

October - 05

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Finance Minister Palanivel Thiaga Rajan has been nominated as a member of a Group of Ministers (GoM).
 - The GoM is constituted by the GST Council to look into the system reforms.
- ❖ The Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated 35 crop varieties with special traits to the nation.
 - The new crop varieties aim to help tackle the larger problem of climate change and malnutrition.
- ❖ MSD Pharmaceuticals Pvt. Ltd announced the launch of India's first gender-neutral human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine - Gardasil 9.
 - This will help to reduce the disease burden and cancers caused by the HPV types contained in the vaccine.
- ❖ San Marino voted to legalise abortion in a historic referendum.
 - The referendum is historic as San Marino is one of the last European countries that completely forbids abortions under any circumstances.
- ❖ The National anti-drug addiction day is celebrated in India on 2 October every year.
 - This is in order to raise awareness about drug addiction and drug abuse in India.

TAMIL NADU

Chennai's Sustainable Urban Services

- ❖ The World Bank has approved about a \$150 million program to support Chennai's Sustainable Urban Services.
- ❖ This is to turn it into a "world-class city".
- ❖ This programme will fulfil Tamil Nadu's vision of making Chennai into a city that is more green, liveable, and resilient towards climate change.
- ❖ It will bring significant improvements in the quality of four key urban services:
 - Water supply and sewerage
 - Mobility
 - Health, and
 - Solid Waste Management.



- ❖ Apart from the programme in Tamil Nadu, World Bank has also approved a \$40 million project that will improve the quality of health services in the state of Meghalaya.

Storming operation



- ❖ The State police initiated a 48-hour State-wide storming operation on 23rd September.
- ❖ The Director-General of Police C Sylendra Babu ordered the storming operation.
- ❖ The steps have been taken to ensure that there is no place for rowdies.

Semmozhi awards



- ❖ The state government announced Kalaingar M Karunanidhi Semmozhi Tamil awards presented by the Central Institute of Classical Tamil Research.
- ❖ It is presented for the years 2010 to 2019.
- ❖ Professor VS Rajam receives this award for the year 2010.
- ❖ Professor Pon Kothandaraman for the year 2011.

- ❖ Professor E Sundaramoorthy and Professor P Marudhanayagam for 2012 and 2013, respectively.
- ❖ Professor K Mohanarasu and Professor Maraimalai Ilakkuvanaar for the years 2014 and 2015.
- ❖ Professor K Rajan and Professor Ulrich Nicholas for 2016 and 2017.
- ❖ Poet Erode Tamilanban and Professor K Sivamani for 2018 and 2019.

NATIONAL

GST rates

- ❖ The Union government has tasked a group of ministers (GoM) to propose a rationalisation of tax rates and consider the merger of different tax slabs within two months.
- ❖ It is headed by the Chief Minister of Karnataka, Basavaraj S. Bommai.
- ❖ Presently, the GST regime has five broad tax rate slabs viz., zero, 5%, 12%, 18% and 28%.

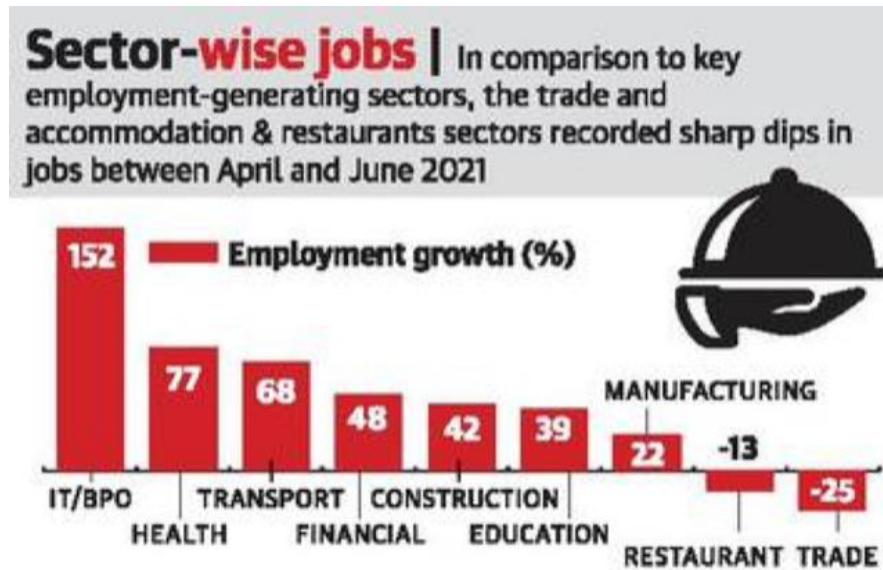
Mitra Shakti



- ❖ The 8th Edition of the “India Sri Lanka bilateral joint Exercise” will be conducted from October 4 to October 15, 2021.
- ❖ It will be conducted at Combat Training School, Ampara in Sri Lanka.
- ❖ The exercise is called Mitra Shakti.

- ❖ In the joint exercise, all arms contingent of 120 personnel from the Indian Army will participate along with the battalion of the Sri Lankan Army.
- ❖ 7th Edition of Exercise Mitra Shakti was conducted in the year 2019 at Foreign Training Node (FTN), Pune, Maharashtra.

Quarterly Employment Survey



- ❖ The Labour and Employment Minister Shri Bhupender Yadav released the report of the first quarter of the Quarterly Employment Survey part (April to June 2021),
- ❖ The report is the part of All-India Quarterly Establishment-based Employment Survey (AQEES).
- ❖ It was prepared by the Labour Bureau.
- ❖ The most impressive growth of 152 per cent has been recorded in the IT/BPO sector.
- ❖ The growth rate in,
 - Health is 77 %,
 - Education is 39 %,
 - Manufacturing is 22 %,
 - Transport is 68 %,
 - Construction is 42 %,
- ❖ The Employment in Trade came down by 25 per cent.
- ❖ Accommodation & Restaurant the decline was by 13 per cent.

- ❖ Financial services saw a growth rate in employment of 48 per cent.

Khadi national flag

- ❖ The world's largest national flag made of Khadi was inaugurated in Leh in the union territory of Ladakh on October 2, 2021.
- ❖ Ladakh's Lieutenant Governor RK Mathur inaugurated the national flag on the 152nd birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- ❖ The Monumental Khadi National Flag was prepared by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC).
- ❖ It is about 225 feet long and 150 feet wide and weighs over 1,400 kg.
- ❖ The Ashok Chakra in the national flag measures a diameter of 30 feet.
- ❖ It took 70 Khadi artisans 49 days to prepare the national flag.



INTERNATIONAL

Bahrain Global Sea-Air Hub

- ❖ The Kingdom of Bahrain launched the fastest regional multi-modal logistics hub in the region.
- ❖ These gains translate to a 50% reduction in average lead time compared to pure sea freight.
- ❖ It also reflects a 40% reduction in cost compared to pure air freight.



UN Food Systems Summit

- ❖ The UN Food Systems Summit will serve as a historic opportunity to empower all people to leverage the power of food systems.
- ❖ This is to drive our recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and get us back on track to achieve all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.
- ❖ In 2021, UN Secretary-General António Guterres will convene a Food Systems Summit.



Senegal-Mauritanian Aquifer Basin

- ❖ The four West African countries have signed a joint declaration to advance transboundary cooperation in the Senegal-Mauritanian Aquifer Basin (SMAB).
- ❖ The four countries are Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania and Senegal.
- ❖ They have agreed to establish a legal and institutional framework for cooperation on SMAB.
- ❖ This would be the first such mechanism in West Africa and pave the way for strengthened collaboration on shared groundwater resources worldwide.

- ❖ Senegal, upon accession to the UNECE Water Convention in 2018, had requested this declaration.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Kaushalacharya Awards 2021



- ❖ The Union Education Minister and Skill Development Minister Dharmendra Pradhan virtually presented Kaushalacharya Awards 2021.



- ❖ The awards were given to 41 skill trainers for their exemplary contribution to the skill ecosystem.
- ❖ These 41 trainers are from several initiatives and training programmes of Skill India like Directorate General of Training (DGT), Apprenticeship, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) and Entrepreneurship.

