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நடப்பு நிகழ்வுகள் (CURRENT AFFAIRS) DECEMBER

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TNPSC

நடப்பு நிகழ்வுகள் (Current Affairs)

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NATIONAL NEWS

- Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh will inaugurate the 19th Hornbill Festival at Kisama village near state capital Kohima in Nagaland. The fest aims to display the rich traditions and the vibrant culture of Nagaland through colourful performances, crafts, sports, food fairs, games and ceremonies.
 - Nagaland Governor PB Acharya will be the chief host, while US Ambassador to India Kenneth I Juster has been invited as the guest of honour.
- IIT Kharagpur and the University of Auckland signed a pact to foster academic exchange and research collaboration.
 - As per the Memorandum of Understanding the first strategic partnership of
 University of Auckland with a higher education in India the two educational
 establishments would explore opportunities for research in healthcare
 technologies, new materials, cyber security and artificial Intelligence.
- South African President Cyril Ramaphosa will be the Chief Guest at the 2019 Republic Day celebration in New Delhi, Ministry of External Affairs said. The announcement comes more than a month after US President Donald Trump declined India's invite to be the chief guest at Republic Day.
 - Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said, "President Ramaphosa accepted India's invitation to be the Chief Guest at Republic Day during 150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi."
- The Asia Pacific Summit-2018 began in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal. The theme of two-day Summit is "Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity, and Universal Values".
 - o They will discuss various global issues, including peace, development, good governance and role of parliamentarians, climate change and role of media.
- The Indian Owl Festival, the country's first owl fest, will be held at Pingori village in Purandar taluka of Pune from November 29. The two-day festival, organised by Ela Foundation, an NGO working towards nature education and conservation.
 - o It is a first-of-its-kind festival in the country that is being organised with the

intention of creating awareness about owl as a bird and debunking numerous superstitions associated with it.

- a report by **UNICEF** (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) which was released ahead of **AIDS** day estimated that **1,20,000** children and adolescents aged 0-19 were living with **HIV** in **India** in 2017, the highest number in **South Asia**.
 - The report titled 'Children, HIV and AIDS: The World in 2030' warned that around 80 adolescents will be dying of AIDS every day globally by 2030 if progress in preventing transmission is not accelerated.
- India is facing a major malnutrition crisis as it holds almost a **third** of the world 'stunted children, according to a **Global Nutrition Report 2018**. The report classifies **India** as experiencing two forms of **malnutrition anemia and stunting**. Stunting or low height for age is caused by long term insufficient nutrient-intake and frequent infections.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- Australia has become the first country in the world to recognise so-called **orphanage trafficking as a form of modern-day slavery**. The legislation forms part of a wider drive to stop Australians taking part in "voluntourism" schemes which harm rather than help the children.
 - A report by ReThink Orphanages found more than 57% of Australian universities advertise orphanage placements, with 14% of Australian schools visiting, volunteering or fundraising for institutions abroad.
- The 3rd ASEAN India Business Summit (AIBS), conclave organized under the aegis of Ministry of International Trade and Industries conducted its annual achievements awards ceremony at the St. Regis Hotel in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The ceremony was presided by the Malaysian Minister of International Trade and Industry YB Datuk Ignatius Darell Leiking.
 - Spice Garden group of restaurants owner Mr. Pardeep Batra received the special ASEAN – India Achievement award for the businessman of year.

AWARDS

- Abhinav Bindra, the 2008 Olympic gold medallist was conferred with shooting's
 highest award by the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) at the General
 Assembly in Munich.
 - The 36-year-old Bindra had created history during the Beijing Olympics when he became the first Indian individual to clinch a gold medal.

APPOINTMENTS

Raninder Singh has become the first Indian to be elected one of the four vicepresidents of the International Shooting Sport Federation. The 51-year-old Raninder
also heads the National Rifle Association of India. He was presented with the diploma
and medal by the outgoing longest serving president of the ISSF, Olegario Vazquez
Rana.



- India's latest Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth figures came as a disappointment after it came down from 8.2%, registered in the first quarter (April-June) of the year 2018, to 7.1% in the second quarter (July-September).
 - These estimates represent a sizable jump from last year's Q2 growth rate estimates of 6.3%, indicating sustained acceleration in India's economic growth," the Central Statistics Office (CSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation said.
- Indian economy is projected to grow at 7-7.4 per cent in the current fiscal, economic policy think-tank NCAER said. According to a report by the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), the real agriculture Gross Value Added (GVA) is envisaged to grow at 3 per cent and real industry GVA at 7 per cent in 2018-19.
 - The forecast for **Gross Value Added (GVA)** at basic prices is **7.0-7.4 per cent**. These forecasts at constant (2011-12) prices are based on NCAER's annual GDP macro model, NCAER's **Mid-Year Review of the Economy** said.

SPORTS

- Telangana teenager Esha Singh prevailed over big names such as Manu Bhaker and Heena Sidhu to win 3 gold at the 62nd National Shooting Championships in Thiruvananthapuram.
- Top-seed Manav Thakkar finished the ITTF World Junior Circuit on a high as he claimed the Junior Boys Singles and doubles gold at the 2018 Portugal Junior and Cadet Open in Guimaraes, Portugal. In what was an all-Indian final, Manav defeated Jeet Chandra in a tough match which went down to the wire.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

- A book detailing how Modi government's policies have led to a drop in farmers' income and caused rural distress across the country was launched in New Delhi. The book 'Modiraj Main Kisan, Double Aamad Ya Double afat' is authored by Swaraj India President Yogendra Yaday.
 - It was launched by agricultural economist Ashok Gulati and the Punjab State Farmers' and Farm Workers' Commission Chairman Ajay Vir Jakhar among others.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- World AIDS Day- December 1
 - World AIDS Day is observed on December 1 every year. The day is dedicated to spreading awareness about the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) which is spread by infection from a virus called human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).
 - The day is marked by the World Health Organisation as a global public health campaign. The **theme** of this year is **"Know Your Status"**.