

September – 25

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ WhatsApp has appointed Komal Lahiri as ‘Grievance Officer’ for India to flag complaints and concerns, including about Fake news.

TAMIL NADU

TN - Integrated version of CMCHIS and PMJAY

- ❖ Tamil Nadu government launched the Centre's ambitious health insurance project as an integrated initiative of the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme (CMCHIS) in the state.
- ❖ It is to be recalled that the CMCHIS was launched by the late Chief Minister J Jayalalithaa in 2012.
- ❖ It is a fully state-funded scheme for providing cashless treatment in secondary and tertiary care hospitals for the poor and the underprivileged.

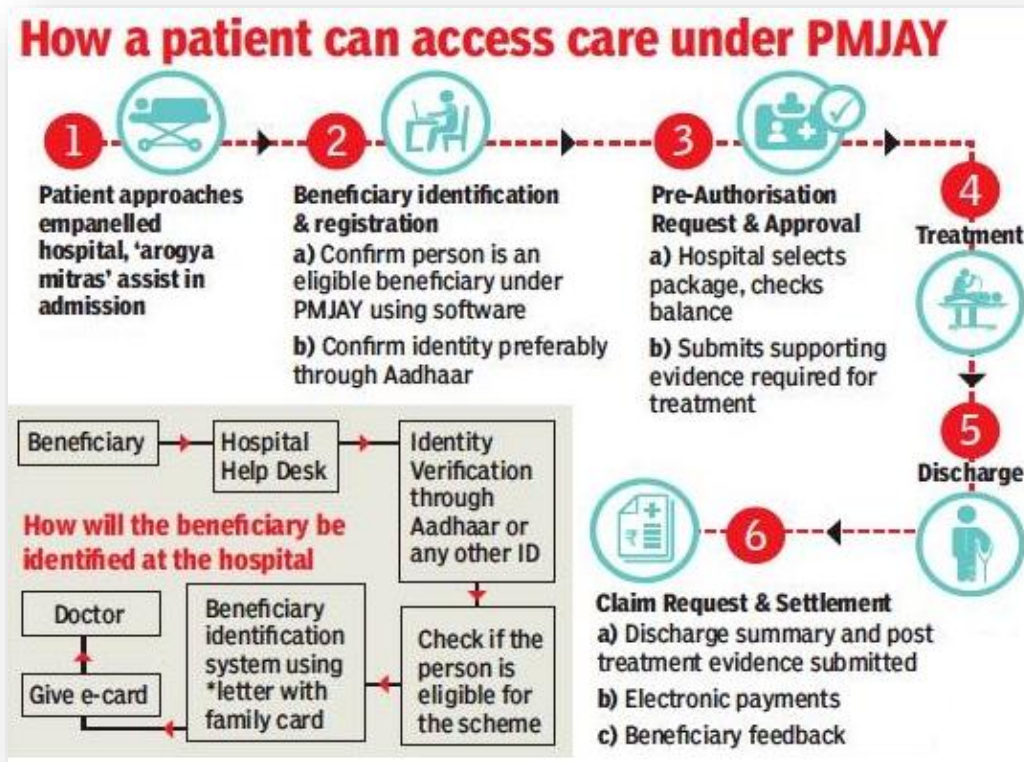
New corporation in the state

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister announced that ‘Nagercoil’ municipality in Kanyakumari district will be upgraded into 13th New corporation in the State.
- ❖ It will be upgraded after the completion of delimitation of wards across the state.
- ❖ The CM also announced the formation of Killiyoor and Thiruvattar taluks
- ❖ At present, Tamil Nadu has 12 corporations, with Dindigul being the last to be announced as Corporation in 2014.

NATIONAL

Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana

- ❖ Prime Minister launched ambitious Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), under Ayushman Bharat umbrella at Ranchi, Jharkhand.
- ❖ The scheme aims to provide annual health insurance cover of Rs 5 lakh to the 10.74 crore beneficiary families i.e. over 50 crore beneficiaries across India.



- ❖ It is to be noted that Telangana, Odisha, Kerala, Punjab and Delhi (UT) are the states which have still not signed MoUs for joining this scheme.
- ❖ It will cover beneficiaries' families identified on the basis of Socio-Economic Caste Survey (SECC) 2011.
- ❖ PMJAY will be funded with 60% contribution from Centre and remaining from the states.

National orientation workshop on National e-Vidhan Application

- ❖ Union Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs inaugurated the two-day National Orientation workshop on National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA).
- ❖ National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) is a digital application that provides "online" information about day-to-day functioning of Legislative houses.
- ❖ It is a Rs 739 Crore project, aiming to bring legislatures on digital platform, covering all Houses.
- ❖ It is to be used by the Legislatures as well as all the Government Departments

e-Vidhan

- ❖ e-Vidhan is the Mission mode project, which aims to digitize and make the functioning of state's legislatures "paperless".
- ❖ It is the part of Digital India programme of the Union Government, with Min of parliamentary affairs being the nodal agency.
- ❖ The Ministry aims to roll out e-Vidhan as NeVA covering all 40 Houses including 2 Houses of Parliament in a single platform as per the theory of "One Nation One Application".

World Air Traffic Report of Airports Council International

- ❖ As per the World Air Traffic Report of Airports Council International, Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport has been ranked as 16th busiest airport in the world.
- ❖ The airport handled 6.34 crore passengers in the year 2017.
- ❖ It was ranked at 22nd in 2016 and handled 14% more passengers in 2017.
- ❖ Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson in the US maintained its position as the world's busiest airport by handling 10.39 crore passengers in 2017, followed by Beijing with 9.58 crore passengers.
- ❖ Dubai International Airport handled 8.82 crore passengers and stood at third position.

INTERNATIONAL

Official entry to Oscars - Norway

- ❖ Norway has chosen 'What Will People Say' movie as its official entry to Oscars in Foreign Language Film category.
- ❖ The movie stars Adil Hussain, Bollywood actor hailing from Goalpara district in Assam.
- ❖ Earlier, India's official entry for the same category, "Village Rockstars" was chosen by a 12-member jury of Film Federation of India (FII) from 29 other films.



Nationwide anti-polio vaccination drive – Pakistan

- ❖ Pakistan has launched the nationwide ‘Anti-polio’ vaccination drive for children of less than 5 years of age.
- ❖ The drive is the first nationwide door to door national campaign of 2018-19 low transmission season.
- ❖ Pakistan is one of the 3 countries in the world, along with Afghanistan and Nigeria, that suffers from endemic polio.
- ❖ As per WHO standards, a country must have no cases for 3 consecutive years in order to be considered as eradicated polio.

West Bank village – demolition deadline

- ❖ Israel is going to demolish the village ‘West Bank’ occupied by the Palestinians and announced October 1 as the ‘deadline’ to leave the village.
- ❖ Israel had earlier offered resettlement for the residents of the “illegally built” village.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Prithvi interceptor missile test

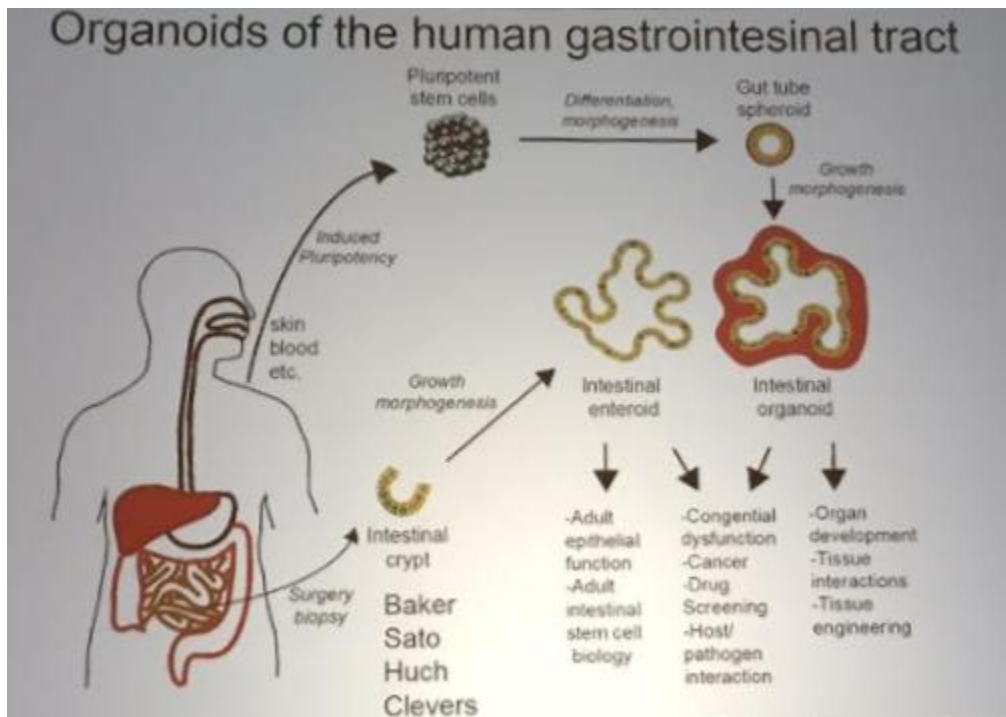
- ❖ India successfully conducted interceptor missile test off the Odisha coast at night.
- ❖ With this, DRDO achieved major milestone in developing indigenous two-layer Ballistic Missile Defence system.
- ❖ It is two-stage missile and both stages are powered by solid propellants.
- ❖ It is designed for engaging targets in exo-atmosphere region at altitude 50 km of earth’s atmosphere.



- ❖ It is intended to replace the existing Prithvi Air Defence (PAD) in PAD/Advanced Air Defence (AAD) combination.

Miniature human oesophagus

- ❖ Scientists for first time have successfully grown oesophageal organoids, a miniature, functional versions of human food pipe using pluripotent stem cells (PSCs) in laboratory.
- ❖ This bioengineered oesophageal organoids paves way for new ways to study and test drugs against gut disorders.
- ❖ Moreover, bioengineered genetically matched esophageal tissue can be also transplanted in individual patients.



- ❖ It will help to study birth defects like esophageal atresia, organoids, eosinophilic esophagitis and Barrett’s metaplasia.

STATES

Government e-Marketplace - Arunachal Pradesh

- ❖ Arunachal Pradesh CM - Pema Khandu has launched Government e-Marketplace (GeM) with 26,000 Government agencies in Itanagar.
- ❖ Its aim is to bring more transparency in Procurements of the Government and achieve “paperless” and “cashless” transactions.
- ❖ Thus, Arunachal Pradesh becomes the 6th State/UT in India to have signed MoUs with Government e-Marketplace (GeM) after Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Telangana and Puducherry.

MISCELLANEOUS

Goodwill Ambassador - Nepal tourism

- ❖ Former Member of Parliament and Bollywood actress Jaya Prada has been appointed Goodwill Ambassador for the promotion of Nepal tourism.
 - ❖ The appointment is for a period of 4 years.
 - ❖ The Nepal government has also decided to observe the year 2020 as the 'Visit Nepal Year' and has set a target of attracting two million international visitors.
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