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guiding you to get through

# நடப்பு நிகழ்வுகள் (CURRENT AFFAIRS)

## DECEMBER

*We Are Here..!! To Guide You..!!*



# We Shine Study Circle

## TNPSC

நடப்பு நிகழ்வுகள்

(CURRENT AFFAIRS)

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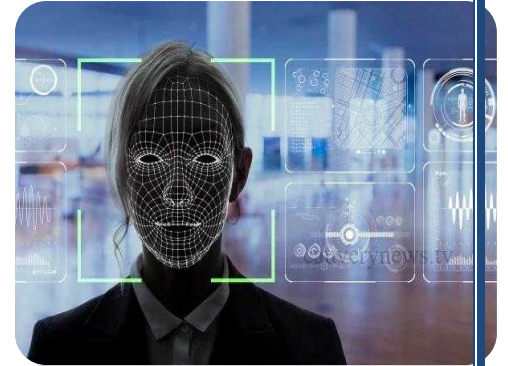
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## NATIONAL NEWS

- The Delhi government has launched the **‘Mukhyamantri Tirth Yatra Yojana’** which **offers free travel packages on five religious circuits** for senior citizens from the national capital.
  - The scheme, approved by the Cabinet in July, was launched by Chief Minister **Arvind Kejriwal** at the Delhi Secretariat.
- **Food and Agriculture organisation**, FAO Council has approved **India’s proposal** to observe an **International Year of Millets in 2023**. Millets consists of **Jowar, Bajra, Ragi and minor millets** together termed as nutri-cereals.
  - In addition, the FAO Council has also approved India’s membership to the Executive Board of the **United Nations World Food Program for 2020 and 2021**.
- The three-day **Military Literature Festival (MLF) 2018**, kick-started in **Chandigarh**. The festival is a joint initiative of military historian and Punjab Chief Minister **Captain Amarinder Singh** and Punjab Governor **VP Singh Badnore**.
- To discuss, debate and develop model solutions for some of the biggest water related problems in the country, Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation **Shri Nitin Gadkari** inaugurated **3-day annual India Water Impact Summit 2018** in **New Delhi**. It concluded on December 7, 2018.
- The **Indian Coast Guard** has conducted the Regional Level Marine Oil Pollution Response Exercise titled **‘Clean Sea – 2018’** at sea off **Port Blair**.
  - Coast Guard ships **Viswasth, Vijith, Rajveer, Rajshri**, 4 interceptor boats and its air assets Dornier and Chetak helicopters participated in the exercise.
- **India** has signed an **agreement with Iran to pay for crude oil it imports from the Persian Gulf nation in rupees**. The memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed following the US letting India and seven other nations to keep buying Iranian oil despite sanctions were reimposed on the Islamic state on November 5.

- **NITI Aayog** organised ‘**AI 4 All Global Hackathon**’ to source sustainable, innovative and technologically-enabled solutions to address various challenges in the development space, with the vision of ‘**Artificial Intelligence, AI for All**’.
  - NITI Aayog organized its first hackathon, ‘**MoveHack**’ in **August**, on the sidelines of the **Global Mobility Summit 2018**.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- Xi and Varela signed a score of infrastructure, tourism and development cooperation agreements as **Panama** became the **first Latin American country** to partner with Beijing’s giant multi-billion-dollar global investment initiative known as “**Belt and Road Initiative**”.
  - China established diplomatic relations with Panama last year.

## ECONOMY

- In view of the “current and evolving macroeconomic situation” in the country, the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** decided to keep the policy **repo rate** under the **liquidity adjustment facility (LAF)** unchanged at **6.5 per cent**. The decision was taken at the fifth bi-monthly meeting of the **Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)** of the RBI.
  - Consequently, the **reverse repo rate** under the LAF remains at **6.25 per cent**, and the **marginal standing facility (MSF) rate** and the **bank rate at 6.75 per cent**.

## AWARDS

- An assistant professor from the Indian Institute of Technology-Mandi (IIT-Mandi), **Rajanish Giri** has been awarded the Innovative Young Biotechnologist Award (IYBA) 2018.
  - Giri is selected for his proposed innovative idea on **Zika virus** Capsid Folding and inhibitor discovery.

- **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy**, Government of India has been conferred the **Skoch Award for National Significance** at an event held recently in **New Delhi**.
  - The award has been conferred on the Ministry considering its purpose and critical role played in installing about **73 GW renewable energy capacity** in the country.

## APPOINTMENTS

- President Donald Trump has announced that State Department spokeswoman and former Fox TV news anchor **Heather Nauert** to be appointed as the **United States ambassador to the United Nations**.
  - Current envoy **Nikki Haley** announced in October she would be leaving the UN post at the end of the year.

## SPORTS

- **Yasir Shah** became the **fastest** bowler in terms of number of Tests played to pick **200 Test wickets** in the game's history on Day 4 of the third and final Test against New Zealand in Abu Dhabi.
  - Yasir reached the landmark in just **33 Tests** breaking an 82-year-old record held by another leggie, **Clarrie Grimmett** from Australia, who had bagged 200 Test wickets in 36 Tests.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

- **Armed Forces Flag Day: 07 December**
  - Since **1949, 07 December** is observed as **Armed Forces Flag Day** throughout India to honour the martyrs as well as men and women in uniform, who valiantly fight on our borders to safeguard the country's honour.
  - The '**Armed forces Flag Day Fund**' (**AFFDF**) has been constituted by the

Government of India for the welfare and rehabilitation of the **Ex-Servicemen (ESM)** community.

  
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