

October - 14

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Union new and renewable energy ministry unveiled the R&D roadmap for the national green hydrogen mission, committing Rs 400 crore towards developing a research ecosystem that can commercialize green hydrogen.

TAMIL NADU

Passenger ferry to Sri Lanka

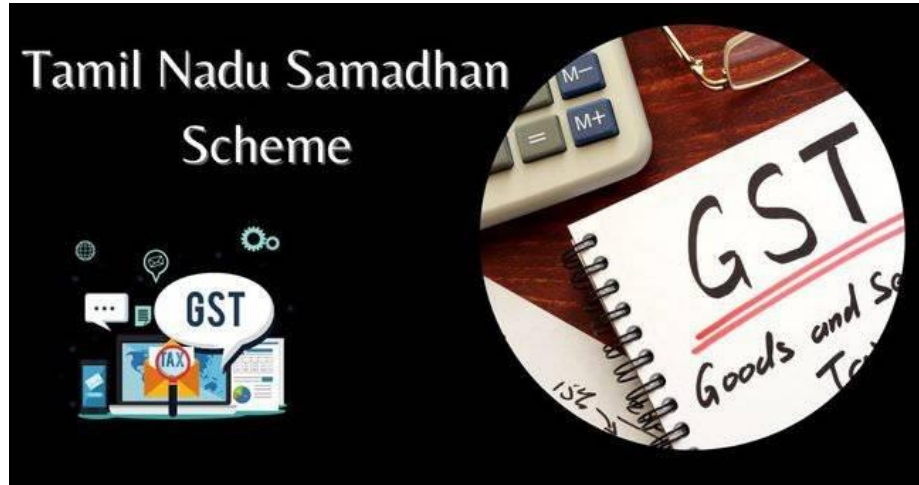
- ❖ The high-speed passenger ferry service between Nagapattinam in Tamil Nadu and Kankesanthurai in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka.
- ❖ This is restarted after a gap of nearly four decades.
- ❖ The High-Speed Craft (HSC) Cheriyanani is owned by the Shipping Corporation of India.
- ❖ Nagapattinam is a non-major port located on the shores of the Bay of Bengal.



Reintroduction of Samadhan Scheme

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly adopted a Bill to reintroduce an effective Samadhan Scheme.
- ❖ It aims to provide another opportunity to settle the arrears of tax, penalty (prior to GST regime) and interest payable to the government pertaining to the assessments under various Acts up to 2017-18.
- ❖ Assessments made on or before March 31, 2021 would benefit from the scheme.

- ❖ The system of levy of tax on Goods and Services i.e., GST was introduced across the country, from July 1, 2017.
- ❖ The State government had introduced Samadhan Schemes in 2006, 2008, 2010 and 2011 by enactment of various legislations, with a view to expedite the collection of arrears.



NATIONAL

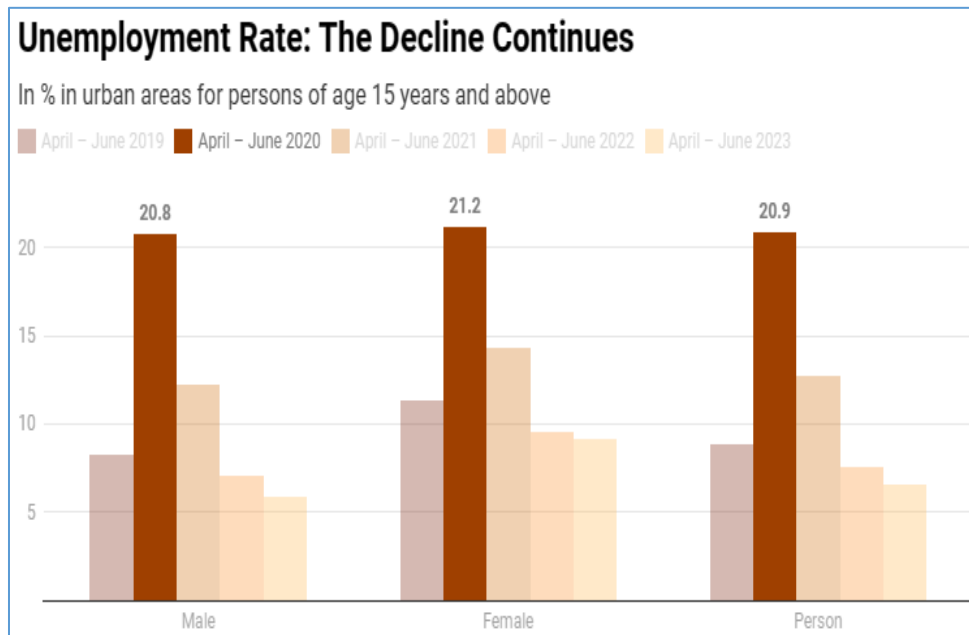
Chakravat 2023



- ❖ The annual joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) exercise (AJHE-23) 'Chakravat' held in Goa.

- ❖ Since its first edition in 2015, the Annual Joint HADR Exercise, Chakravat, has transformed itself into a multi-agency endeavour involving participation of all three Services.
- ❖ The exercise has been conducted by Indian Army, Indian Navy and Indian Air Force in rotation since 2016.
- ❖ The 2023 edition witnessed a participation from eight countries of the Indian Ocean Region.

Lowest Unemployment Rate in 2023



- ❖ The quarterly bulletin of Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
- ❖ The unemployment rate in urban areas decreased from 7.6% in April–June 2022 to 6.6% in April–June 2023 for persons aged 15 years and above.
- ❖ For males, it decreased from 7.1% to 5.9% during this period.
- ❖ For females, it decreased from 9.5% to 9.1% during this period.
- ❖ For the full year from July 2022 to June 2023, in rural areas, the unemployment rate decreased to 2.4% from 3.2% a year ago.
- ❖ For urban areas, it decreased to 5.4% from 6.3% during the same period.
- ❖ India's aggregate unemployment rate fell to 3.2%, the lowest since at least 2017-18.
- ❖ In the urban areas, states/UTs which recorded higher than national average unemployment rate included Himachal Pradesh (13.8 per cent), Rajasthan (11.7

per cent), Chhattisgarh (11.2 per cent), Jammu and Kashmir (10.9 per cent) and Kerala (10 per cent).

- ❖ States/UTs which posted a lower-than-national average unemployment rate were Delhi (2.7 per cent), Gujarat (2.8 per cent), West Bengal (4.4 per cent), Bihar (6.1 per cent), Maharashtra and Haryana (6.5 per cent each).

INTERNATIONAL

Chair of Indian Ocean Rim Association



- ❖ Several Foreign Ministers, including those of India, Bangladesh, Mauritius, Iran, Malaysia and South Africa participated in the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Council of Ministers meeting in Colombo.
- ❖ The Council of Ministers meeting in Colombo witnessed the participation of 16 Ministers.
- ❖ Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Ali Sabry was chairing the Council, the highest decision-making body of the IORA.
- ❖ Sri Lanka is taking over from the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh, the current Chair, for the next two years.
- ❖ IORA was established in 1997 as an intergovernmental organisation of States on the rim of the Indian Ocean.
- ❖ It has members from Africa, West Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia and the Oceania.

- ❖ The Association's membership has expanded to 23 member states and 11 dialogue partners.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Nobel Prize in Economics – 2023

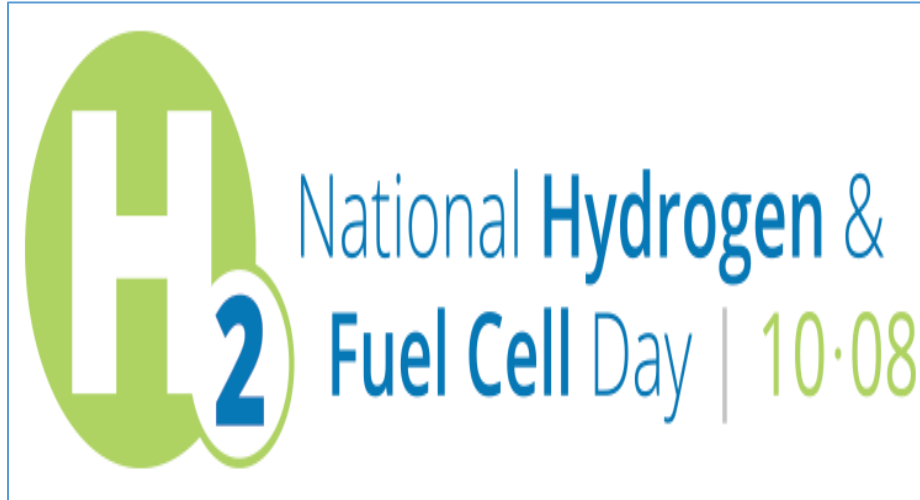


- ❖ The Nobel Prize in Economics for 2023 was awarded to Claudia Goldin, a Harvard University professor.
- ❖ This is awarded for “having advanced our understanding of women’s labour market outcomes and pay gaps”.
- ❖ Her work has shed light on the participation of women in the labour market over the past 200 years.
- ❖ Goldin’s work found that by the beginning of the 20th century, only around 20 per cent of women were gainfully employed.
- ❖ But, the share of married women was only five per cent.
- ❖ Goldin noted that legislation known as “marriage bars” often prevented married women from continuing their employment as teachers or office workers.
- ❖ Goldin's research covers a wide range of topics, including the female labor force, the gender gap in earnings, income inequality, technological change, education, and immigration.
- ❖ Goldin follows two other women — Elinor Ostrom in 2009 and Esther Duflo in 2019 — in being awarded the prize in economic sciences.

- ❖ A Nobel Prize in Economics was not part of Alfred Nobel's 1895 will that established the other prizes.
- ❖ The economic sciences award was added by Sweden's central bank in 1968 only.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day 2023 - October 08

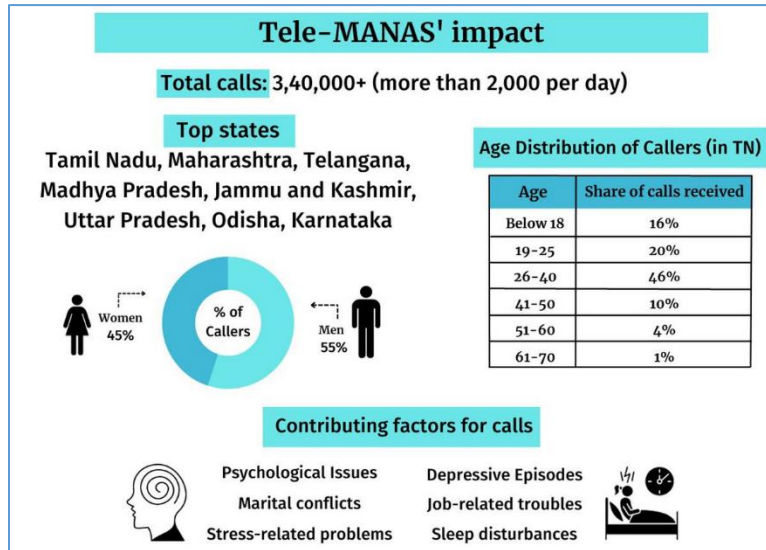


- ❖ This global initiative is aimed at promoting awareness and understanding of hydrogen as a clean and sustainable energy source.
- ❖ October 8th written in mm/dd format (10/08) refers to the atomic weight of hydrogen (1.008).
- ❖ Therefore, this date was chosen to observe the Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day.
- ❖ This day serves as a platform to acknowledge the potential of hydrogen and fuel cells in addressing the pressing global challenges.

World Mental Health Day 2023 - October 10

- ❖ This day is devoted to promoting mental well-being across the world.
- ❖ The theme for 2023 is 'Mental health is a universal human right'.
- ❖ According to the World Health Organization, half of all mental health issues begin before the age of 14.
- ❖ Estimates show that 70-92% of Indians do not receive medication or treatment for different mental conditions.
- ❖ India launched Tele-MANAS, or the National Tele-Mental Health Programme to get advice, counselling and referral to psychologists and psychiatrists.

- ❖ Tele-MANAS has received over 3,40,000 calls (as of October 8) from 51 cells spread across 32 States and Union Territories.



National Post Day 2023 - October 10



- ❖ The National Post Day is celebrated to mark the role played by the Indian postal department in over 150 years.
- ❖ Postal service was introduced in India by the British.
- ❖ It was founded in 1854 by Lord Dalhousie.
- ❖ India has 23 postal circles and 9 postal zones including Army Post Office.



- ❖ Post offices in Indian follow a 6-digit PIN Code system, which was introduced in India in 1972.
- ❖ The Postal Departmental celebrated 'National Postal Week' from October 9 to 13.
- ❖ The theme of the Postal week was 'Together for Trust'.

