

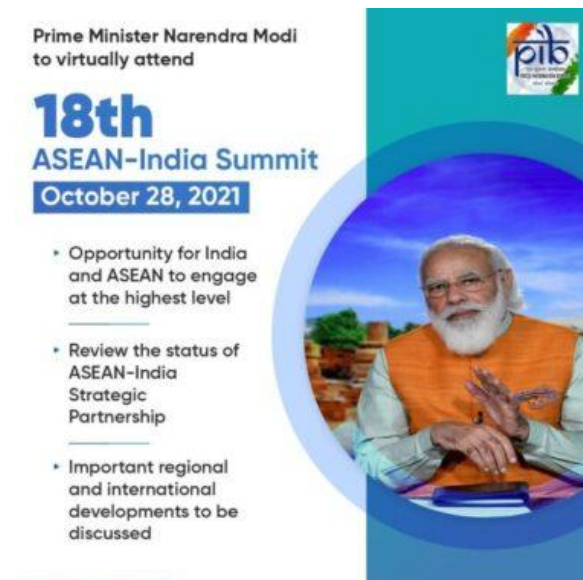
October - 30

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ India has applied for a \$2 billion loan from the Asian Development Bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.
  - This is to purchase about 700 million Covid-19 vaccines.
- ❖ The Health Ministry is planning to start the “Har Ghar Dastak” (Knock Every Door) campaign in districts with low vaccination rates.
  - This is to enthuse and motivate people towards getting their jab.
- ❖ The Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue 2021 is being organized as a three-day online event.
  - It will focus on the theme ‘Evolution in Maritime Strategy during the 21st Century: Imperatives, Challenges and Way Ahead’.
- ❖ TVS Motor Company has bagged the ‘India Green Energy Award’.
  - It is being recognised as an ‘outstanding renewable energy user’.
- ❖ Mr. Stalin Launched the ‘Illam Thedi Kalvi’ (education at doorstep) scheme at Mudaliarkuppam in Villupuram district.

## NATIONAL

### 18th ASEAN-India Summit



Prime Minister Narendra Modi  
to virtually attend

**18th**  
ASEAN-India Summit  
October 28, 2021

- Opportunity for India and ASEAN to engage at the highest level
- Review the status of ASEAN-India Strategic Partnership
- Important regional and international developments to be discussed

The poster features a circular image of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in an orange vest, seated at a table with his hands clasped. The background of the image is a blue sky with a sunset or sunrise over a landscape. The text is in blue and white, with the date 'October 28, 2021' highlighted in a blue box. The logo for the 18th ASEAN-India Summit is in the top right corner.

- ❖ The Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the 18th ASEAN-India Summit.



- ❖ The ASEAN-India summits are held annually and provide the opportunity for India and ASEAN to engage at the highest level.
- ❖ PM Modi will review the status of the ASEAN-India Strategic Partnership at the 18th ASEAN-India Summit.
- ❖ He is participating in the summit at the invitation of the Sultan of Brunei.
- ❖ It will be the ninth ASEAN-India Summit attended by Modi.
- ❖ The year 2022 will mark 30 years of ASEAN-India relations partnership, and will be celebrated as 'ASEAN-India Friendship Year'.

### **16th East Asia Summit**



- ❖ The Prime Minister Narendra Modi has participated in the 16th East Asia Summit (EAS).
- ❖ He reaffirmed India's focus on a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific and the principle of ASEAN Centrality in the region.
- ❖ The 16th EAS was hosted under the Chairmanship of Brunei.
- ❖ EAS is the premier Leaders-led forum in the Indo-Pacific region.
- ❖ This was the 7th East Asia Summit for Prime Minister Modi.



- ❖ The Summit ended with the adoption of three Statements by EAS leaders, which includes,
  - Mental Health,
  - Economic recovery through Tourism and
  - Sustainable Recovery.

### **Green Day Ahead Market**

- ❖ The Union Minister of Power & New and Renewable Energy, R K Singh has launched a new market segment, “Green Day Ahead Market (GDAM)”.
- ❖ This makes India the only large electricity market in the world to implement a GDAM exclusively for renewable energy.
- ❖ The new initiative will open the renewable energy sector to enable anyone to set up the capacity and sell it to distribution companies and industries.

### **Krishi Udan 2.0 scheme**

- ❖ The Ministry of Civil Aviation launched the “Krishi Udan 2.0 scheme”.
- ❖ Under this scheme, cargo-related infrastructure will be built in airports of hilly, tribal, and northeast regions.
- ❖ Such infrastructure will help in assisting farmers to transport agricultural products.

#### **Note**

- ❖ The e-Kushal platform would be developed under Krishi Udan 2.0 scheme for facilitating information dissemination to stakeholders with respect to the transportation of agriculture produce.

### **Agni-5**

- ❖ India has successfully test-fired a surface-to-surface ballistic missile called Agni-5.
- ❖ The missile was launched from APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the Odisha coast.
- ❖ The missile uses a three-stage solid-fuelled engine.
- ❖ It can strike targets up to the range of 5000-km with a very high degree of accuracy.
- ❖ The successful launch of the Agni-5 missile aligns with India’s policy to have a “credible minimum deterrence”.
- ❖ This policy underpins the commitment of ‘No First Use’.

- ❖ The Agni-5 missile has been built by the Defence Research Development Organisation.



## INTERNATIONAL

### Passport with 'X' gender marker

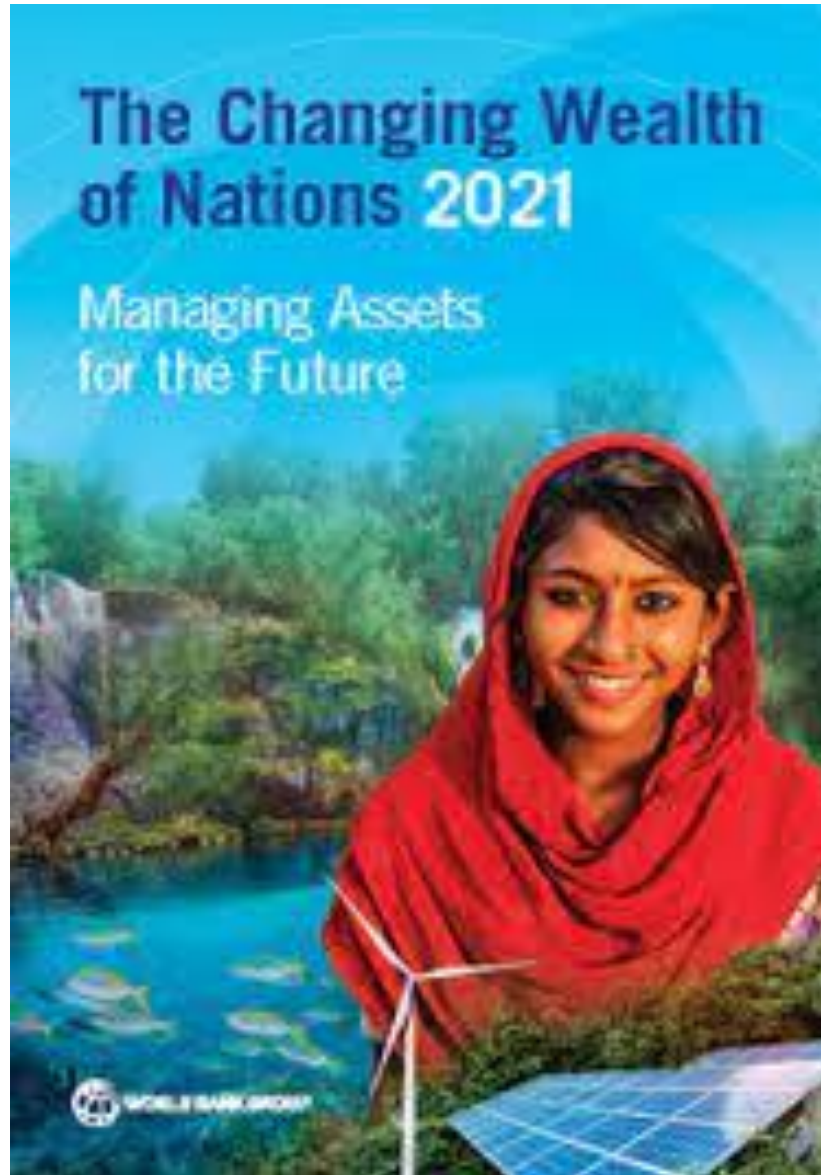
- ❖ The United States issued the first passport with an “X” gender marker.
- ❖ This marks a milestone in recognising the rights of people who are not identified as male or female.
- ❖ This step was taken following the fight of Dana Zzyym, who is an intersex activist from Fort Collins.

### The Changing Wealth of Nations 2021

- ❖ The World Bank recently published this report.
- ❖ According to the World bank, human capital is defined as “earnings over a person’s lifetime.”
- ❖ As per the report, South Asia suffers the most in terms of loss of human capital loss because of air pollution.
- ❖ As per report, human capital was the largest source of worldwide wealth.
- ❖ The latest edition of the report has measured wealth creation and distribution among 146 countries.
- ❖ It covers a 20-year period from 1995 to 2018.



- ❖ About 80 per cent of wealth in the South Asian region was attributed to men.



### **Blue Hydrogen**

- ❖ Saudi Arabia announced that it will use one of the world's biggest natural-gas projects to produce Blue Hydrogen.
- ❖ A large portion of gas from the \$110 billion Jafurah development will be used for manufacturing Blue Hydrogen.
- ❖ Blue Hydrogen is produced by converting natural gas and capturing carbon dioxide emissions.

## STATES

### Wildlife Action plan - Maharashtra

- ❖ Maharashtra became the first state in India to release its own Wildlife Action plan (2021-30).
- ❖ The new plan will be implemented over the next 10 years.
- ❖ It recognises concerns about climate change impacts on wildlife, coastal ecosystems, marine biodiversity, flora and fauna.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### International Internet Day – 29 October

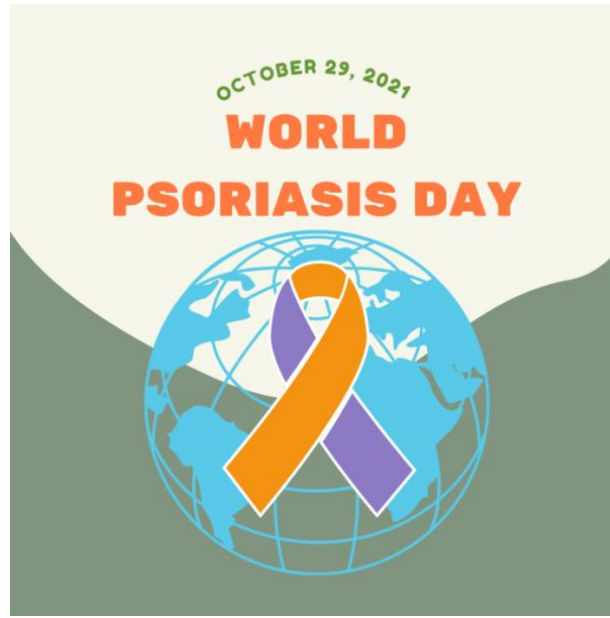


- ❖ The day marks the sending of the first electronic message which was transferred from one computer to another in 1969.
- ❖ At that time the Internet was known as ARPANET (Advanced Research Projects Agency Network).
- ❖ Charley Kline transmitted the first-ever electronic message 'LO' on October 29, 1969.
- ❖ The first International Internet Day was celebrated on October 29, 2005.

### World Psoriasis Day – 29 October

- ❖ The day is observed by the International Federation of Psoriasis Associations.

- ❖ This is to promote awareness, empowerment, and action for improving the quality of life for people with psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis.
- ❖ The theme for 2021 World Psoriasis Day is “Uniting for action”.
- ❖ Psoriasis is a kind of skin disorder that reasons skin cells to multiply up to ten times faster.



### **World Stroke Day – 29 October**



- ❖ The World Stroke Day was established by the World Stroke Organization (WSO).
- ❖ The day is also observed to raise awareness of the prevention and treatment of strokes.
- ❖ For 2021 and 2022, the WSO campaign aims to focus on raising awareness of the signs of stroke and the need for timely access to quality stroke treatment.

## **Global Media and Information Literacy - 24th October to 31st October**

- ❖ The United Nations Global Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Week is annually observed to review and celebrate the progress made towards “Media and Information Literacy for All”.
- ❖ The year 2021 marks the 10th Global MIL Week and this also marks the first UN-recognised Global MIL Week.
- ❖ The Global MIL Week 2021 is hosted by South Africa and co-organised by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).
- ❖ The theme of 2021 Global MIL Week is “Media and Information Literacy for the Public Good”.

