

TAMIL NADU

- **Tamil Nadu governor Banwarilal Purohit – inaugurated a new ultra-high density planting (UHDP) method for mango cultivation on the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) campus**



- ✓ The new method for mango cultivation can yield up to three times the normal produce on a same piece of land
- ✓ By following this method, 500 trees can be grown in one acre compared to the normal 40 trees along with improved orchard management practices and techniques such as micro irrigation and fertigation
- ✓ The method will also reduce water consumption by 50% and fertiliser usage by 30%
- ✓ As water is applied only to the root zone, there will also be an effective weed control.
- ✓ The state had sanctioned Rs 581 crore of the overall Rs 10,550 crore allotted for agriculture this year exclusively for development and research activities at TNAU

- ✓ The TNAU university had developed 840 crop varieties, 1,500 technologies and 164 farm implements in the past 50 years
- ✓ For the fifth time, the state has received the Krishi Karman Award for production of oilseeds this year

NATIONAL

- **The Centre - notified the rules to implement the recent amendments to the Right to Information Act on October 25**

RULES TO IMPLEMENT RTI ACT AMENDMENTS	
TERM OF OFFICE: Chief Information Commissioner, Information Commissioners, State CICs and ICs to hold office for three years	SALARY: CIC (central and state): Rs. 2,50,000; IC (central and state): Rs. 2,25,000
RETIREMENT FROM PARENT SERVICE ON APPOINTMENT:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ CIC or IC as the case may be, who on the date of his appointment to CIC, was in service of central or state govt, shall be deemed to have retired from such service with effect from date of appointment ➤ The conditions of service of the chief at central and state level ICs for which no express provision has been made in these rules shall be 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> referred in each case to the Centre and its decisions will be binding ➤ Centre shall have power to relax provisions of any of these rules in respect of any class or category of persons ➤ If questions arise relating to interpretation of any provisions of these rules, it shall be referred to Centre for decision

- ✓ The new rules reduce the tenure of the chiefs of central and state information commissions and the information commissioners to three years from five years respectively
- ✓ The salaries of Chiefs of Commissioners and Information Commissioners have been fixed at Rs 2.50 lakh and Rs 2.25 lakhs respectively.
- ✓ Earlier, the salaries and allowances payable to and other terms and conditions of service of the chief and the information commissioners of the Central Information Commission (CIC) would be same as that of the chief election commissioner and election commissioners respectively.
- ✓ The CEC and other election commissioners are paid a salary equal to that of a judge of the Supreme Court, which is usually decided by Parliament.
- ✓ The rules also mention that the central government will have the power to relax the provisions of any of these norms in respect of any class or category of persons.
- ✓ The amendments to the RTI were earlier notified on August 1, 2019

- **The Central government – has chosen ‘HCP Design, Planning and Management’ for the redevelopment of Parliament and Central Vista along with the development of a new common central secretariat.**
- ✓ HCP is an Ahmedabad-based architecture firm that completed the development of the Sabarmati riverfront in Gujarat in 2002
- ✓ For these services, it would be paid a consultancy fee of Rs 229.75 crore
- ✓ The government has set the deadlines of November 2021 for the revamp of the 3-km-long Central Vista, March 2022 for the redevelopment of Parliament and March 2024 for the construction of the common central secretariat for ministries.

APPOINTMENTS

- **Girish Chandra Murmu and Radha Krishna Mathur - were named as LG of the UT of J&K and the LG of Ladakh respectively**



- ✓ Girish Chandra Murmu, a 1985-batch IAS officer of Gujarat cadre, is the current expenditure secretary of the Union Finance Ministry, who will be retiring this month end
- ✓ Radha Krishna Mathur, a retired 1977 batch bureaucrat, is a former chief information commissioner
- ✓ Murmu had served as principal secretary to Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his tenure as chief minister of Gujarat
- ✓ Mathur, who belonged to Tripura cadre, was chief information commissioner of India between January 2016 and November 2018, after having retired as defence secretary in May 2013
- ✓ The former Governor of J&K, Satya Pal Malik was appointed as the new Governor of Goa
- ✓ Mr. Malik was the former Governor of Bihar before he was shifted to Jammu and Kashmir.
- ✓ He was also given the additional charge of Odisha for a brief period in 2018.
- ✓ The Centre withdrew the special status of Jammu & Kashmir on August 5.

- ✓ The formal reorganisation of Jammu & Kashmir into a separate Union territory along with Ladakh will come into existence on October 31
- ✓ In another appointment announced by the Centre, BJP leader P S Sreedharan Pillai was named governor of Mizoram
- ✓ J&K interlocutor and former Chief of the Intelligence Bureau, Dinesh Sharma was announced as the new administrator of Lakshadweep.

AWARDS

- **Indian Bank - won the Digidhan Mission Digital Payments award 2018-19 recently**



- ✓ Union Minister for Electronics and Information Technology, Ravishankar Prasad, presented the award to the Bank at New Delhi
- ✓ Yes Bank, India's fourth largest private sector bank, won the Award for 'Overall performance in Digital payments' at the MeitY Startup Summit 2019
- ✓ The award was initiated by The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India
- ✓ Indian Bank is given the award in recognition of its outstanding performance in the Digital Payments Category A, Rs 10 - 50 crore.

SPORTS

- **Karnataka - won its fourth Vijay Hazare Trophy title with a comfortable victory over Tamil Nadu in the final at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru**



- ✓ The host won by 60 runs, via the VJD method, after the play was called off due to rains at 23 overs into the chase.
- ✓ Karnataka fast bowler A. Mithun recorded the first ever hat-trick in a Vijay Hazare Trophy final during his 5/34 spell.
- **Indian Speedster Jasprit Bumrah and batswoman Smriti Mandhana - are the two Indian names among five winners of the prestigious Wisden India Almanack Cricketer-of-the-Year award announced for this year**



- ✓ The other winners announced this year includes Mayank Agarwal, Pakistan's Fakhar Zaman, Sri Lanka's Dimuth Karunaratne and Afghanistan's Rashid Khan.
- ✓ Smriti is the third Indian woman to claim the award, after Mithali Raj and Deepti Sharma.
- ✓ Cricket legends Gundappa Viswanath and Lala Amarnath were inducted into the Wisden India Hall of Fame.
- **Armenia's GM Evgeny Shtembuliak and Russia's Polina Shuvalova – won the boys and girls World junior (under-20) chess crowns in New Delhi**



- ✓ Armenian GM Shant Sargsyan took the Silver while his compatriot Aram Hakobyan finished with Bronze
- ✓ In the girls category, Iran's Mobina Alinasab claimed Silver while Russia's Eliaveta Solozhenkina took bronze medal
- ✓ After three years, India again finished without a medal.
- ✓ Second seed Murali Karthikeyan took the fifth spot, exactly like he did in 2016.
- ✓ India's Aravind finished at seventh position
- ✓ The only other Indian to feature in the top-10 spot was GM R Praggnanandhaa
- ✓ Among the girls, Aakanksha Hagawane was the best finisher with the fifth place.

