

November - 11

NATIONAL

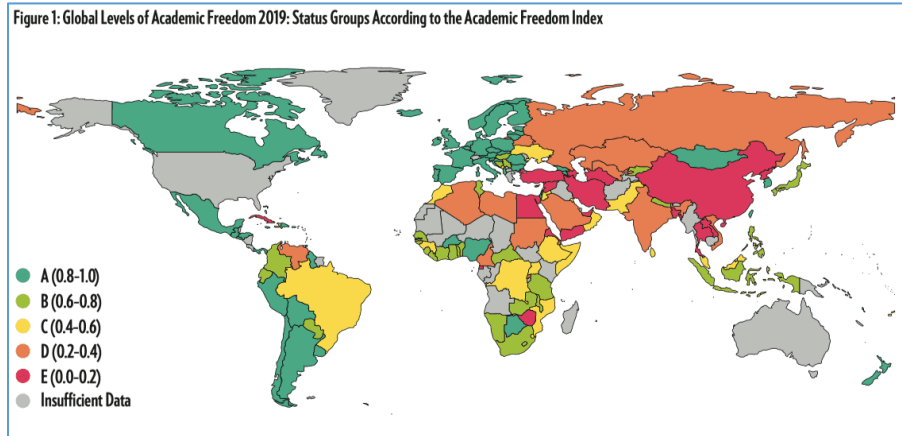
National Water Awards 2019

- ❖ It was presented by the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has bagged the first place under the 'Best State' category.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu was followed by Maharashtra and Rajasthan as the best states under the normal category.
- ❖ Vellore and Karur districts were awarded first and second spots respectively under the 'Revival of River' sub-category.
- ❖ The Perambalur district came second in the 'Water Conservation' category.
- ❖ Under the 'Water Conservation' category for South, Sasthavinathur Village Panchayat, Thoothukudi bagged the first place.
- ❖ Madurai Municipal Corporation was awarded the first place in the 'Best Urban Local Body' category.

INTERNATIONAL

Academic Freedom Index

- ❖ It has been published by Global Public Policy Institute as a part of a global time-series dataset (1900-2019).
- ❖ It compares levels of academic freedom worldwide and enhances the understanding of its curtailments.
- ❖ India has scored considerably low with a score of 0.352.
- ❖ Top Performers of the Index are Uruguay and Portugal.
- ❖ They are followed by Latvia and Germany.
- ❖ The index did not report data for 35 countries - including the United States and Australia.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Malaria outbreak forecast

- ❖ The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) announced that it will start providing Malaria outbreak forecast from next monsoon.
- ❖ The department conducted its first study in the city of Nagpur.
- ❖ According to the world Malaria report India accounts to 85% of global Malaria burden.
- ❖ Also, the National Health portal reports that the majority of malarial cases are from the central and Eastern part of the countries.
- ❖ This is mainly because these States have dense forests, tribal areas and hilly regions.
- ❖ The states include Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and the North Eastern states such as Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.

Vaccine

- ❖ Malaria vaccine is known as RTS, S.
- ❖ It was branded as Mosquirix and approved by the European medicine's agency in 2015.
- ❖ The vaccine is not registered in India.
- ❖ Malawi is a first country chosen to roll out the vaccine.

Habitable Exoplanets

- ❖ Recent data from Kepler Spacecraft shows a large number of habitable Exoplanets.



- ❖ An exoplanet or extrasolar planet is a planet outside the Solar System.
- ❖ The Kepler Mission was launched in 2009.
- ❖ It was NASA's first planet-hunting mission.
- ❖ Kepler is succeeded by NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite.
- ❖ TESS was launched in April 2018.
- ❖ TESS is the new planet hunter for NASA.

ENVIRONMENT

Cyclone free October in 2020

- ❖ October to December period is among the favourable months for the development of cyclones in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea.
- ❖ This year October passed without witnessing a cyclonic storm.
- ❖ Ocean disturbances enter the Bay of Bengal from the South China sea side and head towards the Indian coast.
- ❖ This year there was no system which intensified to form a cyclone.
- ❖ Also, there is the weak La Nina conditions along the equatorial Pacific Ocean.
- ❖ There was also the influence of Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO).
- ❖ MJO is kind of an eastward-moving cyclic weather event along the tropics.
- ❖ It influences rainfall, winds, sea surface temperatures and cloud cover.
- ❖ About 80 cyclones are formed around the world annually.
- ❖ Out of which five are formed in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea
- ❖ Both together are known as the North Indian Ocean.
- ❖ Cyclones in the North Indian Ocean are bi-modal in nature.
- ❖ They occur during two seasons— April to June (pre-monsoon) and October to December (post-monsoon).

STATES

Right to Recall

- ❖ Haryana clears a Bill on right to recall the panchayat member if they fail to perform.
- ❖ This will be followed by a secret ballot, in which their recall will require two-third members voting against them.



- ❖ The Haryana Panchayati Raj (Second Amendment) Bill, 2020 was passed in the state Assembly.
- ❖ The amendment is aimed at increasing their accountability to the voters.
- ❖ It gives women 50% reservation in these rural bodies.
- ❖ It provides 8% reservation to the “more disadvantaged” among the Backward Classes.

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Legal Services Day – November 09

- ❖ It aims to spread awareness for ensuring the reasonable fair and justice procedure for all citizens.
- ❖ It commemorates The Legal Services Authorities (NALSA) Act 1987 of the Indian Parliament which came into effect on 9th November 1995.
- ❖ NALSA was constituted to provide free Legal Services to the weaker sections of the society.
- ❖ They were to organize Lok Adalats for amicable settlement of disputes.
- ❖ The Chief Justice of India serves as the Patron-in-Chief NALSA.
- ❖ The second senior most Judge of Supreme Court of India serves as the Executive Chairman of the Authority.



World Freedom Day – November 09

- ❖ World Freedom Day has been created in commemoration of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

- ❖ The Berlin Wall constructed in Berlin in 1961 during the Cold War divided the city into two parts.
- ❖ The Soviet Union controlled the East Germany.
- ❖ The French, British, and American occupied the sectors of West Germany.
- ❖ On this day in 1989, thousands of Germans pulled down the Berlin Wall, marking the end of the Cold War.

World Science Day for Peace and Development (WSDPD) – November 10

- ❖ The day highlights the important role of science in society and the need to engage the wider public in debates on emerging scientific issues.
- ❖ It was initially proposed in 1999 at the World’s Scientific Conference in Budapest, Hungary.
- ❖ In 2001, UNESCO made the official proclamation for WSDPD.
- ❖ The first-ever World Science Day for Peace and Development was held on November 10th, 2002.
- ❖ Theme of the year is “Science for and with Society”.

