖ Theme of celebration for 2019 is “Coops 4 Decent Work”.

World Zoonoses Day – July 6

- ❖ World Zoonoses Day is held every year on July 6.
- ❖ The day commemorates July 6, 1885, when Louis Pasteur successfully administered the first vaccine against Rabies virus, a zoonotic disease.
- ❖ The day raises awareness about the risk of zoonotic diseases.



- ❖ 75 percent of the new or emerging diseases originate in animals.
- ❖ More than 60 percent of known infectious diseases in people, such as the rabies virus, ringworm and salmonella, are transmitted from animals.
