

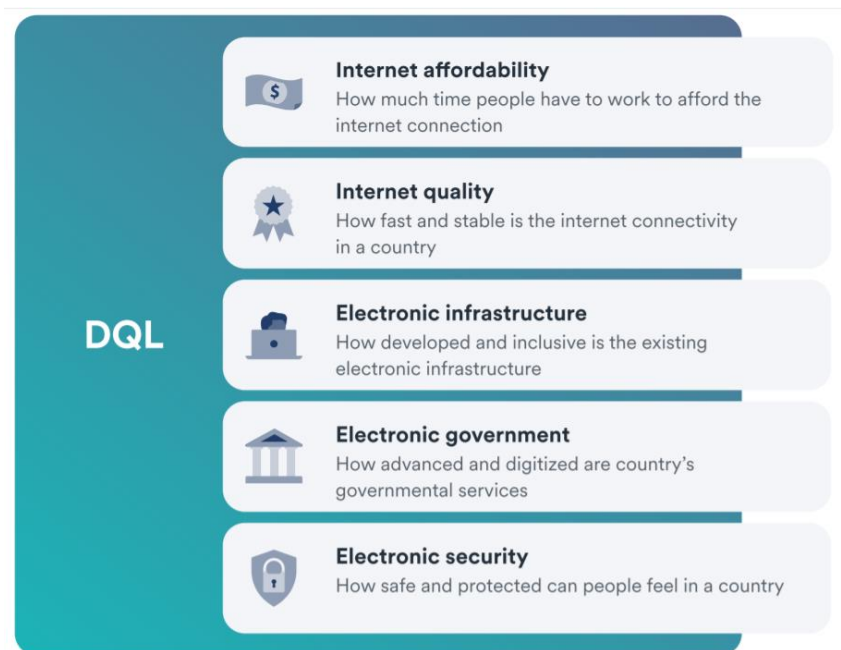
October - 14

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Venezuela is set to debut a new currency that will feature six fewer zeros.
 - The highest denomination for the new currency will be 100 bolivar, worth a little less than \$25.
- ❖ 'Challenge' is the 1st movie to be shot in space (Russian Movie).
 - It's being directed by the Russian Film director Klim Shipenko.

NATIONAL

Digital Quality of Life (DQL) Index



- ❖ The third annual edition of the index ranks India 59th among 110 countries.
- ❖ The DQL study is conducted by the cybersecurity company Surfshark.
- ❖ It evaluates countries based on a set of five fundamental digital wellbeing pillars.
- ❖ India ranks,
 - 33rd in e-government,
 - 36th in e-security,
 - 47th in internet affordability,

- 67th in internet quality
- ❖ It shows the lowest result in e-infrastructure, which comes only in 91st place.
- ❖ The country now comes 17th in Asia and 1st in the Southern Asia region.
- ❖ India's e-security has improved by 76% since last year and now ranks higher than China.

Reliance New Energy Solar Ltd

- ❖ The Reliance New Energy Solar Ltd (RNESL) has announced the acquisition of 100% shareholding of REC Solar Holdings AS (REC Group) from China National Bluestar (Group) Co Ltd.
- ❖ The RNESL is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL).

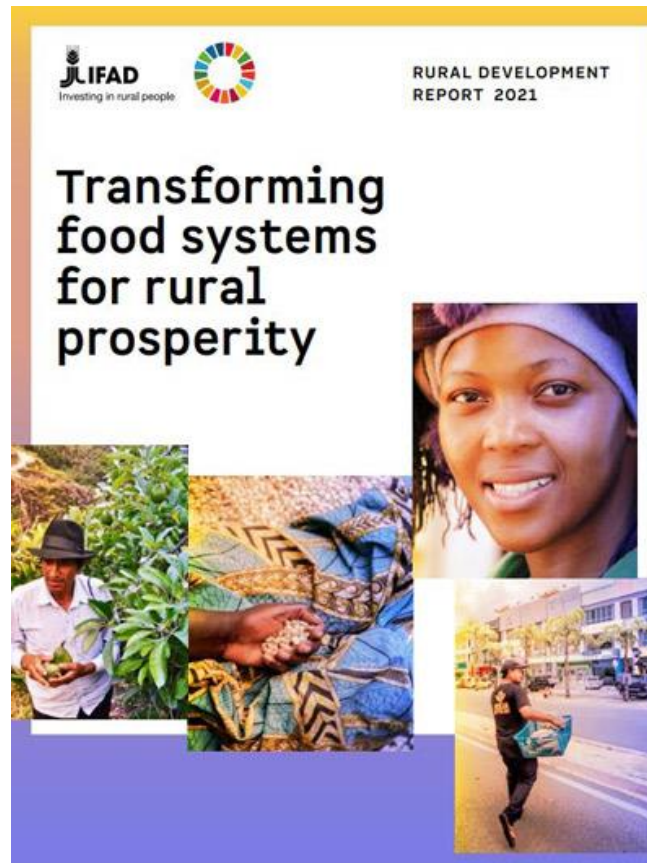
Akasa Air



- ❖ The Ministry of Civil Aviation has given a no-objection certificate (NOC) to the new airline named 'Akasa Air' for its operation in India.
- ❖ Akasa Air is backed by Rakesh Jhunjhunwala as well as ex-Jet Airways CEO Vinay Dube.
- ❖ The new airline has set its aim to start operations by mid-2022.
- ❖ The airline has planned to operate approximately 70 planes in the next four years.
- ❖ Akasa Airline is an Ultra-low-cost carrier service.

INTERNATIONAL

Rural Development Report 2021



- ❖ IFAD's Rural Development Report 2021 focuses on "Transforming food systems for rural prosperity" (IFAD - International Fund For Agricultural Development).
- ❖ The Rural Development Report 2021 was launched during the United Nations Food Systems Summit.
- ❖ The report stressed the importance of government investment in rural farms and local small and medium-sized enterprises that support activities after the farm gate.
- ❖ The Activities here refers to storing, processing, marketing and food distribution.

Balloon Rides to Space

- ❖ The World View Enterprises is developing a balloon-based system that will carry people to the stratosphere.
- ❖ Its first commercial flights are targeted for early 2024.

- ❖ The World View Enterprises is an Arizona-based company.



G20 Extraordinary Leaders' Summit



- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has attended the G20 Extraordinary Leaders' Summit.
- ❖ G20 Extraordinary Leaders' Summit is being organised to discuss the situation in Afghanistan.
- ❖ This event is convened by the G20 Italian Presidency in virtual mode.
- ❖ The world leaders will discuss the response to humanitarian needs as well as access to basic services & livelihood in Afghanistan.

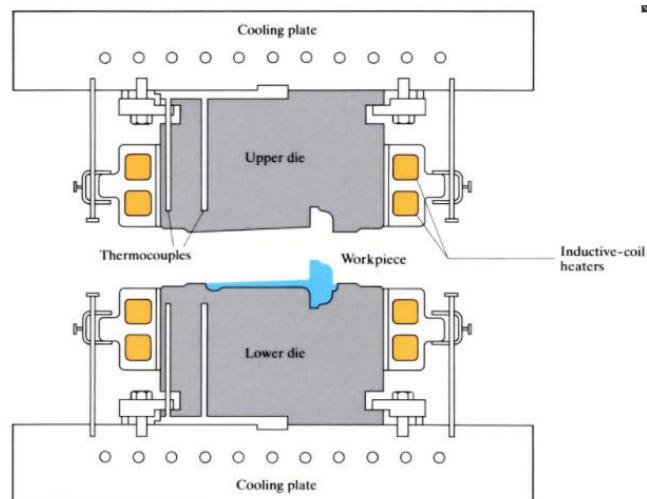
3rd dose for immunocompromised

- ❖ The World Health Organisation (WHO) has recommended the third dose for immunocompromised.
- ❖ This is following a four-day meeting of the “Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) on Immunization”.
- ❖ The final report on the matter will be issued in December.
- ❖ According to SAGE, moderately & severely immunocompromised persons should be given an additional dose of all WHO-approved vaccines.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Isothermal Forging Technology



- ❖ DRDO has developed Critical near Isothermal Forging Technology for aero engines.
- ❖ Isothermal forging is a closed-die process.
- ❖ Here the dies and the workpieces are heated to the same temperature.
- ❖ With this development, India has joined the league of limited global engine developers to have the manufacturing capabilities of such critical aero-engine components.

ENVIRONMENT

Cyclone shaheen



- ❖ Cyclones Gulab and Shaheen were two consecutive tropical cyclones that caused considerable damage to South and West Asia.
- ❖ Gulab impacted the eastern India.
- ❖ Shaheen impacted Pakistan, Iran, Oman and the United Arab Emirates.
- ❖ Gulab was the third named storm of the 2021 North Indian Ocean cyclone season.
- ❖ Gulab's origins can be traced back to a low-pressure area situated over the Bay of Bengal.
- ❖ Gulab made landfall in India's Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ The system continued moving westward, emerging into the Arabian Sea.
- ❖ The system got restrengthened into a Cyclonic Storm,
- ❖ The IMD named it as Shaheen.
- ❖ The system gradually strengthened as it entered the Gulf of Oman.

- ❖ It made an extremely rare landfall in Oman as a Category 1-equivalent cyclone.
- ❖ The name Gulab, suggested by Pakistan, means rose in Urdu/Hindi.
- ❖ The name Shaheen, provided by Qatar, means falcon in Arabic.

Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network



- ❖ The Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN) has released a report on the status of coral reefs across the world.
- ❖ The report, the first of its kind in 13 years, underlined the catastrophic consequences of global warming.
- ❖ In the last decade, the world lost about 14 per cent of its coral reefs.

- ❖ Coral bleaching events caused by rising in elevated sea surface temperatures (SST) were responsible for the coral loss.
- ❖ There has been a steady decrease in hard coral cover.
- ❖ Hard coral cover is an indicator of coral reef health.
- ❖ Algal bloom on coral ridges are a sign of stress on the structures.
- ❖ Since 2010, the amount of algae on the world's coral reefs has increased by about 20 per cent.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Actor Nedumudi Venu

- ❖ National Award-winning actor Nedumudi Venu has recently passed away.
- ❖ He won three National Film Awards, and six Kerala State Film Awards for his performances.
- ❖ Nedumudi Venu began his career as a theatre artist with the plays of Kavalam Narayana Panicker in Malayalam.
- ❖ He made his debut in films with Thambu, directed by G Aravindan in 1978.



IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day for Disaster Reduction – 13 October

- ❖ The day is held annually since 1989.
- ❖ The day is celebrated to promote a global culture of risk awareness and disaster reduction.

- ❖ It also celebrates how people and communities around the world are reducing their exposure to disasters and raising awareness about the importance of reining in the risks that they face.
- ❖ The theme for 2021 is “International cooperation for developing countries to reduce their disaster risk and disaster losses”.

