

December - 02

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Union Government's fiscal deficit widened to Rs 9.53 lakh crore, or close to 120% of the annual budget estimate, at the end of October of the current fiscal.
- ❖ Razorpay issued India's first corporate credit cards to provide relief and stabilise the financial operations of COVID-19-affected start-ups and Small Medium Enterprises.
- ❖ Mohsen Fakhrizadeh, an Iranian scientist, was "assassinated" in Absard city of Iran.

NATIONAL

National Portal for Transgender Persons

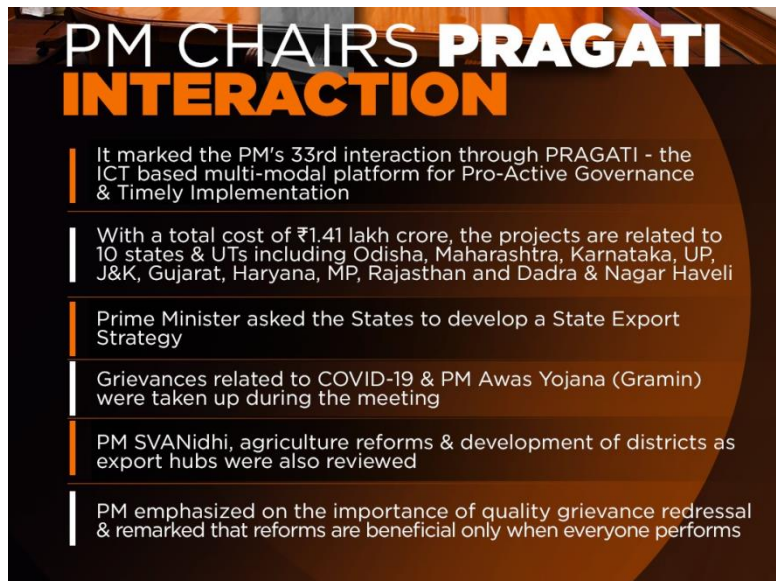
- ❖ Recently, Union Social Justice & Empowerment ministry has e-launched a 'National Portal for Transgender Persons'.
- ❖ The portal will help the transgender community to apply for identity card and certificate online.
- ❖ It is an important provision of the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019.
- ❖ 'Garima Greh: Shelter Home for Transgender Persons' has been inaugurated, in Vadodara, Gujarat.
- ❖ The Ministry has identified 10 cities to set up the 13 Shelter Homes and extend the facilities to Transgender persons.
- ❖ The cities include Vadodara, New Delhi, Patna, Bhubaneswar, Jaipur, Kolkata, Manipur, Chennai, Raipur and Mumbai.

HRMS – Indian Railways

- ❖ Indian Railways has recently launched the digitised online Human Resource Management System (HRMS).
- ❖ It is a high thrust project for Indian Railways to leverage improved productivity & employee satisfaction.

33rd Pragati interaction

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the Pragati meeting.
- ❖ PRAGATI means Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation.
- ❖ It was launched in 2015.
- ❖ It is a three-tier system that includes the Prime Minister Office, Government of India secretaries and Chief Secretaries of the state.
- ❖ It is a multi-modal and multi-purpose platform that aims to address the grievances of a common man.
- ❖ It also monitors and reviews projects of Government of India and also projects flagged by the State Governments.
- ❖ The programme is held once in every month, which is on fourth Wednesday.
- ❖ This day is called “PRAGATI Day”.



Mitigation and Management of Covid-19

- ❖ It was released by Niti Aayog.
- ❖ It highlighted the practices from India's states and Union territories to contain the Covid.
- ❖ Kerala's efforts in fighting the pandemic has found special mention in this report.



INTERNATIONAL

ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus

- ❖ Vietnam has invited India for ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM Plus).
- ❖ It will be hosted by Vietnam in December 2020.
- ❖ The ADMM-Plus is a platform for ASEAN and its eight Dialogue Partners.
- ❖ The 2nd ADMM in Singapore in 2007 adopted the Concept Paper to establish the ADMM-Plus.
- ❖ It aims to strengthen security and defence cooperation for peace, stability, and development in the region.
- ❖ Eight Dialogue Partners are Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russia and the USA.
- ❖ These are collectively referred to as the "Plus Countries".
- ❖ Maritime security, counter-terrorism, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, peacekeeping operations and military medicine are the agreed five areas of practical cooperation under this mechanism.

Maritime Security Cooperation

- ❖ India, Sri Lanka and Maldives held the fourth national security advisor trilateral meeting.
- ❖ It was hosted by Sri Lanka.
- ❖ India was represented by National Security Advisor Ajit Doval

ECONOMY

Indian Economy in recession

- ❖ The Indian economy contracted by 7.5 percent in the second quarter of the fiscal year 2020-21 (July to September).
- ❖ With this contraction, India officially entered a technical recession for the first time.

- ❖ The contraction is a rebound from the earlier quarter of the fiscal year 2020-21.
- ❖ India's economy had contracted by 23.9 percent in the April to June quarter (Q1 FY21).
- ❖ It marked the first contraction in more than 40 years.
- ❖ The GDP at Constant (2011-12) Prices in Q2 of FY 2020-21 was estimated at Rs 33.14 lakh crore, as against Rs 35.84 lakh crore in Q2 of FY 2019-20.
- ❖ This shows a contraction of 7.5 percent as compared to 4.4 percent growth in the second quarter of the Fiscal Year 2019-20.

FDI in India: Now, Next and Beyond

- ❖ It was a report released by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Ernst & Young firm (EY).
- ❖ As per this report, India may attract foreign direct investment (FDI) of \$120-160 billion per year by 2025.
- ❖ The country saw GDP grow 6.8 percent over the past 10 years with FDI to GDP at 1.8 percent.
- ❖ The automobiles, chemicals, drugs and pharmaceuticals have attracted a majority 89 percent of FDI.
- ❖ As per States-wise, Maharashtra remains the most attractive destination (28 percent)
- ❖ It is followed by Karnataka (19 percent), Delhi (16 percent) and Gujarat (10 percent).



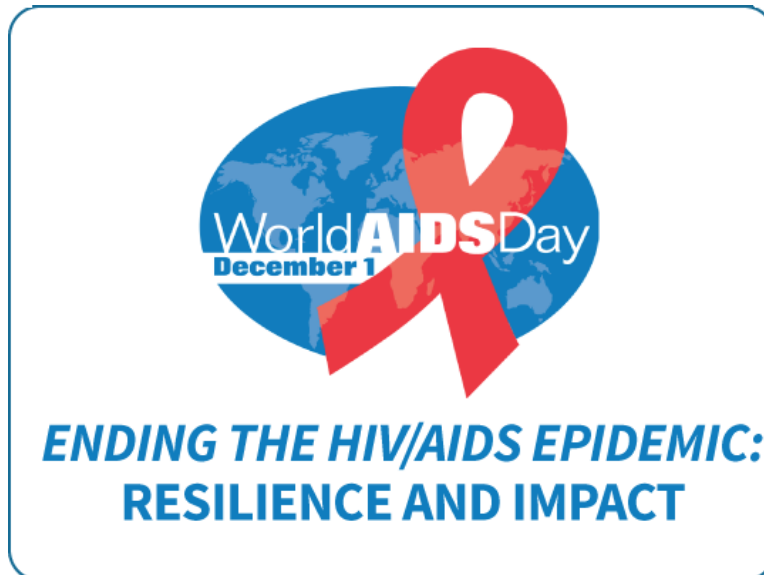
ENVIRONMENT

Song dam drinking water project in Uttarakhand

- ❖ The Forest Advisory Committee under the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has approved the construction of the Song Dam Drinking Water Project in Dehradun.
- ❖ It will give a rebirth to River Rispana.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World AIDS Day - December 01



- ❖ It aims to raise public awareness about Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).
- ❖ It is a pandemic disease caused due to infection of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) which affects the human immune system.
- ❖ The day also provides an opportunity for people to unite in fight against HIV and to show support for those living with HIV.
- ❖ World AIDS Day was first observed in 1988.
- ❖ The theme for the 2020 observance is “Ending the HIV/AIDS Epidemic: Resilience and Impact”.



Program for AIDS

- ❖ The government is implementing National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) as a 100% Central Sector Scheme for prevention and control of AIDS.
- ❖ NACP responses to HIV epidemic comprise a comprehensive 3-pronged strategy of prevention, testing and treatment.
- ❖ The Government has also developed a 7-year National Strategic Plan from 2017 to 2024.

