

August - 26

TAMIL NADU

Memorial for late M Karunanidhi

- ❖ The Memorial for late DMK president and former Chief Minister M Karunanidhi will be constructed at the Marina on Kamarajar Salai in Chennai.
- ❖ This is in recognition of his efforts to create a "Modern Tamil Nadu".
- ❖ Chief minister Stalin made this announcement under the rule 110 of the Tamil Nadu legislative assembly.
- ❖ Under rule number 110, The Chief minister can announce or bring any resolution to the assembly which can be passed without any discussion.



NATIONAL

N. S. Vishwanathan Panel on Urban Co-operative Banks

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India had appointed committee headed by N. S. Vishwanathan to make suggestions on structure for the urban cooperative banks (UCBs).
- ❖ This Panel was set up to suggest structure on the basis of deposits, prescribed different capital adequacy as well as regulatory norms for them with respect to their sizes.

Recommendations by panel

- ❖ As per this committee, UCBs can be split into four categories. They are,



- Tier-1- with deposits up to Rs 100 crore;
- Tier-2 with deposits between Rs 100-Rs 1000 crore,
- Tier-3 with deposits between Rs 1000 crore to Rs 10000 and
- Tier-4 with deposits more than Rs 10000 crore.
- ❖ It suggests that, minimum Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR) for these tiers can vary between 9 per cent to 15 per cent.
- ❖ While, for Tier-4 UCBs the Basel III prescribed norms can be followed.
- ❖ It suggests separate ceilings for loan against gold ornaments, home loans and unsecured loans for different categories of UCBs.
- ❖ The Supervisory Action Framework (SAF) should follow a twin-indicator approach.
- ❖ It can consider only asset quality and capital measured through NNPA and CRAR, rather than going with triple indicators approach at present.

Yuktdhara portal

- ❖ The government launched a new geospatial planning portal called 'Yuktdhara' under Bhuvan.
- ❖ This new portal will help in facilitating new MGNREGA assets with the help of remote sensing as well as geographic information system-based data.
- ❖ This Portal will also serve as a repository of geotags that have been created under several national rural development programmes.
- ❖ The portal has been jointly developed by ISRO and the Ministry of Rural Development.
- ❖ The Geoportal Bhuvan is a rich information base of ISRO.
- ❖ It provides satellite images and analytical capabilities.



Bhuvan - Yuktdhara

Geospatial Planning Portal for Geo-MGNREGA

Features: Landscape Familiarization | Activity & Area Identification | Map Composition

Indigenous motorized wheelchair 'NeoBolt'

- ❖ IIT Madras has developed India's first indigenous motorized wheelchair vehicle named 'NeoBolt'.
- ❖ This can be used not only on roads but even on uneven terrains.

- ❖ It has a maximum speed of 25 kmph.
- ❖ It is powered by a Lithium-Ion Battery.



Five women officers to Colonel rank

- ❖ The Indian Army's Selection Board for the first time promoted five women officers to Colonel rank.
- ❖ The five women officers have already completed 26 years of service.
- ❖ The women officers promoted to Colonel Time Scale rank are
 - Lt Col Navneet Duggal and Lt Col Sonia Anand from the Corps of Electronics and Mechanical Engineers (EME),
 - Lt Col Sangeeta Sardana from Corps of Signals, Lt Col Richa Sagar and Lt Col Reenu Khanna from the Corps of Engineers.
- ❖ Earlier, only women officers serving in the Army Education Corps, Judge Advocate General, and the Army Medical Corps were applicable for promotion to the Colonel Time Scale rank.



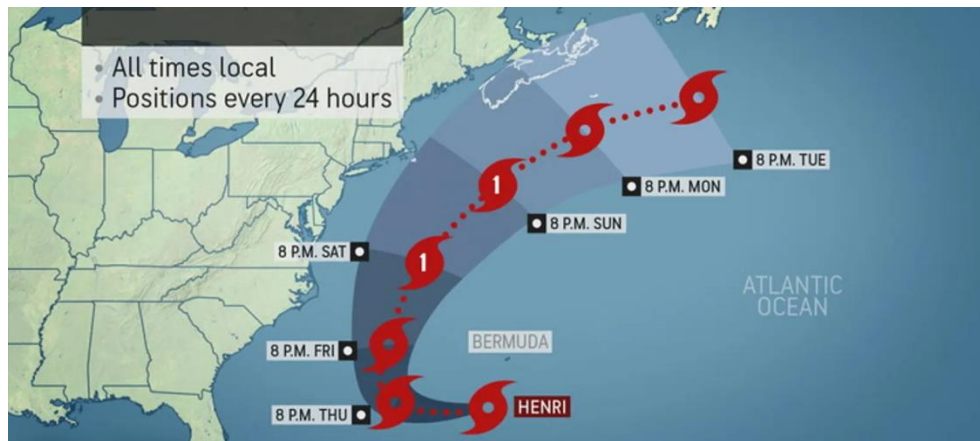
INTERNATIONAL

Covid antibody tests for children aged 3 - Israel

- ❖ Israel launched antibody testing for children aged three.
- ❖ This is in order to get the exact number of unvaccinated youths who have developed antibody against coronavirus.
- ❖ These tests were launched in the backdrop of opening up of schools.
- ❖ Israel already started vaccinating children aged 12 and above.

Tropical storm Henri

- ❖ Tropical Storm Henri has made its landfall near western Rhode Island recently.
- ❖ Rhode Island is a state in New England region of the United States.
- ❖ With respect to area, it is the smallest U.S. state.
- ❖ This is the first hurricane in 30 years to hit New England.



100% fossil-free hydrogen

- ❖ Swedish green steel venture HYBRIT, had made the 'world's first' customer delivery of steel produced without using coal.
- ❖ The steel was made using Hydrogen Breakthrough Ironmaking Technology.
- ❖ This technology uses 100% fossil-free hydrogen instead of coal and coke.
- ❖ The venture has started delivering the fossil-free steel to the Volvo Group as part of its trial run.



WEF'S Sustainable Development Impact Summit 2021

- ❖ The World Economic Forum's annual Sustainable Development Impact Summit will take place on September 20-23, 2021 in Geneva, Switzerland.
- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly convenes the summit under the theme "Shaping an Equitable, Inclusive and Sustainable Recovery".



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Solar-Driven Change traced on moon

- ❖ A study led by scientists at Northern Arizona University has highlighted clues to help in understanding the active lunar surface.
- ❖ In the study, tiny iron-nanoparticles were found naturally on the Earth and have been found everywhere on the moon.
- ❖ The Researchers have found that solar radiation is the more significant source of lunar iron nanoparticles than it was earlier thought.

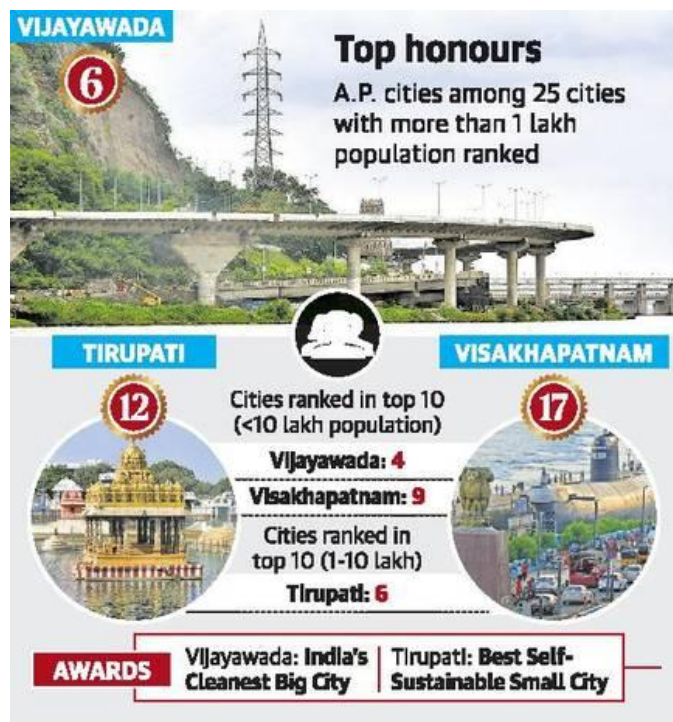
Note

- ❖ Asteroids as well as solar radiation break down the lunar rocks and soil, which form iron nanoparticles.
- ❖ These nanoparticles are detectable from the instruments on satellites orbiting around the moon.

STATES

Three Water Plus cities in Andhra Pradesh

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs awarded three cities from Andhra Pradesh with 'Water Plus' certification under the Swachh Bharat Mission and Swachh Survekshan assessment.
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh has now become the first state to have more than one 'Water Plus' certified city.
- ❖ The three cities awarded are,
 - Greater Vishakhapatnam Municipal Corporation,
 - Vijayawada Municipal Corporation and
 - Tirupathi Municipal Corporation.
- ❖ A total of nine cities across India were awarded 'Water Plus' certification.



IMPORTANT DAYS

World Entrepreneurs Day - August 21

- ❖ The day is annually observed across the globe to create awareness about entrepreneurship, innovation and leadership among the stakeholders.
- ❖ The day also recognises and celebrates the efforts of individuals who start a business venture.
- ❖ The Alliance of International Business Associations leads the observance and invites people across the globe to promote World Entrepreneurs Day.
- ❖ Some of the initiatives of Government of India to support Entrepreneurship are Start-Up India Scheme and Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana.

World Water Week - August 23 to 27

- ❖ The World Water Week is an annual event organized by Stockholm International Water Institute since 1991.
- ❖ This is to address the global water issues and related concerns of international development.
- ❖ The theme for World Water Week 2021 is 'Building Resilience Faster'.

