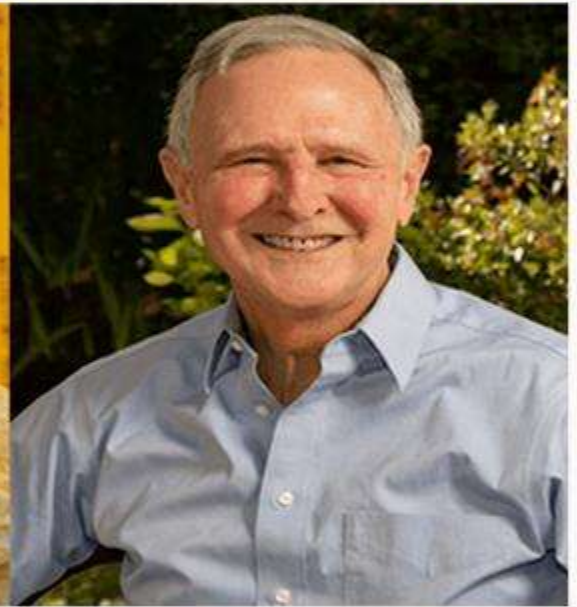
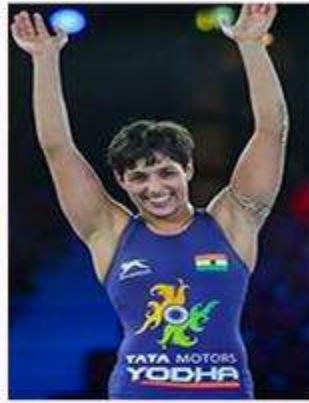
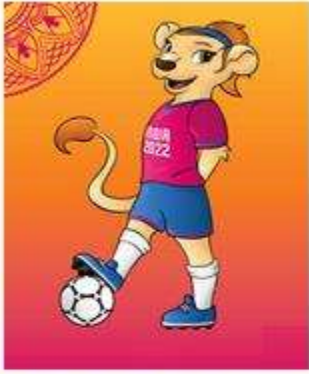


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TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has launched India's First Pan-India helpline for Senior Citizens, called "Elder Line".
 - The Toll-Free Number for this line is 14567.
- ❖ Sojat Mehendi (Henna) from Rajasthan, has been awarded the geographical indication (GI) tag.
 - Sojat Mehendi, originating from Mehendi leaves grown in Sojat, is naturally cultivated using the rainwater.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu police museum is set up in the old commissioner's office, Egmore, Chennai.
 - The building was the headquarters of the first Police Commissioner of Madras, Lieutenant-Colonel John Carne Boulderson in 1856.
- ❖ The NASA probe (InSight) has detected an earthquake on Mars measuring a magnitude 4.2 that shook the ground for nearly an hour and a half.
 - This is the biggest and longest-lasting quake on Mars.
- ❖ Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh launched the "Amrit Grand Challenge Program" titled "JANCARE".
 - The Grand Challenge aims to identify 75 Start-Up and entrepreneurs, who come out with Innovative Ideas and Solutions for India's healthcare challenges.
- ❖ India has emerged as Dubai's second biggest trading partner after China.
 - U.S. is at third position.
- ❖ A humanitarian organization from Yemen has been declared as the winner of the 2021 UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award.
 - The organisation named "Jeel Albena Association for Humanitarian Development" was founded in 2017 by Ameen Jubran.
- ❖ North Korea successfully tested a new hypersonic missile called Hwasong-8.
 - Hypersonic missiles fly at lower altitudes compared to ballistic weapon systems.
- ❖ The National Basketball Association (NBA) has named Bollywood actor Ranveer Singh as its brand ambassador for India.
- ❖ The Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu presented the Vayoshreshtha Samman National Award to senior geriatrician V.S. Natarajan.
 - The recipient of the award has been taking various initiatives through his enterprise (Dr V S Natarajan Geriatric Foundation) for the healthy welfare of the elders.



- ❖ The first pink-ball day and night Test match between India and the Australian women team was held at the Carrara Oval in Queensland, Australia.
 - The Indian team was led by Mithali Raj.
- ❖ According to US Fish and Wildlife Services, the American bumblebee population has decreased by 89% in the past 20 years.
 - It could be declared as an “endangered species”.
- ❖ NITI Aayog released its “State Nutrition Profile” report.
 - In the report, nineteen States and Union Territories received their nutrition profiles.
- ❖ Nata-Sankirtana festival was started at the Mandap of Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy (JNMDA), Imphal.
 - It is a three-day festival of Dance and Music.
- ❖ The Taliban announced that they plan to temporarily enact provisions from the 1964 Constitution of Afghanistan that are not in conflict with Sharia or Islamic law.
 - The adoption of this constitution could grant women the right to vote.
- ❖ Kilauea volcano erupted on Hawaii's Big Island on September 30, 2021.
 - It is one of the most active volcanos on Earth.
- ❖ India signed the implementing arrangement on the joint development of a small satellite for Bhutan.
 - The agreement was inked between the Indian Space Research Organisation and the Department of Information Technology and Telecom, Bhutan.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh has become the first state in India to administer 10 crore Covid-19 vaccine doses.
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2021 was awarded jointly to David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian.
 - This is “for their discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch.”
- ❖ India is co-sponsoring a proposal of the European Union for designating East Antarctica & the Weddell Sea as Marine Protected Areas.
- ❖ Every year on the first Friday of October the world celebrates World Smile Day.
 - This year it was on October 01.
- ❖ Every year on October 3 is observed as World Temperance Day.
 - The day encourages people to give up alcohol.
- ❖ World Nature Day is celebrated every October 3 each year.
 - This day aims to raise awareness on preserving our wonderful nature.
- ❖ The results of Qatar’s first legislative council election have been announced.
 - None of the 26 female candidates won at the polls.
- ❖ The European Medicines Agency (EMA) approved the booster doses of Pfizer/BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine for people aged 18 and above.
 - As per EMA, an extra dose will be given at least 28 days after the second dose to severely immune-compromised people.
- ❖ The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2021 was awarded jointly to Benjamin List and David W.C. MacMillan.
 - It is awarded “for the development of asymmetric organ catalysis.”
- ❖ The fifth edition of India – Japan Maritime Bilateral Exercise JIMEX was held in the Arabian Sea.
 - JIMEX series of exercises between the Indian Navy and the Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force is being held since 2012.
- ❖ The United Arab Emirates announced plans to launch a probe to explore a major asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter.
 - This is to collect data on the origins of the universe.



- ❖ The parliament of Denmark has approved a plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) in the agriculture and forestry sectors by 55 and 65 per cent respectively by 2030.
- ❖ A team of Indian scientists have developed a non-toxic, environmentally friendly, biodegradable polymer using guar gum and chitosan.
 - Guar gum and Chitosan are polysaccharides that are extracted from guar beans and shells of crab & shrimps.
- ❖ Tata Group, the progenitor of the Air India airline, reclaimed it, nearly 60 years after it was nationalised.
 - Tata Sons bid ₹180 billion for the government's 100% stake in Air India.
- ❖ Professor Saket Saurabh of the Institute of Mathematical Sciences (IMSc), Chennai, has been awarded the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science and Technology 2021,
 - He was awarded in the field of Mathematical Sciences.
- ❖ Sarita Mor claimed her maiden medal by winning bronze in the 59 kg category at the 2021 World Wrestling Championships.
 - It was held at Oslo, Norway.
- ❖ The Chief Economic Adviser (CEA) KV Subramanian has decided to return to academia after the completion of his three-year term in the Finance Ministry of India.
- ❖ The 6th Edition of India–UK Joint Company Level Military Training Exercise Ajeya Warrior was launched recently.
 - It has commenced at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand.
- ❖ India pulled out of next year's Birmingham Commonwealth Games' (2022) hockey competition.
 - It cited COVID-19 concerns and UK's discriminatory quarantine rules for travellers from the country as the reasons.
- ❖ Mukesh Ambani joined Jeff Bezos and Elon Musk in the world's most exclusive wealth club with a fortune of at least \$100 billion.
 - He is Asia's richest person.
- ❖ Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan has passed away at the age of 85.
 - The man is regarded as the "Father of Pakistan's nuclear bomb".
- ❖ The Chairman of DRDO Dr G Satheesh Reddy has been conferred the prestigious Aryabhata Award by the Astronautical Society of India (ASI).
- ❖ The Indian Women's Badminton team win against Spain in 2020 Uber Cup Finals.



- ❖ A first in the country, the Tamil Nadu government is setting up an "International Furniture Park" at Tuticorin.
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ The Union Minority Affairs Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi has said the entire Haj 2022 process in India will be 100% digital.
 - India sends the second largest number of Hajj pilgrims after Indonesia.
- ❖ Alexander Schellenberg was elected as Austrian Chancellor after the resignation of Sebastian Kurz.
 - Sebastian Kurz resigned because of his involvement in a corruption scandal.
- ❖ The Rajasthan government has decided to recall the recently passed marriage registration bill to re-examine it.
 - This is done citing concerns that its provisions will encourage child marriages.
- ❖ The Former IAS officer Amit Khare has been appointed as advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
 - He has been appointed for two years.
- ❖ The Subject Expert Committee on Covid-19 has granted emergency use approval to Bharat Biotech's Covaxin for children in the 2-18 years age group.
- ❖ Iran started a massive, two-day air defence drill in its sprawling central desert.
 - The defence exercise is called Velyat.
- ❖ M.S. Dhoni Cricket Academy (MSDCA) was launched in Bengaluru.
 - Sports companies GamePlay and Aarka Sports launched this.
- ❖ Haryana government has banned the participation of its employees in politics and elections.
- ❖ Australia has announced that it will build a 20-kilogram semi-autonomous lunar rover for NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration).
 - This rover is to help NASA find oxygen on Moon.
- ❖ Fifteen-year-old Divya Deshmukh became India's 21st Woman Grand Master.
 - She achieved this feat at First Saturday Grand Master in Budapest, Hungary.
- ❖ The official tagline of the 2022 Women's Asia Cup is Our Goal for All.
 - It was unveiled by the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) and the Local Organizing Committee (LOC).



- ❖ Every year, 17th October is celebrated as World Trauma Day.
 - This day highlights the increasing rate of accidents and injuries causing death and disability across the world and the need to prevent them.
- ❖ Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan declared Kochi as a 'dementia-friendly city'.
 - He said this while inaugurating a dementia-friendly district programme called Udbodh.
- ❖ The World Bank warned of a significant 12% rise in the debt burden of the world's low-income countries.
 - The World Bank's international Debt Statistics 2022 report showed a dramatic increase in the debt vulnerabilities faced in low and middle-income countries.
- ❖ The Former Indian batter, Rahul Dravid has been appointed as Team India's head coach.
 - He will be succeeding Ravi Shastri.
- ❖ The Centre launched the anthem (Bharat Ka Tikakaran) on India's Covid 19 vaccination.
 - The song has been sung by eminent singer Padma Shri Kailash Kher.
- ❖ A team from 5th Battalion, Gorkha Rifles (Frontier Force), representing the Indian Army won the gold medal at the prestigious Cambrian Patrol Exercise.
 - This was held in the United Kingdom.
- ❖ Israel joined as the newest member in the International Solar Alliance.
- ❖ ER Sheikh took charge as the first Director-General of the Ordnance Directorate (Co-ordination and Services).
 - This is the newly-created entity to replace the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB).
- ❖ The International Cricket Council and UNICEF have decided to partner to help break the stigma around mental health by raising awareness about the issue amongst children and adolescents.
 - This decision is taken ahead of the 2021 men's T20 World Cup in the UAE and Oman.
- ❖ The second edition of the Naval Commanders' Conference of 2021 was launched in New Delhi recently.
 - This conference is to review major operational, materiel, logistics, Human Resource Development, training, and administrative activities.
- ❖ R. Praggnanandhaa beat American talent Christopher Yoo to win the Julius Baer Challengers Chess Tour.



- ❖ Russia announced that it is suspending its mission to NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation).
- ❖ The union minister for civil aviation, Jyotiraditya M Scindia virtually flagged off six routes.
 - The routes are Kolkata - Guwahati, Guwahati - Aizawl, Aizawl - Shillong, Shillong - Aizawl, Aizawl - Guwahati and Guwahati - Kolkata routes.
- ❖ The first-ever ship-to-ship transfer operation of LPG on the Indian Coast in Kolkata was undertaken by the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited
 - The ship-to-ship transfer operation in Kolkata is expected to benefit the trade sector and the country in saving substantial foreign exchange.
- ❖ The Chief Economist and Director of the Research Department of International Monetary Fund (IMF), Gita Gopinath, is set to leave her job in January 2022.
 - She is the first-ever woman Chief Economist of the IMF.
- ❖ Fencer Bhavani Dev has won the Charleville National Competition in France in the individual women's sabre event.
 - She is currently ranked 50th in the world and is the top-ranked fencer from India.
- ❖ The Indian American scientist Dr. Vivek Lall was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award at Ritossa Family Summits in Dubai recently.
 - Dr. Lall is known for playing a key role in enhancing India-U.S. defence trade
- ❖ Uttarakhand has administered the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine to its entire eligible population.
- ❖ Mount Aso volcano in Japan erupted recently.
 - Mount Aso is the largest active volcano in Japan.
- ❖ Former US President, Donald Trump, has launched his own social media network called "TRUTH Social".
 - This platform was launched after Donald Trump faced bans from Facebook and Twitter.
- ❖ Ecuador's President Guillermo Lasso has declared a 60-day state of emergency in the South American country.
 - This is due to the rise in violent drug crimes.
- ❖ South Korea has test-launched its first domestically produced space rocket.
 - Nuri is South Korea's first space launch vehicle that has been built entirely with domestic technology.
- ❖ The International Day of the Air Traffic Controller is observed and celebrated every year on 20 October.



- It is a day to recognise and appreciate those who work hard to keep air travel safe.
- ❖ India touched the mark of 100 crore Covid vaccinations including the first as well as second doses.
- ❖ The Financial Action Task Force retained Pakistan on the 'Grey List of countries.'
 - This time it had added three new countries namely Turkey, Jordan & Mali, to the Grey List.
- ❖ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched the book titled "Veer Savarkar: The Man Who Could Have Prevented Partition".
 - It was authored by Uday Mahurkar and Chirayu Pandit.
- ❖ The U.S. Food and Drug Administration authorized booster doses of the COVID-19 vaccines from Moderna Inc and Johnson & Johnson.
 - It also announced that Americans can choose a different shot from their original inoculation as a booster.
- ❖ NASA's newest space telescope will face 29 "harrowing" days after the launch.
 - This is because it makes its way to a deep-space destination nearly 1 million miles (1.6 million km) from the Earth.
- ❖ The President Ramnath Kovind reached Patna for the centenary celebrations of the Bihar state assembly building.
- ❖ The International Day of Climate Action is observed on 24th October in every year.
- ❖ India has handed over the cross-border rail link, Jayanagar of Bihar to Kurtha of Nepal, to Nepal.
- ❖ The German sportswear brand Adidas has roped in Bollywood actress Deepika Padukone as global ambassador for women sports.
- ❖ She will represent Adidas women globally.
- ❖ A human rights expert from United Nations has described Iran's Death penalty as "an arbitrary deprivation of life".
 - The UN asked Iran to reform laws and abolish the death penalty.
- ❖ The State government appointed A Udhayan as the new chairman of Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board.
- ❖ The Private sector lender ICICI Bank has crossed the market capitalisation of Hindustan Unilever to become the fifth-largest company by market value.
 - ICICI Bank becomes the second lender after HDFC Bank to break into the top five companies on the BSE (Bombay Stock Exchange) in terms of m-cap.



- ❖ The Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the first direct international flight between Srinagar and Sharjah and the United Arab Emirates.
 - The low-cost airline of India GO FIRST became the first airline to launch direct flights from Srinagar to Sharjah.
- ❖ National Tribal Dance Festival will be held in Raipur of Chhattisgarh from October 28 to October 30.
 - The National Tribal Dance Festival will feature multiple artists belonging to diverse tribal communities from different parts of India.
- ❖ The State-owned GAIL (India) Ltd will build India's largest green hydrogen-making plant.
- ❖ Sudan's leading military general Abdel-Fattah Burhan dissolved the ruling Sovereign Council and declared a state of emergency in the nation.
 - This comes hours after his forces arrested the acting Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok and other top officials.
- ❖ The Archaeologists in Iraq announced that they have discovered a large-scale wine factory.
 - This is said that it is from the rule of the Assyrian Kings 2,700 years ago.
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ The union minister for Health & Family Welfare, Mansukh Mandaviya, launched the Sixth Edition of National Formulary of India.
 - NFI was published by the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) for promoting rational use of medicines in India.

TAMIL NADU

TN MSME gets Boeing contract



- ❖ For the first time, a Tamil Nadu-based Micro Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) has clinched a deal with the largest aerospace firm Boeing.
- ❖ Aerospace Engineers Private Limited, located in Salem, won a long-term contract from Boeing.
- ❖ Now it will manufacture and supply critical aviation components and parts for the global aerospace company's products.

Chennai Metro Rail phase II

- ❖ The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) will provide loan assistance of USD 356.67 million (~Rs.2.65 lakh Crore) for the expansion of the Chennai Metro Rail system.
- ❖ With this Investment, AIIB has invested a total of USD 6.7 billion making India its largest beneficiary.



- ❖ This will promote integrated economic and transport sector growth in Chennai.
- ❖ The metro project will span from Lighthouse in the east to Poonamallee Bypass in the west.
- ❖ The station will be equipped with rooftop solar panels, which promotes green economic growth in the city.

Medical Devices Park



- ❖ The Medical Devices Park is to come up at Oragadam, Kanchipuram district.
- ❖ It is expected to provide direct and indirect employment to about 10,000 people.
- ❖ The park would manufacture ventilators, blood pressure monitors, pacemakers, equipment for surgeons and other requirements of the medical fraternity.

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 Kalaigarnar 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.

LifeSigns

- ❖ Government Rajaji Hospital, Madurai launched a wireless patient monitoring biosensor, called LifeSigns.
- ❖ This will be useful in treating patients with infectious diseases that require isolation.
- ❖ The device is like a chip attached to the body.
- ❖ It records vital readings such as temperature, pulse, respiration, oxygen saturation level and ECG rhythm without the help of medical staff.



Thaniperum Karunai day

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin announced that the birth anniversary of 19th century saint Vallalar (October 5th) will be celebrated as 'Thaniperum Karunai' (mercy of the Lord) day every year.
- ❖ Thiruvartuprakasa Vallalār Chidambaram Ramalingam, commonly known in India and across the world as Vallalār, Ramalinga Swamikal and Ramalinga Adigal.
- ❖ Vallalar was born in 1823 in Maruthur near Chidambaram in Cuddalore district.

- ❖ He founded 'Sathiya Gnana Sabai' in Vadalur in the Cuddalore district.



Face recognition software

- ❖ Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, MK Stalin, launched face recognition software.
- ❖ "Face recognition software" will help the police personnel in comparing the photos of suspects with "data resource".
- ❖ The data source refers to the photos that have been uploaded in the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS).

Kallikkaatu Ithikasam



- ❖ Poet Vairamuthu's Sahitya Academy award-winning novel Kallikkaatu Ithikasam is being translated into 22 Indian languages.
- ❖ The translation is being done by Sahitya Academy.
- ❖ The story portrays the suffering of 14 villages displaced during the construction of the Vaigai Dam.

Pulampeyar Tamizhar Nala Variyam

- ❖ A Welfare Board for Non-Resident Tamils would be set up.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Non-Resident Tamils Welfare Act was enacted during the previous DMK regime on March 1, 2011.
- ❖ The proposed Welfare Board as "Pulampeyar Tamizhar Nala Variyam."
- ❖ Every year, January 12 would be celebrated as the "World Tamils Day".

Poet Piraisoodan



- ❖ Veteran lyricist and poet Piraisoodan has passed away recently.
- ❖ He was aged 65.
- ❖ Piraisoodan made his debut as a lyricist with the 1985 film Sirai, directed by RC Sakthi.
- ❖ He was conferred the title Kavi Gnani by M.S.Viswanathan.
- ❖ He was also the secretary of the South Indian Writers Association.
- ❖ He had been chosen to be part of the panel to select the Indian film to be nominated for the Oscars recently.

Adichanallur archaeological site



- ❖ After a long break of 17 years, the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is all set to resume excavation at the Adichanallur archaeological site.
- ❖ It is spread over 125 acres along the Thamirabarani river in the Thoothukudi district.
- ❖ The Union government had announced plans to establish an iconic world-class on-site museum at Adichanallur, in February 2020.
- ❖ Adichanallur site was first excavated by German archaeology enthusiast Dr Jagor in 1876.
- ❖ The British India's ASI Superintending Engineer Alexander Rea excavated the site between 1899 and 1905.
- ❖ The ASI Superintending Archaeologist Dr Sathya Murthy also probed the site in 2004-06.

State-level Disha Committee

Strengthening of DISHA System



➤ **State Level DISHA Committees** - under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister was formed in May 2018 as important and emergent issues noticed during the District Level DISHA committee meetings need to be resolved at the highest level in the State.

➤ **DISHA Dashboard** aims at creating a data-driven governance solution for elected representatives for planning, monitoring and evaluating multiple parameters of various schemes under DISHA. It will be single source of relevant information to DISHA stakeholders, eventually covering all the 42 identified Programmes and Schemes of the participating Ministries and Departments. Currently, data of 28 Schemes have been integrated for display on Dashboard.

➤ **Meeting Management Software** - To support the operations of DISHA Committee, facilitate structured and effective meetings, a web portal called 'DISHA Meeting Management' (DMM) has been developed.

- ❖ The State-level Disha Committee headed by Chief Minister MK Stalin will be monitoring the implementation of Centrally-sponsored schemes.
- ❖ The schemes are such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana, National Rural Livelihood Mission, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana etc.
- ❖ Rural Development Minister KR Periyakaruppan will be the co-chairperson of the committee.

TNOA



- ❖ Ishari Ganesh was elected president of Tamilnadu Olympic association (TNOA).
- ❖ The educationist and sports administrator Ishari Ganesh has been the Vice-president of TNOA for the last 15 years.
- ❖ He is the Chairman of the Vels Group of Institutions.
- ❖ He is also the president of Taekwondo Federation of India and Tamil Nadu Taekwondo Association.

Seaweed Park

- ❖ The first Multipurpose Seaweed Park in India will be established in Tamilnadu.
- ❖ India was the fourth largest marine products exporting nation in the world.

Rajya Sabha by polls

- ❖ The two DMK candidates from Tamil Nadu - Dr Kanimozhi NVN Somu and KRN Rajesh Kumar – were elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha.
- ❖ The bypolls were held to fill the vacancies caused by the resignations of AIADMK members K P Munusamy and R Vaithilingam following their election to the TN Legislative Assembly.

- ❖ Selvaganabathy became the first BJP MP from Puducherry.



Varumun Kappom

- ❖ Chief minister M K Stalin relaunched the 'Varumun Kappom' (preventive healthcare) scheme as 'Kalaigarin Varumun Kappom' at a function at Vazhapadi.
- ❖ He said 1,250 medical camps would be conducted under the scheme in the state in a year.
- ❖ The Varumun Kappom scheme was first launched by former chief minister M Karunanidhi in 2006.
- ❖ The main objective of the scheme, he said, was to prevent diseases among the people and ensure their health.
- ❖ The camps would address dental, ENT, stomach, intestine, high blood pressure, diphtheria, bone and joint, kidney, heart, and psychiatric related issues.
- ❖ The scheme would be linked to 'Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam' (taking medicines to people's doorstep) scheme to help the newly-identified patients get medicines at their doorsteps.

**Tamil Nadu
Kalaigarin Varumun
Kappom Scheme**

Temple jewelry into gold bars

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin virtually launched the preliminary work towards the melting of gold ornaments, in temples under the control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (HR&CE) Department.
- ❖ The CM launched the work at the Arulmigu Karumariyamman Temple at Tiruverkadu, Arulmigu Mariamman Temple at Samayapuram and Arulmigu Mariamman Temple at Irukkankudi, Virudu Nagar.
- ❖ The gold ornaments in these temples will be melted and converted into bars.
- ❖ The funds raised by depositing the gold bars in nationalised banks would be used for the development of the temples.
- ❖ The government would melt only those gold ornaments offered by the devotees but lying unutilised for the last ten years.

Tiger T23



- ❖ The man-hunting Tiger T23 of Mudumalai Tiger Reserve has finally been captured alive by the Tamil Nadu Forest Department.
- ❖ They had captured it after 22 days of the massive hunt.
- ❖ T23 was spotted near the Masinagudi forest area.
- ❖ It was moved to Mysuu Zoo.

SC/ST Commission

- ❖ Tamil Nadu government appointed the members for SC/ST Commission.
- ❖ Chief Minister MK Stalin said that High Court Judge Sivakumar will be the Chairperson of the Commission.
- ❖ Punitha Pandian, Editor of 'Dalit Murasu' magazine will be Deputy Chairperson.
- ❖ The commission will also have five more persons,

- advocate Kumaradevan,
 - Ezhil Ilangovan (a writer),
 - Leelavathi Dhanaraj (social activist involved in imparting education to tribal children),
 - advocate Ilanchezhian and
 - Professor Raghupathi.
- ❖ The period of the members of the SC/ST commission will be three years.
 - ❖ They will ensure that the legal rights of SCs and STs are protected.

Fish symbol

- ❖ A ring well incised with the decorated fish symbol has been unearthed.
- ❖ It is unearthed during the seventh phase of the archaeological excavation in Keeladi near Madurai.
- ❖ The fish symbol, which is an integral part of the flag believed to have been used by the mighty Pandiyan Kingdom.



Bharat Net Project

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Fibre Net Corporation Ltd accepts the agreement for the implementation of Bharat Net Project in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The project is implemented in four packages with various system integrators.
- ❖ TANFINET is a special purpose vehicle implementing the Bharat Net project in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The project aims at providing 1 Gbps bandwidth connectivity to all Gram Panchayats.



Makkal Palli programme

- ❖ Tamil Nadu government is implementing a new teaching scheme as part of bridging the learning gap and losses during the lockdown for children studying from Classes 1 to 8.
- ❖ Teachers will now be reaching out to the students.
- ❖ The prime objective of the Makkal Palli (People's School) programme is to provide learning in a non-school closer to home, small cohort setup.

Tamilnadu Portals to monitor infra projects

- ❖ The Chief Minister Stalin launched web portals developed by the Information Technology Department for reviewing the progress of all major infrastructure projects in the State.
- ❖ It is also to enable all IT/ITES companies in Tamil Nadu to interact with the State government and contribute to policy making.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency (TNeGA) has developed a portal, 'e-munnetram'.
- ❖ It contains key details of projects such as agreement dates, start dates, cost estimates, project progress on both financial and physical parameters on a monthly basis, location data & GIS layers and photographs of the site on a periodic basis.
- ❖ The TNeGA has also conceptualised an interacting platform called 'IT Nanban'.
- ❖ It is to engage with the IT industry and enable all IT/ITES companies in Tamil Nadu to interact with the State government over policy making.

- Retired IAS officer K. Dhanavel
- Former Vice Chancellor at Periyar Maniammai Institute of Science and Technology Swaminathan Devadoss
- Tamil poet Manushyaputhiran
- A Jaison - an expert in Adi Dravidar and Scheduled Castes related legislations
- R. Rajendran – an Economic expert
- G. Karunanidhi - general secretary of the All-India Federation of Other Backward Classes Employees' Association.

Kalaigarnar Porkizhi Award

- ❖ It is an annual literature award bestowed for Tamil and other language writers at book fair organized by the Booksellers and Publishers Association of South India (BAPASI) since 2008.
- ❖ Each award consists of 1 lakh rupee.
- ❖ The fund is managed by donation of 1 crore Rupee in 2007 by M. Karunanidhi.
- ❖ This year it was given to following members
 - Abi – Poem
 - Rajendra Cholan – Fiction
 - S Ramakrishnan – Dialogue
 - Veli Rangarajan – Drama
 - Marudha Nayagam – English
 - Nadith Sakiya – Other Indian Language (Kashmiri).



Keeladi excavations – 7th Phase

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology (TNSDA) began excavations in Keeladi, Konthagai, and Agaram in Sivagangai district.
- ❖ The seventh phase conducted by the Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology
- ❖ Keeladi is an urban settlement that is at least 2,600 years old.
- ❖ Ring wells were the highlight of the seventh phase of this excavation.
- ❖ Ring wells may have been used as soak pits or draw wells.
- ❖ This is the first time that the Tamil Nadu State Archaeology Department has left the quadrants open without filling it with soil after the excavation ended as it plans to establish an open site museum.
- ❖ When the museum is established then it would be a first-of-its-kind to be established in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ the image of a fish imprinted on a ring well and the engraved coins found here strengthened the theory that the people who lived here had commercial transactions with other parts of the country, namely north India.



Palm jaggery

- ❖ The Chief Minister M.K. Stalin launched a scheme to sell palm jaggery under the name Karpagam through ration shops.
- ❖ The State government had announced in its Agriculture Budget that measures would be taken to sell palm jaggery through PDS shops.

- ❖ Mr Stalin also launched a scheme to sell palm jaggery under the name Karumpanai through departmental stores.
- ❖ He inaugurated several other schemes under the Handlooms, Handicrafts, Textiles and Khadi Department, including an app, tnkhadi.
- ❖ The tnkhadi was launched for selling Khadi Kraft products and silk sarees, named Tamilthari, for the special sale during Deepavali.

Koozhangal



- ❖ The Tamil-language drama film Koozhangal (internationally translated as Pebbles), has been selected as India's official entry for the 94th Academy Awards (Oscars 2022).
- ❖ The film has been directed by filmmaker Vinoth Raj PS.
- ❖ It has been produced by Vignesh Shivan and Nayanthara.
- ❖ The 94th Academy Awards are scheduled to take place in Los Angeles.

Advisory Committee for the Welfare of Sri Lankan Tamils

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government issued an order to establish an Advisory Committee for the Welfare of Sri Lankan Tamils.
- ❖ The 20-member advisory council is led by Tamil Nadu Minority Welfare and Overseas Tamil Welfare minister Gingee KS Mastan.
- ❖ Manuraj Shanmugasundaram is the vice-chairman of the advisory committee.
- ❖ According to the government, this Advisory Committee would look into the infrastructure in the camps, the upgrading of basic facilities, the classification of educational and social security support, nationality, and deportation to Sri Lanka.

NATIONAL

Press Trust of India – Elections

- ❖ Aveek Sarkar, the Editor Emeritus and Vice Chairman of the Ananda Bazar Group of Publications, was re-elected Chairman of Press Trust of India (PTI),
- ❖ It is the country's largest premier news agency.
- ❖ K N Shanth Kumar was elected as the Vice-Chairman.
- ❖ He is the Director of The Printers (Mysore) Pvt. Ltd. which brings out Deccan Herald and Kannada language daily Prajavani.



Parshuram Kund

- ❖ The government of India has started work for the development of 'Parshuram Kund'.
- ❖ It is a Hindu pilgrimage site on the Brahmaputra plateau in the lower reaches of the Lohit river in Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ The project was sanctioned under the Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) Scheme of the Ministry of Tourism.



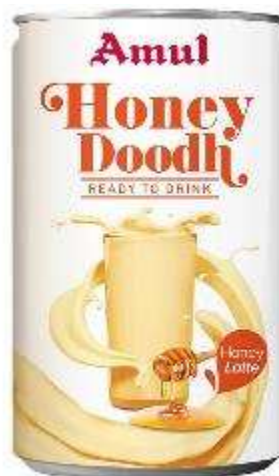
Chairman of the Cauvery Water Management Authority



- ❖ The Centre has appointed Saumitra Kumar Haldar as the full-time chairman of the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA).
- ❖ The government has appointed a full-time chairman, more than three years after the establishment of the CWMA.
- ❖ Presently, Haldar is serving as the chairman of the Central Water Commission.

Amul Honey

- ❖ The Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched 'Amul Honey'.
- ❖ Amul Honey is a product of Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd.
- ❖ This product was launched under cooperation with the 'National Bee Board (NBB)'.





Ordinance Factory Board dissolved

- ❖ The Defence Ministry has issued an order to dissolve the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) in effect from October 1, 2021.
- ❖ This order will abolish OFB, an establishment which was accepted by the British in 1775.
- ❖ After October 1, its assets, employees and management will be transferred to seven newly constituted Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs).



NIDHI 2.0 scheme

- ❖ The Speaker of Lok Sabha, Om Birla has inaugurated the NIDHI 2.0 (National Integrated Database of Hospitality Industry) scheme.
- ❖ This was launched on 2021 World Tourism Day (September 27).
- ❖ The NIDHI scheme was launched by the Ministry of Tourism.
- ❖ It is to facilitate the digitalization of the tourism sector and promote ease of doing business for the hospitality & tourism sector.

AUSINDEX - 4th iteration

- ❖ India and Australia participated in the 4th iteration of the biennial maritime series AUSINDEX in Australia.
- ❖ AUSINDEX began as a bilateral maritime exercise in 2015.
- ❖ The 3rd iteration of AUSINDEX was held in 2019 in the Bay of Bengal.
- ❖ This 3rd iteration included anti-submarine drills for the first time.

60 percent share of renewable energy in Major ports

- ❖ The Government has aimed to increase India's share of renewable energy to 60% in Major ports through solar and wind power.

- ❖ Presently, renewable energy accounts for less than 10% of power demand at the ports.
- ❖ The Government also targets to electrify 50% of port equipment by 2030.
- ❖ The Ports aim to reduce carbon emissions/ton by 30% by 2030.

Ease of Logistic Portal



The FIEO has launched

EASE OF LOGISTICS PORTAL

— www.easeoflogistics.com —

India's first e-marketplace to facilitate Exim logistics

- To facilitate the process of container demand fulfillment in a systematic manner with the provisions for exporters to post their requirements.
- To connect link between exporters and logistic service providers.
- To allow users to view the demand from exporters, quote, discuss and finalize business.
- To bring service seekers and service providers on a single platform to discuss and finalize business.
- To give visibility of exporters' logistics requirements (ocean freight, air freight, etc) on a Pan India basis to be fulfilled by Logistics Service Providers.
- To give large business outreach and networking opportunities to users.



- ❖ The Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Piyush Goyal, launched “Ease of Logistic Portal”.
- ❖ It is a trade facilitation portal, developed by Federation of Indian Export Organisations.
- ❖ It was launched in order to bring exporters and logistics service providers on a single platform.
- ❖ While launching the portal, the minister noted that the ‘Rules of Business’ have to be the same for all stakeholders.
- ❖ This Portal was launched during ‘Vanijya Saptah Samapan Samaroh’.

People's Plan Campaign 2021

- ❖ The union minister for Panchayati Raj & Rural Development, Giriraj Singh, launched "People's Plan Campaign 2021- Sabki Yojana Sabka Vikas".
- ❖ He also launched a Vibrant Gram Sabha Dashboard.
- ❖ The Minister also launched the 10th issue of Gramoday Sankalp Magazine.

Digi Saksham programme

- ❖ It was launched by the Union Labour and Employment Minister Bhupender Yadav.
- ❖ This digital skills programme was launched with the objective to enhance the employability of youth by improving their digital skills.
- ❖ Digi Saksham is a joint initiative of Microsoft India and the Ministry of Labour and Employment.
- ❖ The programme will be implemented in the field by "Aga Khan Rural Support Programme India (AKRSP-I)".



Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0 and AMRUT 2.0

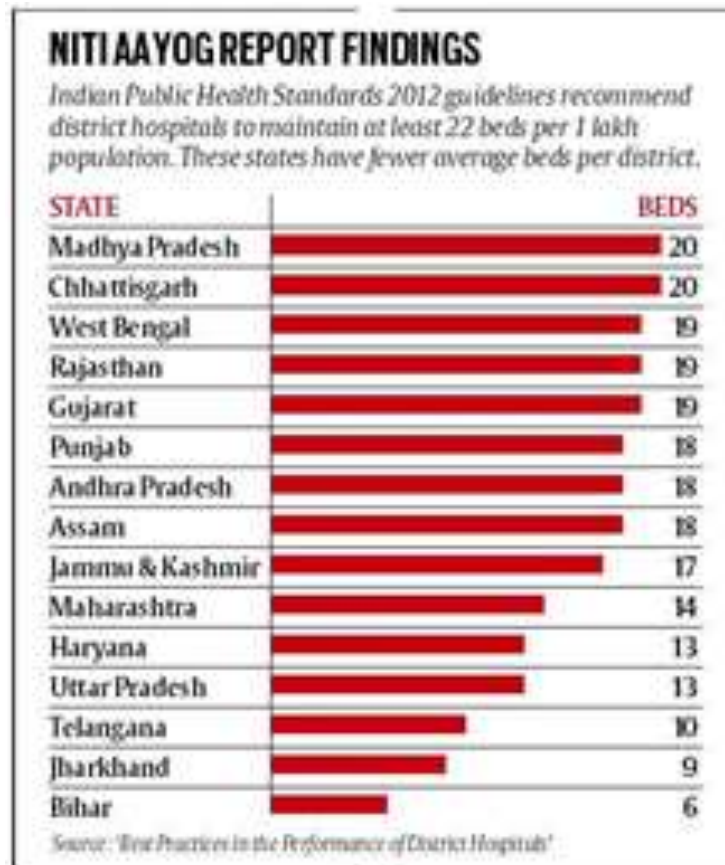




- ❖ On October 1, 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 (SBM-U 2.0) along with the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation 2.0 (AMTUT 2.0).
- ❖ These schemes were launched at Dr Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi.
- ❖ These schemes are designed to realize the aspiration of making all cities Garbage Free and Water Secure.

Assessment report of District hospitals

- ❖ A district hospital in India has 24 beds per 1 lakh population, on average.
- ❖ This is according to the “Assessment report of District Hospitals” by NITI Aayog.
- ❖ Bihar is having the lowest average of six beds per 1 lakh population.
- ❖ Puducherry is having the highest number of 222 beds per one lakh population.
- ❖ According to Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) 2012 guidelines, there should be at least 22 beds per one lakh population in district hospitals.





Bal Raksha Kit

- ❖ All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), under the AYUSH ministry, has developed “Bal Raksha Kit”.
- ❖ It is an immunity-boosting kit.
- ❖ This kit has been developed with the aim of amplifying the immunity of children.
- ❖ This is developed in order to help them fight against the SARS-CoV-2 virus.
- ❖ It was manufactured by Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Limited in Uttarakhand.

Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement



- ❖ India’s Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal and Australian Minister for Trade, Tourism, and Investment Dan Tehan have formally launched the resumption of negotiations on the India-Australia Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA).
- ❖ This happened during the 17th India-Australia Joint Ministerial Commission.
- ❖ Both India and Australia reiterated their commitment to sign CECA by the end of 2022.

Amazon Future Engineer programme

- ❖ E-commerce major Amazon India has announced the launch of the 'Amazon Future Engineer programme' in India.
- ❖ It is a global computer science education programme
- ❖ The programme will enable access to quality computer science education and career opportunities for students from underrepresented and underserved communities.



Agro chemicals producer - India

- ❖ According to Agriculture Minister Mr Narendra Singh Tomar, India is the world's fourth-largest producer of agrochemicals.
- ❖ He said this while speaking at the 41st AGM of CropLife India.
- ❖ CropLife India is an apex organisation of 15 Crop science companies.

Clean India drive



- ❖ The Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Anurag Thakur launched a month-long Clean India drive on October 1, 2021, from Prayagraj.
- ❖ This Nationwide Clean India Programme aims at getting rid of single-use plastic and other waste.
- ❖ The Clean India Programme is being organised in 6 villages of 744 districts across India.
- ❖ It is organised through the networks of Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan - NYKS affiliated Youth Clubs and the National Service Scheme- affiliated institutions.

Armed Forces Special Powers Act

- ❖ The Central government on October 1, 2021 extended the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act in three districts of Arunachal Pradesh by another six months.
- ❖ The government declared the three districts of Changlang, Longding, and Tirap in Arunachal Pradesh along with the areas that fall under the jurisdiction of Mahadevpur and Namsai police stations bordering Assam as disturbed areas.



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.



Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement

- ❖ India and the United Arab Emirates formally launched negotiations for a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement.
- ❖ Both sides will aim to conclude negotiations by December 2021.
- ❖ They would sign a formal agreement in March 2022.

Serotype-2 dengue

- ❖ The Central government convened a high-level meeting on the emerging challenge of Serotype-2 dengue cases recently.
- ❖ The States reporting serotype - II dengue cases are Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, MP, UP, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana.



Tiger rallies

- ❖ Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav started off tiger rallies in 18 tiger range States in India.
- ❖ Tiger Rallies were started across 51 reserves as a part of “Wildlife Week Celebration” and “Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav”.
- ❖ Rallies were virtually kicked off in three tiger reserves namely,
 - Biligiri Ranganathaswamy Temple (BRT) Tiger Reserve, Karnataka
 - Navegaon Nagzira Tiger Reserve, Maharashtra and
 - Sanjay Tiger Reserve, Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ The rallies were kicked off with the theme “India for Tigers- A Rally on Wheels”.



Chacha Chaudhary



- ❖ The iconic Indian comic book cartoon character, Chacha Chaudhary has been declared as the official mascot for the centrally-sponsored NamamiGangeProgramme.
- ❖ Chacha Chaudhary has been chosen to especially connect children with the campaign of river cleanliness.
- ❖ Comics will initially be launched in Hindi, English and Bengali languages.

Drone-based vaccine delivery model

- ❖ ICMR's drone response and outreach (i-Drone) was recently launched in Manipur.
- ❖ This initiative was launched in line with government's commitment to "Antyodaya in health".
- ❖ This is for the first time that a 'Make in India' drone has been used in South Asia to transport COVID vaccine over an aerial distance of 15 km.

- ❖ The Delivery is from Bishnupur district hospital to Loktak lake, Karang island in Manipur for administration at the primary health centre.
- ❖ The Road distance between both the locations is 26 kms.



Urban Conclave – Lucknow

- ❖ The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, inaugurated “Azadi@75 – New Urban India: Transforming Urban Landscape conference-cum-expo”.
- ❖ The Foundation stone for 75 Urban Development Projects in Uttar Pradesh under AMRUT Mission and Smart Cities Mission was laid.
- ❖ 75 smart electric buses were flagged off under FAME-II for seven cities.
- ❖ The cities are Lucknow, Varanasi, Kanpur, Prayagraj, Gorakhpur, Ghaziabad and Jhansi.

Mahabahu Brahmaputra River Heritage Centre

- ❖ Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu, inaugurated the Mahabahu Brahmaputra River Heritage Centre in Guwahati in the state of Assam.
- ❖ The centre was originally served as the residence of the British Assistant Commissioner and Collector of Kamrup district.
- ❖ Post-Independence, it continued to be the Deputy Commissioner's Bungalow until 2011.

Indian peacekeepers honored



- ❖ Over 800 Indian peacekeepers serving in the United Nations mission in South Sudan have been honoured with a prestigious UN medal.
- ❖ The Indian peacekeepers have been awarded for their service on the completion of their deployment.

State of the Education Report – India

- ❖ The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) released its "State of the Education Report (SOER)-2021 for India: No Teachers, No Class".
- ❖ It was released on the occasion of World Teacher's Day (October 5th).
- ❖ This is the third edition of the State of Education Report.
- ❖ This year, the report focuses on the theme of "teachers, teaching and teacher education".
- ❖ As per the report, there are around 1.2 lakh single-teacher schools in India.
- ❖ Three States with a high percentage of single-teacher schools are - Arunachal Pradesh (18.22%), Goa (16.08%) and Telangana (15.71%).

- ❖ Findings in the report were prepared on the basis of analysis of Periodic Labour Force Survey and Unified District Information System for Education data.



Scheme for “Good Samaritans”

- ❖ The Ministry of road, transport & Highway launched a scheme for “Good Samaritans”.
- ❖ The scheme will be effective from October 15, 2021, and will run till March 31, 2026.
- ❖ Under the scheme, a cash award of Rs 5,000 will be provided per accident, to those saving the life of a road accident victim by rushing the person to the hospital within the ‘golden hour’ of the accident.



- ❖ Besides award in each case, ministry would also be giving 10 national-level awards for the “worthiest Good Samaritans”
- ❖ They will be given an award of Rs 1,00,000 each.
- ❖ Individual Good Samaritan will be awarded a maximum of five times a year.

Industrial Park Ratings System Report

- ❖ The 2nd edition of the Industrial Park Rating System (IPRS) Report was launched by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry.
- ❖ The IPRS 2.0 Report will enhance India’s industrial competitiveness and attract investment.
- ❖ The IPRS pilot exercise was launched in 2018.
- ❖ 41 Industrial Parks have been assessed as "Leaders" in the Industrial Park Ratings System Report.
- ❖ 90 Industrial Parks have been rated as under the Challenger category.
- ❖ 185 have been rated as under "Aspirers".



Figure 1: Snapshot of key government initiatives to promote growth of the manufacturing and service sectors?

National Road Safety Board

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Road Transport & Highways notified to set up a “National Road Safety Board”.
- ❖ The National Safety Board will be responsible for the promotion of road safety, innovation and adoption of new technology.
- ❖ It will also regulate traffic and motor vehicles.

- ❖ The Head Office of the National Road Safety Board will be established in the National Capital Region.
- ❖ All the members of the board will be appointed by the Central Government.

PM MITRA parks

- ❖ The Centre has approved the setting up of seven new mega textile parks or PM MITRA parks across the country.
- ❖ This is in an effort to help to further the growth of the textile sector in the economy and position India strongly on the Global textiles map.
- ❖ The Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel Parks (PM MITRA) will be based on the 5F vision of the Hon'ble Prime Minister.
- ❖ The '5F' Formula consists of Farm to fibre; fibre to factory; factory to fashion; fashion to foreign.
- ❖ These parks will be set up at Greenfield and Brownfield sites in different States.
- ❖ The parks will be owned in a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Mode.



PM MITRA
A LANDMARK DECISION
TO EMPOWER TEXTILES
SECTOR

Approves 7 Mega Integrated Textile Region & Apparel (MITRA) Parks

7 MITRA Parks with a total outlay of ₹4,445 Crores in a period of 5 years

World-class Industrial infrastructure to attract investment

Generation of 7 lakh direct and 14 lakh of indirect employment

The infographic features a circular inset image of a woman in traditional Indian attire working on a textile, and a portrait of Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the bottom right.

India's newest Tiger Reserve



- ❖ Chhattisgarh government's proposal to declare the combined areas of the Guru Ghasidas National Park and Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary as a Tiger Reserve was approved recently.
- ❖ It was approved by National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA).
- ❖ The new Reserve is located in the northern part of the state, bordering Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand.
- ❖ This will be the fourth Tiger Reserve in Chhattisgarh.
- ❖ The other three are the Udanti-Sitanadi, Achanakmar, and Indravati Reserves.
- ❖ Guru Ghasidas National Park was the last known habitat of the Asiatic cheetah in the country.

Jim Corbett National Park

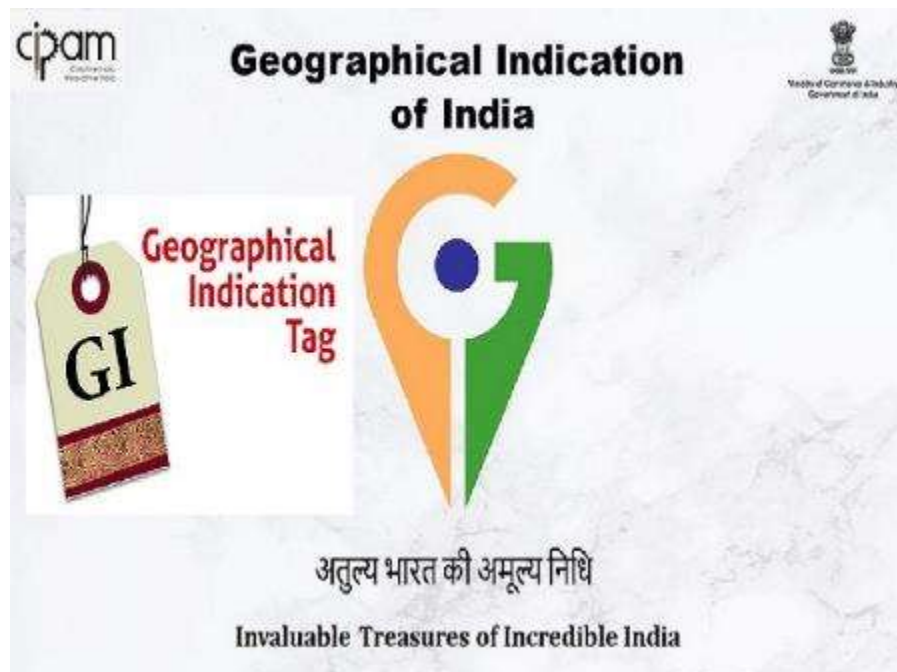


Jim Corbett National Park name change:
Uttarakhand's Jim Corbett National Park is likely to be renamed Ramganga National Park after the river that flows through the tiger reserve.

- ❖ The Union Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Ashwini Kumar Choubey has proposed to change the name of Corbett National Park to Ramganga National Park.
- ❖ Jim Corbett National Park is located in the Nainital district of Uttarakhand.
- ❖ The Park encompasses the Patli Dun valley formed by the Ramganga river.
- ❖ The national park was established in 1936 as Hailey National Park to protect the endangered Bengal tiger.
- ❖ It is named after Jim Corbett who played a key role in its establishment.
- ❖ It is the oldest national park in India.
- ❖ It was the first area to come under the Project Tiger initiative in 1973.

Geographical Indications tags

- ❖ For 51 new products, Geographical Indications (GI) tags were issued by the Chennai registry.
- ❖ They included a German beer (Muncener Bier), Italian veined blue cheese (gorgonzola), a plant resin (Chios Mastiha) from Greece and a variety of seed cones (zatecky chmel) from Czech Republic.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has earned GI tags for five products.
- ❖ They are Kanyakumari clove, Thanjavur Netti works, Karuppur Kalamkari paintings and wood carvings of Arumbavur and Kallakurichi.



Indian Space Association

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is set to digitally launch the 'Indian Space Association' (ISpA) on October 11, 2021.
- ❖ The Indian Space Association (ISpA) is the premier industry association of space and satellite companies.
- ❖ The Founding members of ISpA include Nelco (Tata group), Bharti Airtel, Larsen & Toubro, Mapmyindia, OneWeb, Walchandnagar Industries and Ananth Technology Limited.
- ❖ The Core members include BEL, Godrej, Hughes India, Centum Electronics, Azista-BST Aerospace Private Limited and Maxar India.

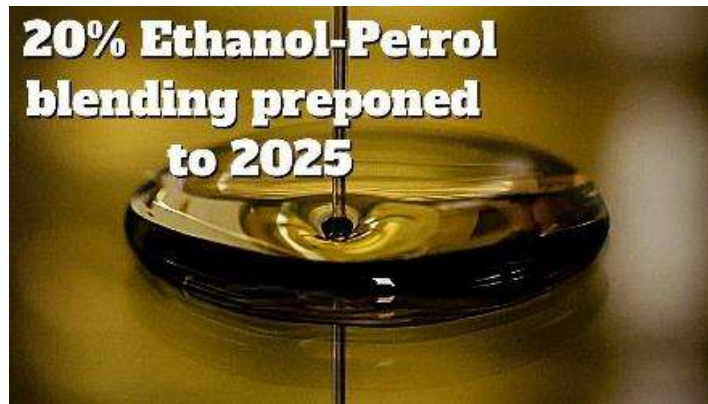


Henley Passport Index 2021

- ❖ India's rank has slipped by six places from last year on the Henley Passport Index 2021.
- ❖ It is now in the 90th spot.
- ❖ The index lists the world's most travel-friendly passports.
- ❖ Japan and Singapore hold the first rank on the passport index.
- ❖ The index covers 227 destinations and 199 passports.
- ❖ The rankings are based on the survey of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) data.

Ethanol 20 Programme

- ❖ The government has launched the Ethanol 20 (E20) programme.
- ❖ Under it aims to achieve 20% ethanol blending in petrol by 2025.
- ❖ Currently, 8.5% of ethanol is blended with petrol in India.



New Pamban railway bridge



- ❖ The Indian Railways began the construction work on the new 2.05 km Pamban railway bridge in Mandapam.
- ❖ It will connect Rameswaram to the mainland in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The existing Pamban Rail Bridge is 105 years old.
- ❖ This is India's first vertical lift railway sea bridge.

High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People

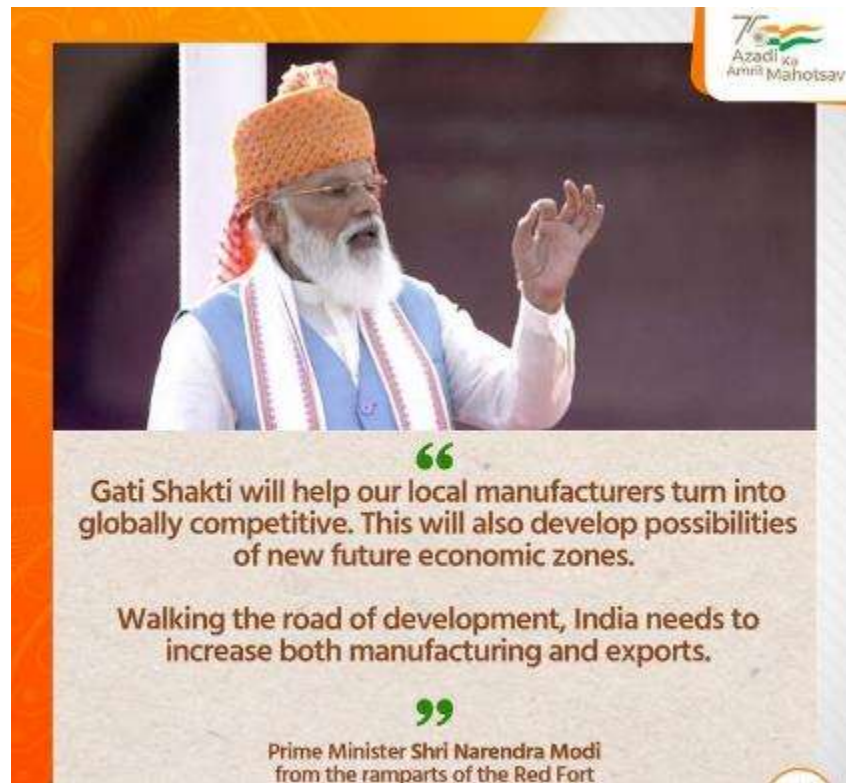


- ❖ India has officially joined the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People.
- ❖ India joined this coalition at a ceremony held between the French and Indian governments in New Delhi.

- ❖ “High Ambition Coalition (HAC) for Nature and People” is a group of more than 70 countries.
- ❖ The HAC coalition aims for promoting an international agreement in order to protect at least 30 per cent of the world’s land and ocean by 2030.

Pradhan Mantri Gati Shakti

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to launch the first-ever National Infrastructure Masterplan called “Pradhan Mantri Gati Shakti”.
- ❖ This master plan will be launched on October 13, 2021.
- ❖ Gati Shakti scheme was announced by PM Modi on Independence Day, 2021.
- ❖ Gati Shakti platform was launched to provide information instantaneously.
- ❖ It will allow for better coordination among ministries.



Trishul and Garuda

- ❖ The Indian Railways has launched two long haul freight trains "Trishul" and "Garuda".
- ❖ These are twice or multiple times longer than the normal composition of freight trains.

- ❖ Trishul is South Central Railway (SCR)'s first long haul train comprising three freight trains, i.e. 177 wagons.
- ❖ This train was launched from the Kondapalli station of the Vijayawada division to the Khurda division of the East Coast Railway.
- ❖ SCR followed it up with the running of yet another similar train 'Garuda' from Raichur of Guntakal division to Manuguru of Secunderabad division.

Exercise Malabar 2021



- ❖ India, Japan, the United States and Australia will be participating in the 2nd phase of Multilateral Maritime Exercise Malabar in the Bay of Bengal.
- ❖ The 1st phase of Multilateral Maritime Exercise Malabar was held in the Philippines Sea from August 26 to 29, 2021.
- ❖ The Exercise Malabar began as an annual bilateral naval exercise between the US and India in 1992.

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 and
- ❖ 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 (RNE SL) has announced the acquisition of 100% shareholding of REC Solar Holdings AS (REC Group) from China National Bluestar (Group) Co Ltd.
- ❖ The RNE SL 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.

28th NHRC Foundation Day programme

- ❖ The Prime Minister Narendra Modi has addressed the 28th NHRC Foundation Day programme.
- ❖ The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) of India is a Statutory public body constituted on 12 October 1993.
- ❖ It was constituted under the Protection of Human Rights Act 1993.
- ❖ It was constituted for the promotion and protection of human rights and dignity of the marginalised.

Seven new defence firms

- ❖ As part of the corporatisation of the Ordnance, the Government of India formally launched seven new defence firms on October 15.
- ❖ These new government entities will be producing ammunition, vehicles, explosives, weapons and equipment, among others.
- ❖ The move of launching 7 new defence companies out of the ordnance Factory Board came (OFB) after the government issued an order of dissolving the OFB with effect from October 1, 2021.

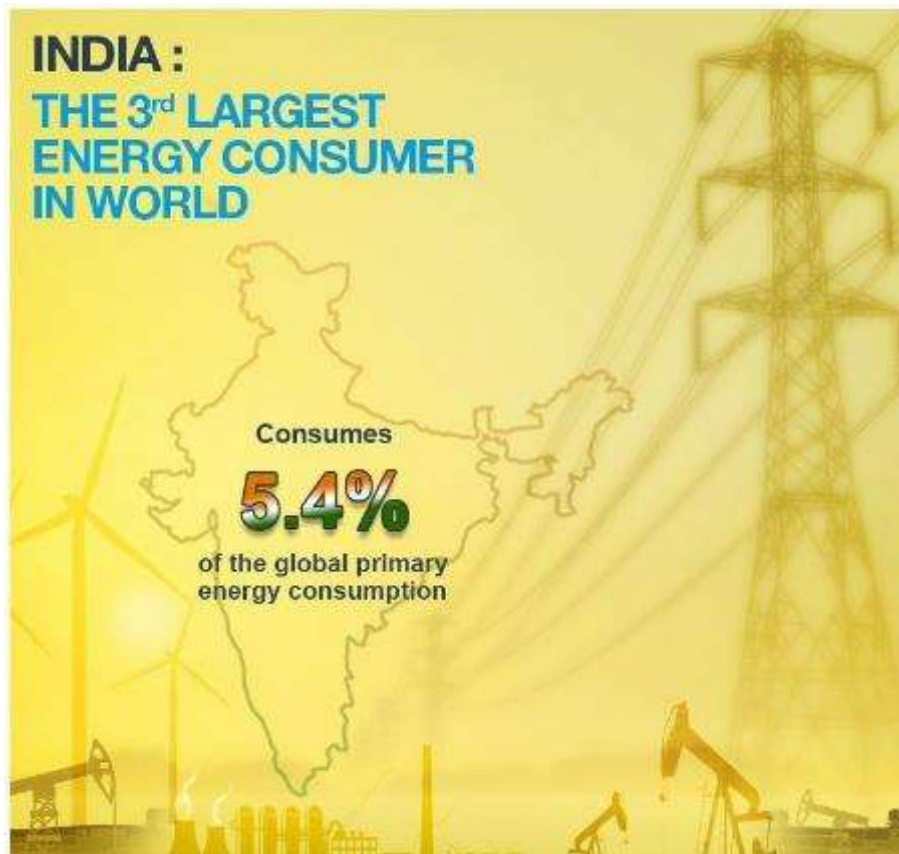


Jaipur International Airport

- ❖ Gautam Adani-led Adani Group has taken over the responsibilities of the Jaipur International Airport from the Airports Authority of India (AAI).
- ❖ The airport has been leased out to the group by the government of India for a period of 50 years.
- ❖ Jaipur airport is the 11th busiest airport in India in daily scheduled flight operations.

International Energy Agency and India

- ❖ The International Energy Agency (IEA) has invited India to become its full-time member.
- ❖ This membership invitation was given in the light that, India is the world's third-largest energy consumer.
- ❖ If this proposal is accepted, it will require India to increase its strategic oil reserve to 90 days requirement.
- ❖ India became an associate member of the IEA in March 2017.

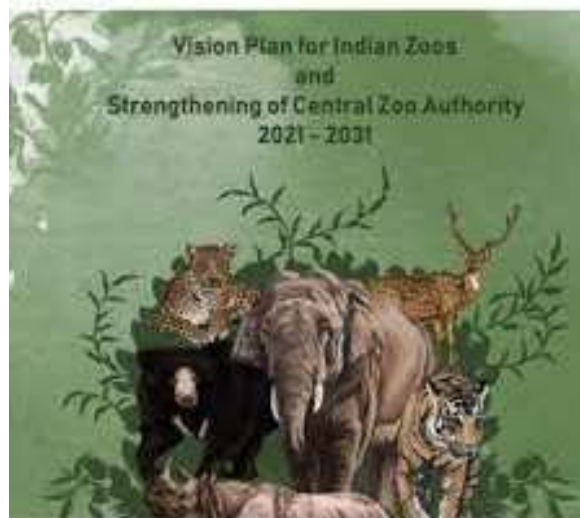


Central Zoo Authority

- ❖ The Vision Plan (2021-2031) for Indian Zoos was recently released.
- ❖ The vision plan is aimed at upgrading Indian zoos and strengthening the Central Zoo Authority (CZA).
- ❖ It is the statutory regulatory body for zoos in India.
- ❖ It was established in 1992.
- ❖ The main objective of the Authority is to complement and strengthen the national effort in the conservation of the rich biodiversity of the country, particularly the fauna as per the National Zoo Policy, 1998.

Important functions

- ❖ It enforces minimum standards and norms for the upkeep and healthcare of animals in Indian zoos.
- ❖ Every zoo in the country is required to obtain recognition from CZA for its operation.
- ❖ It can also de-recognise zoos.



Multi-modal logistics park

- ❖ A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to set up a multi-modal logistics park (MMLP) at Mappedu in Tiruvallur district was signed.
- ❖ It was signed between Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO), National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML) and the Chennai Port Trust (CPT).
- ❖ The MMLP, to be set up close to Chennai Peripheral Ring Road, would connect Chennai airport, Chennai port, Kamarajar port and Kattupalli port.

Power Finance Corporation - Maharatna Status

- ❖ The Central Government has given “Maharatna” status to Power Finance Corporation (PFC).
- ❖ PFC has become the 11th state-owned entity in India to enter the Maharatna category.
- ❖ PFC is the largest infrastructure company in India.
- ❖ This enhanced status will enable it to,
 - To make quality investments,
 - To form financial joint ventures and wholly-owned subsidiaries
 - To oversee mergers & acquisitions within India as well as abroad.



Supreme Court on National Green Tribunal

- ❖ The Supreme Court in a landmark judgement noted that the “National Green Tribunal does have Suo moto powers and it can hear environmental issues on its own”.
- ❖ This order came even though the Union government said NGT does not have powers to hear environmental cases on its own.
- ❖ The NGT was established on October 18, 2010 under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010.

Restoring degraded land

- ❖ The Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav said land restoration is the solution for biodiversity loss.
- ❖ India is committed to restoring 26 million hectares of degraded land by 2030.

- ❖ This is more than the earlier target of 21 million hectares.



Subsidy for phosphate and potassic fertilizers

- ❖ The Centre has approved an additional fertilizer subsidy for the rabi or winter planting season.
- ❖ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the new nutrient-based subsidy rates for phosphatic and potassic fertilisers.
- ❖ Unlike urea where the Centre sets a fixed maximum retail price, non-urea fertilizer prices are decontrolled with the Government fixing nutrient-based subsidy rates instead.

Exercise Yudh Abhyas 2021

- ❖ India and the United States are set to start a 15-day mega military exercise in Alaska of the USA.
- ❖ The year 2021 will mark the 17th edition of the exercise "Yudh Abhyas".
- ❖ This Exercise will be conducted at Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson in Alaska.
- ❖ This exercise is to further deepen bilateral military cooperation between both countries.

Atal Community Innovation Center

- ❖ India's 1st Atal Community Innovation Centre (ACIC) was inaugurated at Vivekananda Global University, Jaipur (VGU) of Rajasthan.
- ❖ It will be the first centre in the country to be set up by the Government of India, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and NITI Aayog.
- ❖ The ACIC aims to support and nurture innovative ideas that can take the shape of big ideas and help transform society for a better tomorrow.

SC120-LOX

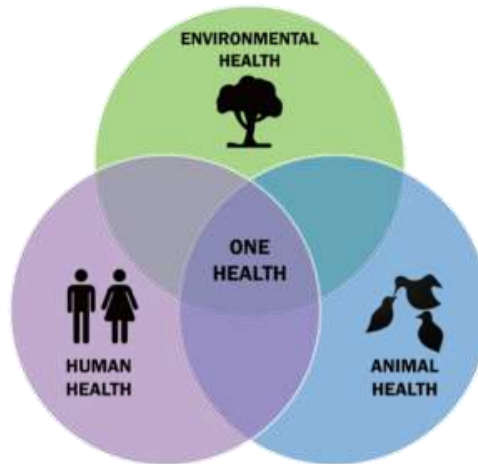


- ❖ Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) has delivered the 'heaviest' Semi-Cryogenic propellant tank (SC120-LOX) to the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
- ❖ The semi cryo-liquid oxygen (LOX) tank is a part of the SC120 stage.
- ❖ SC120 stage is intended for payload enhancement by replacing the L110 stage in the existing GSLV Mk-III launch vehicle.

Border Security Force jurisdiction

- ❖ The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has extended the jurisdiction of the Border Security Force (BSF) up to 50 km inside the international borders in Punjab, West Bengal and Assam.
- ❖ At the same time, the Ministry has reduced BSF's area of operation in Gujarat from 80 km from the border, to 50 km.
- ❖ The government said it was exercising the powers under the Border Security Force Act of 1968.
- ❖ The BSF's powers which include arrest, search and seizure were limited to up to 15 km in these states.

One Health Consortium



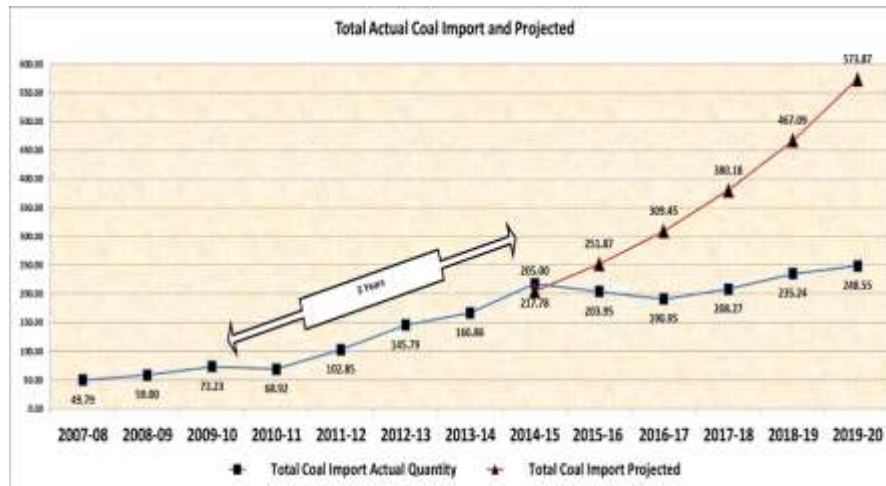
- ❖ The Department of Biotechnology has launched a 'One Health' consortium.
- ❖ This is the First 'One Health' project of the DBT.
- ❖ One Health Consortium has been empowered to carry out surveillance of important viral, bacterial, & parasitic infections of zoonotic and transboundary pathogens in India.
- ❖ This project will also look into the use of existing diagnostic tests and the development of additional methodologies to conduct surveillance and understand the spread of emerging diseases.

Plastic Waste Recycling Targets

- ❖ The Union environment ministry has released a draft notification to regulate the extended producer responsibility (EPR) under the "Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016".
- ❖ The draft provides that, quantity of waste will have to be managed by producers, brand owners and importers, who are generate plastic packaging waste across India.

Coal production

- ❖ The Central Government is boosting its per day coal production from 1.94 million to 2 million tonnes within a week.
- ❖ This is to meet the rampant demand for coal by states, power companies, and railways.
- ❖ The Use of local coal up to a 10 per cent blend of imported coal has been granted to permitted power generators to increase coal stocks.



World's Best Employers 2021

- ❖ Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries has topped the Indian corporates in the World's Best Employers 2021 rankings published by Forbes.
- ❖ Globally, Reliance is placed at 52nd position among 750 global corporates.
- ❖ The South Korean giant Samsung Electronics has topped the overall ranking as World's Best Employers 2021.
- ❖ The World's Best Employers 2021 has been prepared by Forbes in partnership with market research company Statista.



TOP 10 INDIAN FIRMS IN THE RANKING

COMPANY	RANKING
Reliance Industries	52
ICICI Bank	65
HDFC Bank	77
HCL Technologies	90
SBI	119
Larsen & Toubro	127
Bajaj	215
Axis Bank	254
Indian Bank	314
ONGC	404

Source: Forbes

Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Prerna Sthal

- ❖ Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Prerna Sthal was inaugurated at Naval Science & Technological Laboratory (NSTL), Visakhapatnam.
- ❖ Prerna Sthal was inaugurated to commemorate the 90th birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Dr APJ Abdul Kalam as well as to commemorate 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'.
- ❖ The NSTL products like Varunastra, Torpedo Advanced Light (TAL) and Maareech decoy are also being displayed on the occasion at NSTL.
- ❖ The NSTL is the premier naval research laboratory working under the Defence Research & Development Organisation.

Upper limit of legal abortions

- ❖ The central government increased the upper limit of legal abortion to 24 weeks from earlier 20 weeks.
- ❖ This is for special categories of women.
- ❖ The centre notified the new rules under the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Rules, 2021.
- ❖ The 24-week upper limit of legal abortions is in line with the advancements in medical technology that allows removal of foetus at a relatively advanced stage of pregnancy.



Climate Resilience Information System and Planning Tool

- ❖ The Union Minister of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Giriraj Singh, launched the "Climate Resilience Information System and Planning (CRISP-M) tool".

- ❖ The CRISP-M tool has been launched in order to integrate the climate information in the “Geographic Information System (GIS) based watershed planning” under the MGNREGA.

Affiliation of schools with Sainik School Society

- ❖ The Union Cabinet approves affiliation of 100 schools with Sainik School Society.
- ❖ The Union Cabinet given its approval for affiliation of one hundred government sector as well as private sector schools with the Sainik School Society.
- ❖ The Affiliated Sainik Schools will be launched under Sainik Schools Society of Ministry of Defence.

Moscow Format Meeting

- ❖ India has been invited to attend Moscow Format Meeting on Afghanistan.
- ❖ The meeting will be attended by representatives of the Taliban.
- ❖ India will be participating in it at the joint secretary level.
- ❖ This will be the first Moscow format dialogue after the takeover of Kabul by the Taliban in August 2021.
- ❖ The meeting is likely to be the first time India will meet the Taliban face-to-face since it set up an interim government last month.
- ❖ Moscow format is a Russian initiative to find a regional solution to the Afghanistan crisis.

Giloy herb



- ❖ The Ministry of Ayush warned all those who are using medicinal plant Giloy as natural herbs.

- ❖ They asked them to use it cautiously and avoid 'Giloy like looking plants' that could have harmful effects on health.
- ❖ The scientific name of Giloy, also known as Guduchi, is *Tinospora Cordifolia*.
- ❖ It has been used in therapeutics for a long time in AYUSH systems.
- ❖ But unfortunately, a Giloy looking plant of the *Tinospora* family (*Tinospora Crispa*) is sometimes mistaken as Giloy.

One Sun One World One Grid

- ❖ The 4th General Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) is being held virtually.
- ❖ Initiatives in the solar energy sector including the operationalization of India's One Sun One World One Grid (OSOWOG) initiative will be discussed.
- ❖ The OSOWOG is an initiative by India to interconnect global renewable energy systems with the vision 'The Sun Never Sets'
- ❖ The initiative was outlined by PM Narendra Modi during the 1st General Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) in October 2018.

Mount Manipur

- ❖ The Union government has decided to rename Mount Harriet as Mount Manipur.
- ❖ The Mount Harriet is the third-highest island peak in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- ❖ The renaming is done as a tribute to the freedom fighters of Manipur.
- ❖ Manipur's Maharaja Kulchandra Singh and 22 other freedom fighters were imprisoned here during the Anglo-Manipuri war (1891).

National Security Guard – Raising Day



- ❖ The National Security Guard (NSG) force observes its Raising Day on October 16, every year.
- ❖ They are popularly known as Black Cats.
- ❖ The NSG is an elite counter-terrorism unit under the Indian Ministry of Home Affairs.
- ❖ The year 2021 marks the 37th anniversary of the establishment of the NSG.
- ❖ It was established in 1984.

11th P-8i aircraft

- ❖ The Indian Navy received its 11th P-8i aircraft from Boeing.
- ❖ The anti-submarine warfare aircraft is the third aircraft to be delivered under the contract for four additional Boeing aircraft ordered by India.
- ❖ The Union Defence Ministry had earlier signed a contract for eight Boeing P-8i aircraft in 2009.
- ❖ The aircraft were already been delivered to the Indian Navy.
- ❖ The contract for procurement of the four additional aircraft was signed in 2016.



Geospatial Energy Map of India

- ❖ The map has been developed by NITI Aayog in collaboration with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Energy Ministries of the Government of India.
- ❖ This Geospatial Energy Map of India provides a holistic picture of all energy resources like oil & gas wells, petroleum refineries, conventional power plants, coal fields and coal blocks.
- ❖ The GIS mapping of energy assets will be helpful in ensuring real-time and integrated planning of the energy sector in India.



New Quad in West Asia

- ❖ India, Israel, United States and United Arab Emirates (UAE) are ready to build on the momentum created by “Abraham Accords” by holding the first meeting of their foreign ministers.
- ❖ The meeting is being described in some quarters as a “new Quad”.
- ❖ This meeting is the first to bring four countries together on a single platform.
- ❖ The meeting will also be linked with India’s efforts of building new plurilateral and multilateral partnerships which focuses on cooperation in areas including security, connectivity and energy.

Gen-Next Democratic Network

- ❖ Under the new initiative called the “Gen-Next Democratic Network” initiative, India is set to host young leaders aged under 35.
- ❖ It has been planned by Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).
- ❖ This event will be inaugurated by the speaker of Lok Sabha, Om Birla.
- ❖ The ICCR is an autonomous body working under the Ministry of External Affairs.
- ❖ It deals with the policies related to India’s external cultural relations.
- ❖ Young leaders would be invited from 75 different democracies.
- ❖ These young leaders will be invited from the ruling party, opposition party and other key parties.

Aadhaar Hackathon 2021

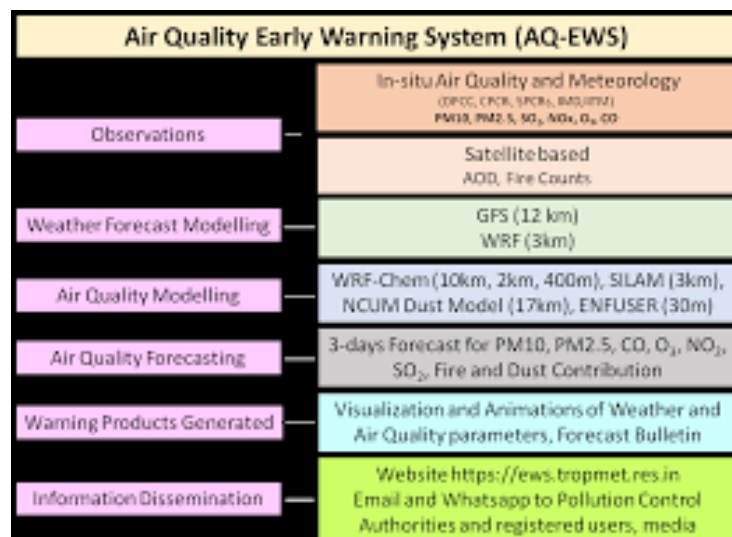
- ❖ The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) is set to host the ‘Aadhaar Hackathon 2021’
- ❖ The Aadhaar Hackathon is set to identify young innovators in the area of information technology.
- ❖ It will be the first-ever event being conducted by the Aadhaar team.
- ❖ The UIDAI is a statutory authority which was established under the provisions of the Aadhaar Act 2016.
- ❖ It was established under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

Allium Negianum

- ❖ A plant discovered in Uttarakhand in 2019 has been newly confirmed as a new species of Allium.
- ❖ The plant, called Allium Negianum is a new species of onion.
- ❖ It was discovered in the Indo-Tibetan border area of Malari village, Niti valley of Chamoli district in Uttarakhand.
- ❖ It is restricted to the region of the Western Himalayas in India.
- ❖ It is not yet been reported from anywhere else in the world.



Enhanced Air Quality Early Warning System



- ❖ The Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) has developed a new 'Decision Support System' (DSS) as well as 'Air Quality Early Warning System' (AQEWS)



- ❖ DSS and AQEWS systems were launched for better air-quality management in the Delhi-NCR region.
- ❖ A unique feature of the system comprises providing information on the contribution of biomass-burning activities in the adjoining states.

Fourth General Assembly - ISA

- ❖ The Fourth General Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) has been organised virtually.
- ❖ The Assembly will be presided over by President of the ISA Assembly RK Singh.
- ❖ He is also the Union Minister for New and Renewable Energy.



Kushinagar International Airport





- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Kushinagar International Airport at the Lord Buddha's Parinirvana in Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ The airport is aimed at boosting tourism on the Buddhist circuit.
- ❖ The ancient city of Kushinagar is the final resting place of Gautama Buddha.
- ❖ Here he attained Maha Parinirvana after his death.

Global Food Security Index 2021

- ❖ India has achieved the 71st position in the Global Food Security Index 2021 from among a list of 113 countries.
- ❖ This Index is designed and constructed by London-based Economist Impact and is sponsored by Corteva Agriscience.
- ❖ The overall score of India is 57.2 points on the GFS Index 2021.
- ❖ Ireland, Australia, the UK, Finland, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Canada, Japan, France and the US shared the top rank.

Microsoft AI Innovate Program

- ❖ Microsoft has launched a programme called “AI Innovate Programme”.
- ❖ The programme was launched in its efforts of supporting the start-up ecosystem in India.
- ❖ The programme will support those start-ups that are leveraging artificial intelligence (AI).
- ❖ It is supported by TiE Mumbai.

Konkan Shakti

- ❖ The United Kingdom and India are set to launch their biggest joint military exercise called “Konkan Shakti”.
- ❖ In the exercise, there will be the re-entry of the UK's Carrier Strike Group (CSG) into western Indian Ocean waters.
- ❖ Konkan Shakti is the first tri-service exercise between India and the United Kingdom.

Non-GMO rice

- ❖ The government has said that India is exporting strictly Non Genetically Modified Organism (GMO) rice to the world.



- ❖ The Ministry of Commerce and Industry clarified that there is no commercial variety of Genetically Modified - GM rice in India.
- ❖ The commercial GM cultivation of rice is banned in the country.

Nano Nitrogen Liquid Fertilizer

- ❖ Sri Lanka has received the first consignment of non-harmful Nano Nitrogen liquid fertiliser from India.
- ❖ India sent 3.1 million litres of high-quality non-harmful Nano Nitrogen liquid fertiliser.
- ❖ The fertilizer will help Sri Lanka in the cultivation of maize and paddy.
- ❖ The Nano Nitrogen Liquid Fertilizer was developed by Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited.
- ❖ It has been developed indigenously, for the first time in the world.

Electric cooking



- ❖ In Delhi and Tamil Nadu, 17 per cent of families are using some form of electric cooking.
- ❖ This is as per an independent study released by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW).
- ❖ Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Assam, and Kerala are leading the transition towards electric cooking.

UPSC - Helpline number

- ❖ The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) has launched a toll-free helpline number.
- ❖ This facility can be used by the government job aspirants belonging to economically weaker sections and backward classes.

- ❖ The toll-free number was launched with the objective of helping candidates in filling up application forms or resolving their queries related to the examinations or recruitments of UPSC.
- ❖ The toll-free number is “1800118711”.

UDAN Day - 21st October



- ❖ The Government of India has identified 21st October as UDAN Day.
- ❖ This was the day on which the scheme document was first released.
- ❖ The scheme is aimed at enhancing connectivity to remote and regional areas of the country and making air travel affordable.
- ❖ It is a key component of the Centre's National Civil Aviation Policy led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ❖ It was launched in June 2016.
- ❖ The scheme will be jointly funded by the central government and state governments.

Micro snail species

- ❖ A micro snail species named *Georissa mawsmiensis* has recently been discovered from Mawsmi in Meghalaya.
- ❖ These are confined to microhabitats consisting of limestone caves or karst landscapes formed by the dissolution of limestone.
- ❖ This is 170 years after the last such discovery was made.
- ❖ It was in 1851 that *Georissa saritta*, a member of the same genus as the latest find.
- ❖ The members of the *Georissa* genus are widely distributed across and reported from Africa, Asia, and the Pacific.



International Monetary and Financial Committee meeting



- ❖ The Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman attended the Plenary Meeting of the International Monetary and Financial Committee of the Board of Governors of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- ❖ It was held in Washington D.C in USA.
- ❖ The meeting was attended by Governors/Alternate Governors representing 190-member countries of the IMF.
- ❖ The discussions at the meeting were centred on "vaccinate, calibrate and accelerate".
- ❖ Nirmala Sitharaman conveyed that India recognises that universal vaccination is the key to stemming the spread of the virus.



Rule of Law Index 2021

- ❖ India has ranked 79 out of 139 countries and jurisdictions in the World Justice Project's (WJP) Rule of Law Index 2021.
- ❖ The WJP Rule of Law Index 2021 ranks the countries based on scores ranging from 0 to 1.
- ❖ 1 indicates the strongest adherence to the rule of law.
- ❖ Denmark, Norway and Finland topped the Index this year.

NPCI Tokenization system



- ❖ The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has launched the NPCI Tokenization system (NTS).
- ❖ This is to further enhance the safety of customers and provide a seamless shopping experience to consumers.
- ❖ The NPCI Tokenization System will support the tokenisation of RuPay cards.

ABHYAS

- ❖ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully tested the high-speed expendable aerial target (HEAT) called ABHYAS.
- ❖ The ABHYAS high-speed expendable aerial target will be used to evaluate several missile systems.
- ❖ It was tested from Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Bay of Bengal in Odisha.
- ❖ ABHYAS has been designed and developed by the Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE) of DRDO, headquartered in Bengaluru.



India-UK talks on Infra and Defence

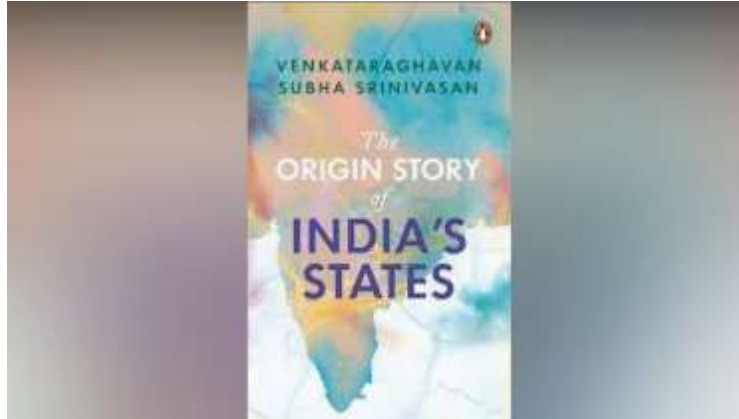
- ❖ The External Affairs Minister of India S Jaishankar and British Foreign Secretary, Liz Truss held talks on Infrastructure and Defence
- ❖ The talk was focused on infrastructure investment, defence cooperation and security cooperation.
- ❖ Liz Truss is also expected to announce a series of technological and infrastructure tie-ups with India for boosting the Indian as well as British economies.
- ❖ These tie-ups will also help the developing countries to grow in sustainable and clean manner.
- ❖ Both the ministers also reviewed the “Roadmap 2030” which was launched during India-UK Virtual Summit.



Venkataraman Subha Srinivasan - new book

- ❖ The book titled ‘The Origin Story of India’s States’ is written by Venkataraman Subha Srinivasan.
- ❖ It is published by Penguin Random House India (PRHI).
- ❖ It is a story about the birth of India’s 28 states and 8 union territories and their continuous changes.

- ❖ Venkataraghavan Subha Srinivasan is a writer, actor and strategy consultant from Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- ❖ This is his first non-fiction book.



Banni buffalo - IVF

- ❖ India's first IVF (in-vitro fertilisation) calf of Banni breed of buffaloes was born at a farmer's house in Gir Somnath district of Gujarat.
- ❖ The Banni breed of buffalo is found primarily in the Kutch region of Gujarat.
- ❖ The IVF process was carried out in a bid to enhance the number of genetically superior buffaloes for increasing milk production.
- ❖ Banni buffalo, belonging to a dairy farmer, from Dhanej village gave birth to IVF male calf.



Life expectancy in India

- ❖ In India, the covid-19 pandemic has resulted in a drop in life expectancy by almost two years.
- ❖ This is according to the scientists from Mumbai based International Institute for Population Studies.
- ❖ The Report points out a drop in life expectancy at birth in men as well as women.
- ❖ In the year 2019, life expectancy at birth was 69.5 years for men while 72 years for women.
- ❖ This is decreased to 67.5 years for men and 69.8 years for women in the year 2020.

Garuda app

- ❖ The Election Commission of India has launched the Garuda app for digital mapping of all polling stations.
- ❖ This is to ensure faster, smarter, transparent and timely completion of election work.
- ❖ Through the Garuda app, Booth Level Officers will upload photos and location information of the polling stations.
- ❖ The app will also help in reducing the paperwork.



Supreme Court on Right to Protest

- ❖ The Supreme Court said that the public roads could not be blocked to hamper the free movement.
- ❖ The court noted that it had laid down the law in the Shaheen Bagh protests case.

- ❖ The right to protest should not hamper the right to movement of the public.



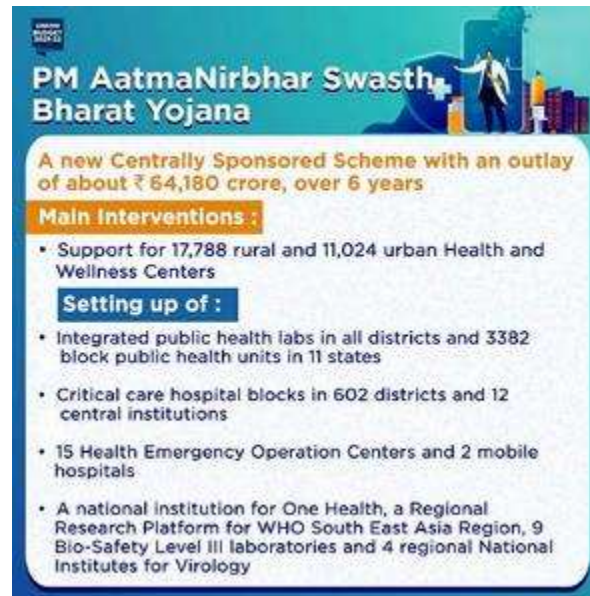
INS Vikrant



- ❖ The first indigenous aircraft carrier (IAC) of India, named Vikrant, started its second phase of sea trials.
- ❖ INS Vikrant is a 40,000-tonne aircraft carrier.
- ❖ It is the largest and most complex warship that has been built in India.
- ❖ INS Vikrant has been built by Cochin Shipyard Limited.

Pradhan Mantri Atma nirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched 'PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission & Release of Operational Guidelines'.
- ❖ Pradhan Mantri Atma nirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana will be one of the largest pan-India schemes.
- ❖ It will focus on strengthening healthcare infrastructure across the country.
- ❖ It will be launched in addition to the National Health Mission.



UDAN 4.1



- ❖ The Union Civil Aviation Minister, Jyotiraditya Scindia, inaugurated the first direct flight on Shillong–Dibrugarh sector.
- ❖ This flight was made operational under the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik (UDAN).
- ❖ In September 2021, Shillong airport witnessed more than 5000 passengers.
- ❖ UDAN 4.1 scheme was launched in 2020.

Offshore Sailing Regatta

- ❖ The Indian Navy has organised an Offshore Sailing Regatta from Kochi to Goa.
- ❖ This was done as a part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations.
- ❖ The event was organised under the aegis of the Indian Naval Sailing Association (INSA).



IPL - Two new teams

- ❖ Ahmedabad and Lucknow are the two new teams that will be part of the Indian Premier League (IPL) from 2022.
- ❖ Hence the total number of teams in the competition became ten.
- ❖ RP-Sanjiv Goenka Group (RPSG) is the owner of the Lucknow team.
- ❖ CVC Capital Partners is the owner of the Ahmedabad team.
- ❖ The IPL's first season was played in 2008.
- ❖ The 15th season will see 10 teams competing for the IPL title.

Nine medical colleges - inauguration

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated nine medical colleges in Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ The nine colleges are built at Siddharthnagar, Etah, Hardoi, Fatehpur, Pratapnagar, Deoria, Ghazipur, Mirzapur and Jaunpur.
- ❖ Eight medical colleges have been built under the Centrally sponsored scheme for the establishment of new medical colleges.
- ❖ One college at Jaunpur has been built by the state government through its own resources.
- ❖ The central scheme prefers backward and aspirational districts.
- ❖ The scheme aims at reducing the imbalances in the distribution of medical colleges across different states.

India and Kyrgyzstan

- ❖ India and Kyrgyzstan held their first strategic dialogue in New Delhi.
- ❖ During the summit, both the countries agreed to enhance security & defence cooperation.
- ❖ Both India & Kyrgyzstan, are facing threats and challenges due to the situation in Afghanistan.
- ❖ They also held discussions on the regional security environment with special reference to Afghanistan.

New Wildlife DNA testing analysis laboratory

- ❖ Uddhav Thackeray, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, inaugurated India's 1st State government-owned Wildlife DNA testing analysis laboratory.

- ❖ It was inaugurated at the Regional Forensic Science Laboratory in Nagpur, Maharashtra.
- ❖ At present, there are 2 Wildlife DNA testing laboratories at Dehradun & Hyderabad.
- ❖ These are fully owned by the Central Government.
- ❖ The newly launched is the 1st in India to be owned by a state government.

Radio over Internet Protocol System

- ❖ The Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port (SPM) in Kolkata has become the first Major Indian Port to get a Radio over Internet Protocol (ROIP) System.
- ❖ ROIP system is a long-range marine communication solution.
- ❖ It will aid especially during storms and inclement weather
- ❖ SPM, Kolkata has been constantly maintaining its pivotal position in Indian Major Ports for the past 152 years.

18th ASEAN-India Summit



- ❖ 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.



CII Asia Health 2021 summit

- ❖ The union minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya participated in the CII Asia Health 2021 summit.
- ❖ The theme of the two-day summit is 'Transforming Healthcare for a better tomorrow'.
- ❖ The Confederation of Indian Industry has organised the summit to provide a centralised forum to deliberate on the most critical challenges that India and the world face in delivering healthcare, with a focus on the digital transformations that result in improved patient outcomes and experience.
- ❖ The union minister mentioned how campaigns like 'Dawai Bhi Kadai Bhi' and 'Do Gaj ki Doori, Mask hai Zaruri' reached out to the masses and helped curb the COVID-19 infection in the country.

Toppers in Governance Performance

- ❖ In the recent study of Public Affairs Centre (PAC) on governance performance, Kerala, Tamil Nadu & Telangana have emerged as the toppers.
- ❖ Telangana has replaced Andhra Pradesh at the third spot as compared to 2020 ranking.
- ❖ Jharkhand jumped from 15th to 9th place this year.
- ❖ In the index, Sikkim, Goa and Mizoram were emerged as winners among the small states.
- ❖ Puducherry, Jammu & Kashmir and Chandigarh emerged as toppers among the union territories.
- ❖ The Public Affairs Centre (PAC) is a Bengaluru-based non-profit think tank.



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Committed to good governance

Sarthak

- ❖ A new Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) 'Sarthak' has been dedicated to the nation.
- ❖ It will be based at Porbandar in Gujarat.
- ❖ Commissioning of the ship is a significant boost for the maritime safety and security of India.





Pune Dialogue on National Security




- ❖ 6th Pune Dialogue on National Security (PDNS) 2021 was inaugurated by the Pune International Centre (PIC).
- ❖ It was organised under the theme - 'National Security Preparedness in the Age of Disasters and Pandemics'.
- ❖ During the meeting, participants will discuss the impact of disasters and pandemics on the national security of India.
- ❖ They will also suggest strategies to deal with disasters.
- ❖ PDNS is held by PIC in collaboration with the Policy Perspectives Foundation (PPF) of New Delhi, Centre for Advanced Strategic Studies (CASS) and The Tribune Trust of Chandigarh.

PDNS
Pune Dialogue on
National Security

28th & 29th October 2021

National Security Preparedness in the age of Disasters and Pandemics

Session 1: Disaster Risk Reduction as Part of National Security
28th October, 12.00 noon - 1.30 PM

<p>Session Chair</p>  <p>Gen. N. C. Vij Former Vice-Chairman, National Disaster Management Authority</p>	<p>Panellists</p>  <p>Mr. R. M. Singh Vice-President, Policy Perspectives Foundation</p>	 <p>Mr. Pradyot C. Haldar President, Policy Perspectives Foundation</p>
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Seven-member Economic Advisory Council - Reconstituted

- ❖ The Central Government of India has reconstituted the seven-member Economic Advisory Council to the PM (EAC-PM).
- ❖ Bibek Debroy continues to be the Chairman of the Council.
- ❖ EAC-PM has been reconstituted for a period of 2 years.
- ❖ EAC-PM was set up in September 2017 with a term of two years and it replaced the erstwhile Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (PMEAC).

The EAC members

 <p>Bibek Debroy Member, NITI Aayog</p>	 <p>Ratan Watal Principal adviser, NITI Aayog</p>	
 <p>Surjit Bhalla Senior India analyst for Observatory Group and chairman of Oxus Research & Investments</p>	 <p>Ashima Goyal Professor, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research</p>	 <p>Rathin Roy Director, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy</p>

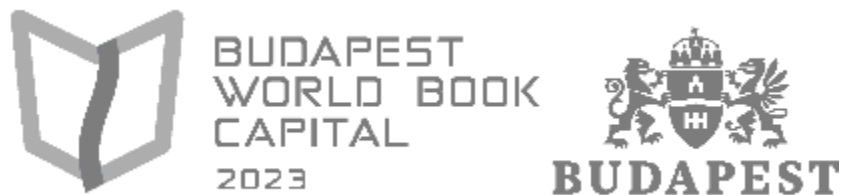
INTERNATIONAL

Japan's Prime minister

- ❖ Japan's former Foreign Minister, Fumio Kishida has won the ruling party's leadership election, virtually ensuring that he will become the country's next prime minister.
- ❖ Kishida won 257 votes in a runoff to defeat Taro Kono.
- ❖ Fumio Kishida replaces outgoing party leader Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga.



UNESCO World Book Capital for 2023



- ❖ The Director-General of UNESCO, Audrey Azoulay, has named Accra (Ghana) as UNESCO World Book Capital for 2023.
- ❖ After Guadalajara (Mexico) in 2022, the city of Accra was selected for its strong focus on young people and their potential to contribute to the culture and wealth of Ghana.
- ❖ The Cities designated as UNESCO World Book Capital undertake to promote books and reading for all ages and population groups.

Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission

- ❖ The Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission on September 27, 2021.

- ❖ This mission was launched under the pilot project National Digital Health Mission.
- ❖ The flagship digital initiative involves,
 - Creation of a unique health ID for every citizen, and
 - Creation of a digital healthcare professionals and facilities registry.
- ❖ The nationwide rollout of the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission coincides with the third anniversary of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY).

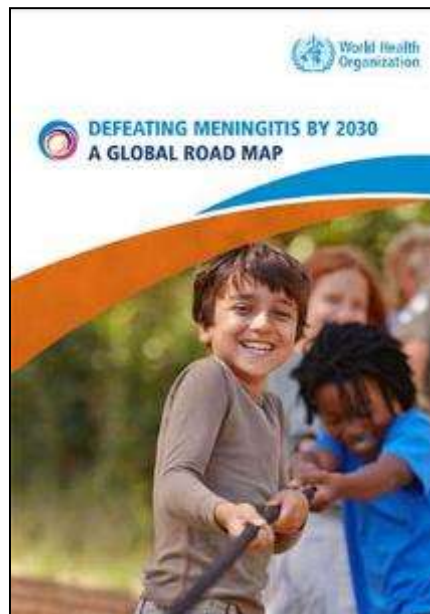


Landsat 9



- ❖ It was recently launched by NASA.
- ❖ It is an Earth monitoring satellite.
- ❖ It is a joint mission of NASA and the US Geological Survey (USGS).
- ❖ Together with Landsat 8, it will collect images of Earth's surface.
- ❖ It takes 8 days to capture the whole Earth.
- ❖ The instruments aboard Landsat 9 are the Operational Land Imager 2 (OLI-2) and the Thermal Infrared Sensor 2 (TIRS-2).

Global Roadmap to Defeat Meningitis by 2030



- ❖ The World Health Organization (WHO) has launched the first-ever global strategy to defeat meningitis.
- ❖ The roadmap includes three visionary goals
 - Eliminate epidemics of bacterial meningitis.
 - Reduce cases of vaccine-preventable bacterial meningitis by 50% and deaths by 70%.
 - Reduce disability and improve quality of life after meningitis of any cause.

UNCTAD Digital Economy Report 2021

- ❖ The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) published this report recently.
- ❖ In its report, UNCTAD noted the Philippines as one among six countries that allow free flow of data across borders.

- ❖ Free flow of data is required to boost the digital economy.
- ❖ Other five countries allowing free-flow of data across borders include- Canada, Australia, Mexico, Singapore and the United States.
- ❖ These countries use a “light-touch approach” for data flow.
- ❖ India follows the “restrictive” or “guarded” approach for cross-border data flow.



Nicolas Sarkozy – one year jail term

- ❖ Former French President Nicolas Sarkozy has been sentenced to a one-year jail term by a French court.
- ❖ Nicolas Sarkozy has been accused of spending almost twice the maximum legal amount during his 2012 re-election bid.
- ❖ The court will allow Sarkozy to serve the one-year sentence at home by wearing an electronic monitoring bracelet.



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.



Molnupiravir

- ❖ Molnupiravir has reduced the chances of hospitalisation by half among COVID-19 patients with mild or moderate symptoms.
- ❖ This is according to the pharmaceutical company “Merck and Ridgeback Biotherapeutics”
- ❖ Molnupiravir drug has been named as ‘EIDD 2801’ by the company.
- ❖ Here ‘E’ indicates it was developed at Emory University.
- ❖ The antiviral drugs work by inhibiting a process by which the virus replicates.



Election Commission on party symbols

- ❖ The Election Commission of India (ECI) has frozen the 'Bungalow' election symbol of the Lok Janshakti Party party from Bihar.
- ❖ Now neither of the two factions of the party will be able to use it in the coming Assembly by-elections.
- ❖ As per the guidelines,
 - A party/candidate has to provide a list of three symbols from the EC's free symbols list at the time of filing nomination papers.
 - Among them, one symbol is allotted to the party/candidate on a first-come-first-serve basis.
 - When a recognised political party splits, the Election Commission takes the decision on assigning the symbol.

World Expo 2020 - Dubai

- ❖ The World Expo 2020 has been organised in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates.
- ❖ The main theme of the Dubai Expo 2020 is "Connecting Minds, Creating the Future".
- ❖ Expo 2020 is the first to be held in the MENA & SA (the Middle East and North Africa & South Asia) region.
- ❖ The theme of the India pavilion at the Expo is "Openness, Opportunity and Growth".



Zircon missile

- ❖ Russia has successfully test-fired Hypersonic missile from a nuclear submarine for the first time.
- ❖ The missile, named Zircon missile, was launched from the Severodvinsk submarine.

- ❖ It was Zircon's first launch from a submarine.



The State of the World's Children 2021

- ❖ The Union Health Minister, Mansukh Mandaviya, released a report titled "The State of the World's Children 2021: On My Mind: promoting, protecting and caring for children's mental health".
- ❖ The state of World's Children 2021 report is UNICEF's global flagship publication.
- ❖ Globally, 1 in 5 young people of 15 to 24-years of age are feeling depressed or having little interest in doing things.
- ❖ In India, 1 in 7 young people are reported often feeling depressed or having little interest in doing things.



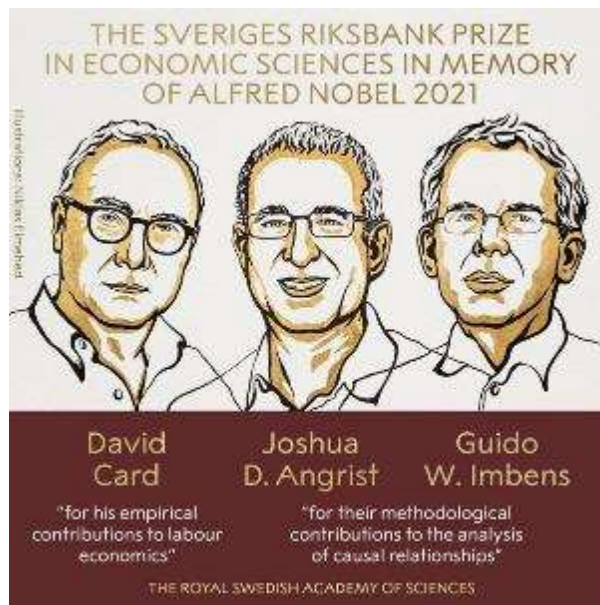
Pandora Paper leaks

- ❖ Pandora Papers have come to the spotlight after millions of documents related to the hidden world of offshore wealth got leaked to the International Consortium of Investigative Journalism (ICIJ).
- ❖ These are the 11.9 million leaked papers from 14 companies, in offshore tax havens, comprising of details of ownership of 29,000 offshore companies and trusts from countries like Vietnam, Belize and Singapore.
- ❖ In this case, around 380 people of Indian nationality have been named.



Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences 2021

- ❖ The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has decided to award the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel.
- ❖ It's one half is to given David Card (University of California of USA) "for his empirical contributions to labour economics".
- ❖ The other half jointly to Joshua Angrist (Massachusetts Institute of Technology of USA) and Guido Imbens (Stanford University of USA) "for their methodological contributions to the analysis of causal relationships".
- ❖ In 1968, Sveriges Riksbank (Sweden's central bank) established the Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel, founder of the Nobel Prize.
- ❖ The first Prize in Economic Sciences was awarded to Ragnar Frisch and Jan Tinbergen in 1969.



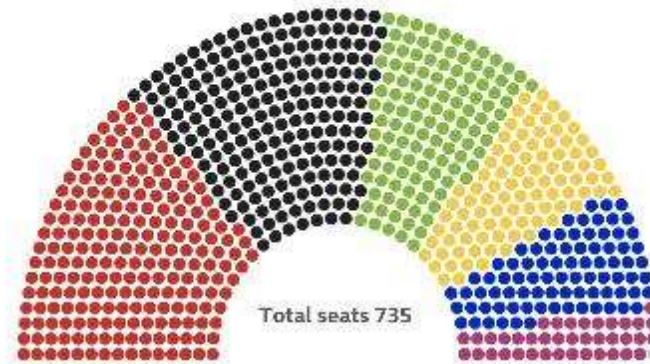
German election 2021

- ❖ Angela Merkel's conservative party has narrowly lost the 2021 German National Elections to elect the members of the 20th Bundestag.
- ❖ The Social Democratic Party has beaten Chancellor Angela Merkel's Christian Democratic Union.
- ❖ It will take at least three parties to form a stable government.
- ❖ It is for the first time since the founding of the German federal republic 72 years ago (1949).
- ❖ Angela Merkel had taken office in 2005, becoming the first female chancellor of Germany.

- ❖ The Bundestag is the German federal parliament.

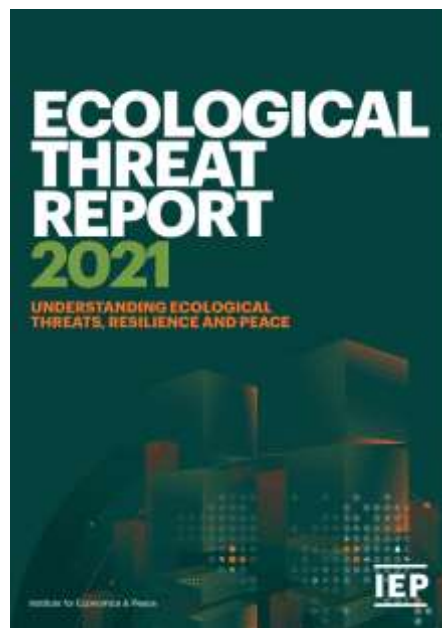
How the new German parliament looks

● SPD (206) ● CDU-CSU (196) ● Greens (118) ● FDP (92)
● AfD (83) ● Linke (39) ● SSW (1)

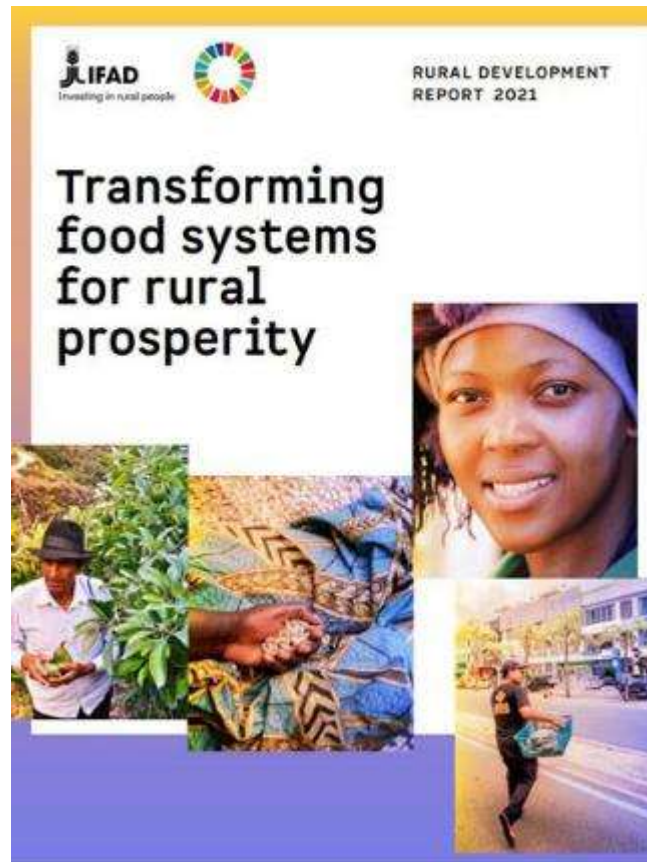


The 'Ecological Threat Report (ETR) 2021: Understanding ecological threats, resilience and peace'

- ❖ It was released by the Institute of Economics and Peace.
- ❖ It assessed the data from sub-national administrative units in 178 countries for threats relating to food risk, water risk, rapid population growth, temperature anomalies & natural disasters.
- ❖ The most vulnerable countries are clustered in the Middle East and North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.
- ❖ As a region, south Asia is the worst-placed, with water and food risks.



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

- ❖ 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.

World's First Self-Driving Train

- ❖ Germany launches the first automated & driverless train.
- ❖ It is being dubbed as “world-first”.
- ❖ This project is being developed by ‘Siemens and Deutsche Bahn’.
- ❖ The self-driving train was launched in the city of Hamburg.



US Indigenous People's Day

- ❖ The American President Joe Biden has proclaimed October 11 as “Indigenous Peoples’ Day”.
- ❖ He has become the first U.S. president to formally recognize this day.
- ❖ Indigenous Peoples’ Day is typically observed on the second Monday of October.
- ❖ This Day recognizes the Indigenous communities who have lived in the United States for thousands of years.

Global Hunger Index

- ❖ It is prepared jointly by an Irish aid agency called ‘Concern Worldwide’ and a German organisation called ‘Welthungerhilfe’.
- ❖ The Index termed the hunger level in India is alarming.
- ❖ In the index, India has been placed in the 101st position out of 116 countries.



- ❖ In 2020, India's was positioned at 94th.
- ❖ India has improved with respect to indicators like under-5 mortality rate, the prevalence of undernourishment and prevalence of stunting among children.

UN Human Rights Council

- ❖ India got re-elected to the UN Human Rights Council for 2022-24 term with the overwhelming majority in United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).
- ❖ This decision was taken in the 76th session of the UN General Assembly.
- ❖ India secured its selection by 184 votes in the 193-member assembly.

Joint Sea 2021 naval exercise

- ❖ China and Russia are holding Joint naval drills called the "Joint Sea 2021 naval exercise" in the Sea of Japan.
- ❖ It highlights the latest sign of growing political and military alignment between Russia and China.
- ❖ The drill started in Russia's Peter the Great Gulf in the Sea of Japan.

EY Index

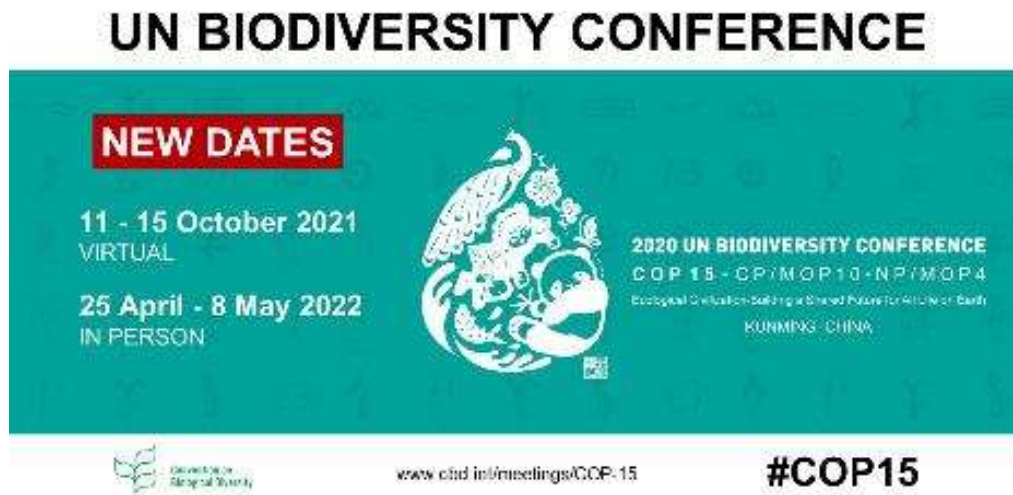
THE TOP 10	
1.	United States of America
2.	China
3.	India
4.	Chile
5.	Germany
6.	Brazil
7.	Mexico
8.	France
9.	Canada
10.	Australia

Source: EY

- ❖ India has retained the third position in the 58th Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index (RECAI).
- ❖ The index was released by the consultancy firm Ernst & Young (EY).
- ❖ According to the report, the US, mainland China and India continue to retain the top three rankings.

- ❖ Indonesia is a new entrant to the RECAI.
- ❖ The 2021 RECAI ranks the world's top 40 global markets (nations) on the attractiveness of their renewable energy investment and deployment opportunities.

Kunming Biodiversity Fund



- ❖ China pledged to inject \$233 million into a new fund called the “Kunming Biodiversity Fund” recently.
- ❖ It is for the protection of biodiversity in developing countries.
- ❖ This decision was taken during a key UN conservation summit, even though major donors disagreed on it.
- ❖ China pledged as it is the world's biggest polluter and seeks to play a prominent role internationally in biodiversity conservation.
- ❖ This summit seeks to establish a new accord, setting targets for 2030 and 2050.

EU's first green bond

- ❖ The European Commission issued its inaugural green bonds raising 12 billion euros.
- ❖ The EU's executive branch is planning to issue up to 250 billion euros in green bonds by the end of 2026.
- ❖ This is to support its plans to finance the 27-nation bloc's recovery from the coronavirus crisis.

Global Roadmap to Defeat Meningitis

- ❖ The Global Roadmap to Defeat Meningitis by 2030 was launched by World Health Organisation recently.
- ❖ It aims to eliminate epidemics of bacterial meningitis.
- ❖ It also aims to reduce deaths by 70 per cent and halve the number of cases.

COP 26

- ❖ The UK will host the COP 26 UN Climate Change Conference.
- ❖ This year marks the 26th Conference of Parties (COP26).
- ❖ It will be held in the Scottish Event Campus in Glasgow.
- ❖ The COP comes under the United Nations Climate Change Framework Convention (UNFCCC).
- ❖ The UNFCCC was formed in 1994.



Hypersonic missile - China

- ❖ As per the report of financial times, China tested a nuclear-capable hypersonic missile in August 2021.
- ❖ As per the report, the launch of the missile was kept secret by China.
- ❖ The missile circled the world before cruising towards its target.
- ❖ However, it missed its mark by about 24 miles.
- ❖ This demonstrates that China made impressive progress on hypersonic weapons.
- ❖ This test was more advanced than the US.
- ❖ As per the report, the weapon could fly over the South Pole in theory.

- ❖ This will pose a big challenge for the US military as its missile defence systems focus on the northern polar route.



G20 Innovation League



- ❖ The Italian Presidency of the G20 grouping has unveiled the “G20 Innovation League”.
- ❖ It is a new and unique initiative that have been designed to drive forward innovative projects.
- ❖ This is to create a sustainable future.
- ❖ G20 Innovation event was held in Sorrento, Italy.

Global TB report for 2021

- ❖ The World Health Organisation (WHO) has released the ‘Global TB report for 2021’.
- ❖ It highlighted the effects of COVID-19 which led to a huge reversal in the progress of Tuberculosis (TB) elimination.



- ❖ The report also mentioned India as the worst-hit country in TB elimination.
- ❖ A dramatic reduction of 20% TB cases was witnessed in 2020 as compared to 2019, i.e. A gap of 4.1 million cases.

Africa's glaciers

- ❖ The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and other agencies, released their new report recently.
- ❖ In their report, these agencies warned that Africa's rare glaciers are going to disappear in the next two decades because of climate change.
- ❖ The report was released ahead of the "U.N. climate conference" which is scheduled in Scotland.
- ❖ The report notes that the shrinking glaciers of Mount Kenya, Mount Kilimanjaro, and the Rwenzori Mountains in Uganda are the symbol of rapid and widespread changes to come.

Russia to help India tackle coal shortage

- ❖ India and Russia have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to collaborate in the mining and steel sector.
- ❖ The MoU especially focuses on coking coal.
- ❖ The signing of the deal is part of India's National Steel Policy 2017.
- ❖ Under the National Steel Policy 2017, India aims to reach 300 million tonne steel production by 2030.
- ❖ It is also working on forward and backward integration.

2021 Production Gap Report

- ❖ The United Nations Environment Programme recently released its report called "2021 Production Gap Report".
- ❖ According to the report, the government's plan to produce fossil fuels will evade the Paris Deal limits.
- ❖ The report measures the gap between "governments' planned production of coal, gas & oil" and "global production levels inconsistent with the limits of Paris Agreement".
- ❖ As per the report, governments are planning to produce more than double the amount of fossil fuels in the year 2030 than what was required for limiting global warming to 1.5°C.

- ❖ It notes that the production gap is unchanged.



Barbados

- ❖ The Caribbean Island called Barbados, in a bid to become a republic has elected its first-ever president.
- ❖ This move will also remove Britain's Queen Elizabeth II as head of state of Barbados.
- ❖ Sandra Mason will swear in as president on November 30, 2021.
- ❖ Sandra Mason is the current governor-general of the island.
- ❖ November 30 marks the 55th anniversary of the independence of Barbados from Britain.



Special Trust fund

- ❖ The United Nations has set up a special trust fund for Afghanistan.
- ❖ This is to provide urgently needed cash directly to Afghans.
- ❖ It was set up with the aim of injecting liquidity into Afghan households.
- ❖ Germany is a first contributor to the fund.

Sakharov Prize

- ❖ Imprisoned Russian Opposition leader Alexei Navalny was recently awarded this European Union's top human rights prize.
- ❖ The Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought is commonly known as the Sakharov Prize.
- ❖ This is an honorary award for individuals or groups who have dedicated their lives to the defence of human rights and freedom of thought.
- ❖ Named after Russian scientist and dissident Andrei Sakharov, the prize was established in December 1988 by the European Parliament.



Hypersonic missile – US

- ❖ The United States has successfully tested hypersonic missile technology.
- ❖ Hypersonic Missile Technology is a new weapons system that is already being deployed by Russia and China.
- ❖ The test was conducted at a NASA facility in Wallops, Virginia.



Cumbre Vieja volcano

- ❖ Cumbre Vieja volcano erupted in Spain's La Palma Island.
- ❖ The economy of La Palma, part of Spain's Canary Islands, is based mainly on tourism and banana plantations.
- ❖ The Spanish government has pledged millions of euros (dollars) to help rebuild damaged infrastructure.

UN Global Sustainable Transport Conference

- ❖ The Second UN Global Sustainable Transport Conference was recently concluded at Beijing in China.
- ❖ In this, India strongly opposed the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and CPEC projects of China.

Belt and Road initiative

- ❖ The BRI is a multi-billion-dollar initiative which was launched in the year 2013, by Chinese President Xi Jinping.
- ❖ The project was launched with the aim of enhancing China's influence.
- ❖ It aims to link Southeast Asia, Central Asia, Africa, Europe and the Gulf region with a network of land and sea routes.



United Nations
**Sustainable
Transport
Conference**

Beijing



Global Threat Assessment report 2021

Global Threat Assessment 2021

Working together to
end the sexual abuse
of children online



- ❖ 'We Protect Global Alliance' recently released this report.
- ❖ The report notes that Child sexual abuse is a chronically underfunded issue.
- ❖ Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, cases of child sexual exploitation and abuse online have increased.
- ❖ We Protect Global Alliance is a global movement of around 200 governments, private sector companies as well as civil society organisations.
- ❖ They work together to transform the global response to child sexual exploitation as well as abuse online.

COP15



2020 UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE
COP 15 - CP/MOP10-NP/MOP4
Ecological Civilization-Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth
KUNMING-CHINA

- ❖ The 15th Conference of the Parties (COP15) of the Convention on Biological Diversity was held in Kunming, Yunnan Province, China.
- ❖ The theme of the conference is "Ecological Civilization: Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth".

- ❖ The leaders adopted the Kunming Declaration.
- ❖ The meeting takes place in two phases.
- ❖ The Phase one took place virtually, from 11 to 15 October.
- ❖ The Phase two will be an in-person meeting in 2022.

Shijian-21



- ❖ China successfully launched a new satellite named Shijian-21.
- ❖ The satellite will be used to test and verify space debris mitigation technologies.
- ❖ This launch marked the 393rd mission for the Long March series carrier rockets.

New Border Law

- ❖ For the first time, China has enacted a national law on “protection and exploitation” of the country’s land border areas.
- ❖ The Chinese law has been enacted in the backdrop of regional tensions across its border with India.
- ❖ India shares a 3,488 km border with China, extending from Arunachal Pradesh to Jammu & Kashmir.
- ❖ The border with India is not fully demarcated.
- ❖ However, the process of clarifying & confirming the LAC is in progress.

IRIS initiative at COP26

- ❖ India, Australia, and the UK in collaboration with small island developing states have planned to launch a new initiative.



- ❖ It is called the “Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS)”.
- ❖ It is to be launched on the sidelines of the Conference of Parties (COP26).
- ❖ The IRIS platform aims at creating an infrastructure that can withstand disasters and lessen economic losses in island nations.

"Innovations for You" Digi-Book

- ❖ The Atal Innovation Mission of NITI Aayog has launched a Digi-book named “Innovations for You”.
- ❖ The sector in focus in this Digi-book is Healthcare.
- ❖ “Innovation for you” is an initiative of Niti Aayog to share success stories of Atal Innovation Mission’s Start-ups in different domains.

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.

Meta

- ❖ Facebook changes the parent company name.
- ❖ The parent company's name is being changed to "Meta" to represent a future beyond just its troubled social network.
- ❖ Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp will keep their names under the rebranding.



Greenhouse Gas Bulletin

- ❖ The World Meteorological Organization released its Greenhouse Gas Bulletin, recently.
- ❖ As per this Bulletin, abundance of heat-trapping greenhouse gases in the atmosphere reached a new record again in the year 2020.
- ❖ Annual rate of increase was above the 2011-2020 average.
- ❖ The Report notes that the trend has continued in 2021.
- ❖ The Concentration of carbon dioxide (CO₂) increased to 413.2 parts per million in 2020.
- ❖ It accounted for 149% of the pre-industrial level.



Shinincheon Bitdream Fuel Cell Power Plant

- ❖ South Korea announced the completion ceremony of the 'Shinincheon Bitdream Fuel Cell Power Plant'.
- ❖ The power plant has a total capacity of 78 MW constructed in four stages since 2017 by using fuel cells supplied by POSCO Energy and Doosan Fuel Cell.
- ❖ It is the world's largest fuel cell power plant currently in operation.
- ❖ Unlike other power generators, hydrogen fuel cell emits very little nitrogen oxides (NOX) and sulfur oxides (SOX) as it does not produce electricity through high-temperature combustion.

International Observer for Presidential Elections

- ❖ The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India, Sushil Chandra, led a three-member delegation to Uzbekistan to oversee the presidential election.
- ❖ The President of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, won the election with more than 80% of the vote.
- ❖ He has been re-elected for a second five-year term.

Least Developed Countries (LDC) Report 2021

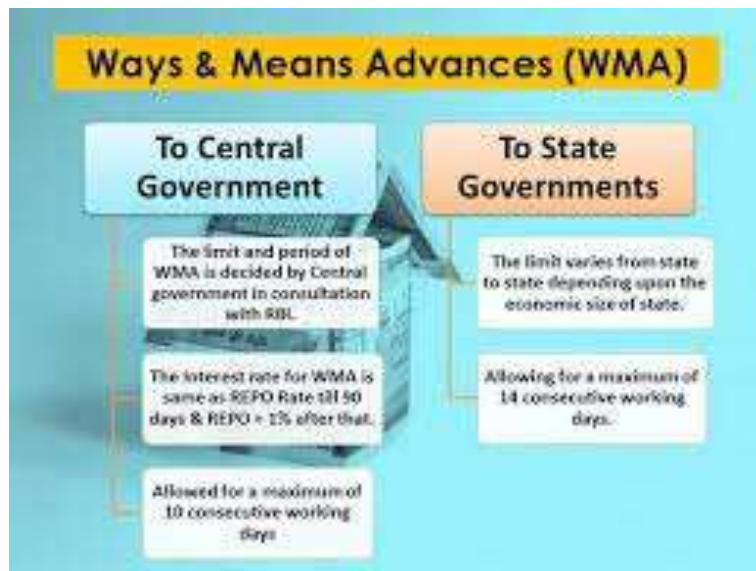
- ❖ The report was released by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).
- ❖ This annual report provides a comprehensive and authoritative source of socio-economic analysis and data on the world's most impoverished countries.
- ❖ According to the report, The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita for the LDC group is less than 10% of the world average (2019).
- ❖ There are 46 countries are designated by the United Nations as LDCs.
- ❖ The list of LDCs is reviewed every 3 years.



ECONOMY

Ways and Means Advances

- ❖ The Reserve bank of India has set the limit for Ways and Means Advances (WMA) for the second half of the financial year 2021-22 i.e. October 2021 to March 2022.
- ❖ It is Rs. 50,000 crores.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank may trigger fresh floatation of market loans when the Government of India utilises 75 per cent of the WMA limit.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank retains the flexibility to revise the limit at any time, in consultation with the Government of India, taking into consideration the prevailing circumstances.



IOB out of RBI PCA Framework

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India has announced the removal of Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) restrictions on Indian Overseas Bank (IOB).
- ❖ This is done after its financial and credit profile improved.
- ❖ This decision provides lender more freedom to lend, especially to corporations and grow the network.
- ❖ IOB was placed under PCA in October 2015 because of high Net-Performing Assets and negative Return on Assets.
- ❖ It was stopped from increasing risk-weighted assets.

RuPay On-the-Go

- ❖ The National Payments Corporation of India has partnered with private sector lender YES Bank.
- ❖ This is to launch first-of-its-kind 'RuPay On-the-Go' contactless payments solutions.
- ❖ It is launched to enable customers to make small and large value transactions from accessories that they wear every day.
- ❖ It has been launched in association with fintech infrastructure partner Neokred and manufacturing partner Sessaasai.



NAPRE

- ❖ The union minister for Health and Family Welfare, Mansukh Mandaviya and Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Parshottam Rupala released the "National Action Plan for Dog Mediated Rabies Elimination by 2030 (NAPRE)".
- ❖ This was launched on the occasion of "World Rabies Day" on September 28, 2021.
- ❖ This action plan was introduced as a roadmap to eliminate rabies by 2030.

"One Health Approach" for Rabies Elimination



PM POSHAN scheme continues



Ensuring holistic nutrition for children

PM POSHAN in Schools to continue for five more years

- Mid Day Meal in schools renamed as National Scheme for PM POSHAN Shakti Nirman
- Total budget of ₹1.3 lakh crore for 5 year period
- To cover 11.80 crore children in 11.20 lakh schools
- Promote Nutrition Gardens in schools

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of PM POSHAN scheme in Schools.
- ❖ PM POSHAN is a Centrally Sponsored National Scheme.
- ❖ PM POSHAN scheme would run for five more years.
- ❖ It will run from 2021-2022 to 2025-26.
- ❖ This Scheme will cover all school children who are studying in Classes 1st to 8th in government schools as well in government-Aided Schools.

Hurun India Rich List 2021

INDIA A-LISTERS: Hurun India Rich List 2021			
India Rank (Global Rank)		Net worth (\$bn)	Company
1(8)	Mukesh Ambani	83	Reliance Industries
2(48)	Gautam Adani & family	32	Adani
3(58)	Shiv Nadar & family	27	HCL
4(104)	Lakshmi N Mittal	19	ArcelorMittal
5(113)	Cyrus Poonawalla	18.5	Serum
6(117)	Hinduja Brothers	18	Hinduja
7(154)	Uday Kotak	15	Kotak Mahindra Bank
8(160)	Radhakishan Damani & family	14.5	Avenue Supermarts
9(185)	Jay Chaudhry	13	Zscaler
10(194)	Dilip Shanghvi & family	12.5	Sun Pharmaceutical Industries

Source: 10th Edition of Hurun Global Rich List 2021 Report



- ❖ The Reliance Industries Chairman, Mukesh Ambani has topped the Wealth Hurun India Rich List for the 10th consecutive year.
- ❖ Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani is in the second spot.
- ❖ Shiv Nadar & the family of HCL technologies is third on the list.

Expert Committee on Sustainable Finance

- ❖ The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has constituted an Expert Committee.
- ❖ It is to recommend an approach towards the development of the Sustainable Finance Hub at International Financial Services Centres.
- ❖ The expert committee will be chaired by C.K. Mishra.
- ❖ C.K. Mishra is the Former Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
- ❖ The committee consists of a total of 10 members including the chairperson and the member secretary.

India's external debt

- ❖ India's external debt stood at \$571.3 billion at the end of June.
- ❖ It recorded an increase of \$1.6 billion over its level at the end of March 2021.
- ❖ However, the external debt to GDP ratio declined to 20.2 per cent at June-end 2021 from 21.1 per cent as of March 31.

National Asset Reconstruction Company



- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) granted the licence to the Rs 6,000 crore National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd. (NARCL).
- ❖ This move will help in starting operations of the bad bank.
- ❖ The NARCL was incorporated in Mumbai in July 2021 after registration with the Registrar of Companies (RoC).
- ❖ The Indian Banks Association has been entrusted with the task to set up the bad bank.

Global FinTech Festival 2021



- ❖ India hosted the 2nd edition of Global FinTech Festival (GFF) 2021.
- ❖ The theme for this year is 'FinTech: Empowering a Global Digital Economy'.
- ❖ GFF 2021 is organised by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and Fintech Convergence Council (FCC) and the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) along with the Payments Council of India (PCI).

Tax Inspectors Without Borders



- ❖ The Tax Inspectors Without Borders has launched its programme in Seychelles.
- ❖ India has been chosen as the Partner Administration for this programme.
- ❖ The country will be providing its Tax Expert in support of the initiative.

Kotak Mahindra Bank



- ❖ Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd (KMBL) has received approval from the government for the collection of direct & indirect taxes through its banking network.
- ❖ They include income tax, Goods and Services Tax (GST) etc.
- ❖ With this, this bank becomes the first scheduled private sector bank to receive this approval.

World Investor Week

- ❖ The International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) launches its fifth annual World Investor Week (WIW) from 4 to 10 October 2021.
- ❖ This is an initiative promoted by the IOSCO.
- ❖ This is to raise awareness about the importance of investor education and protection and highlight the various initiatives of securities regulators in these two critical areas.
- ❖ The key messages of the IOSCO WIW campaign in 2021 will be based on two themes.
- ❖ They are,
 - Sustainable finance and
 - Frauds and scams prevention.



Monetary Policy Committee Announcements

- ❖ The three-membered Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) maintained an accommodative stance and kept the repo rate unchanged at 4 per cent.
- ❖ This is in order to revive & sustain growth and reduce the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- ❖ The monetary Policy Committee has also ensured that inflation remains within the target.
- ❖ The reverse repo rate was also kept as earlier at 3.35 per cent.
- ❖ Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate and bank rate also remain unchanged at 4.25 per cent.
- ❖ This was the eighth consecutive time that RBI has maintained a status quo on policy rate.

Crypto Industry in India



- ❖ The Crypto tech industry is expected to reach \$241 million in India by 2030 and \$2.3 billion by 2026 globally.
- ❖ This is according to a report by Nasscom titled 'Crypto Industry in India' in association with WazirX.
- ❖ According to the report, more than 60% of states in India emerging as crypto tech adopters.
- ❖ The market has the potential to create more than 800,000 jobs by 2030.

Indian economy - World Bank's report



- ❖ The Indian economy is expected to increase by 8.3% in the fiscal year 2021-2022.
- ❖ This is as per World Bank's report titled "Shifting Gears: Digitization and Services-Led Development".
- ❖ In the next financial year, India's economic prospects will be determined by its pace of vaccination against covid-19 and successful implementation of agriculture & labour reforms.
- ❖ India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increased by 20.1% in the first quarter (April-June quarter) of the financial year 2021-22.
- ❖ In the first quarter of the financial year 2020-21, the GDP of India was contracted by 24.4% because of nationwide coronavirus lockdown.

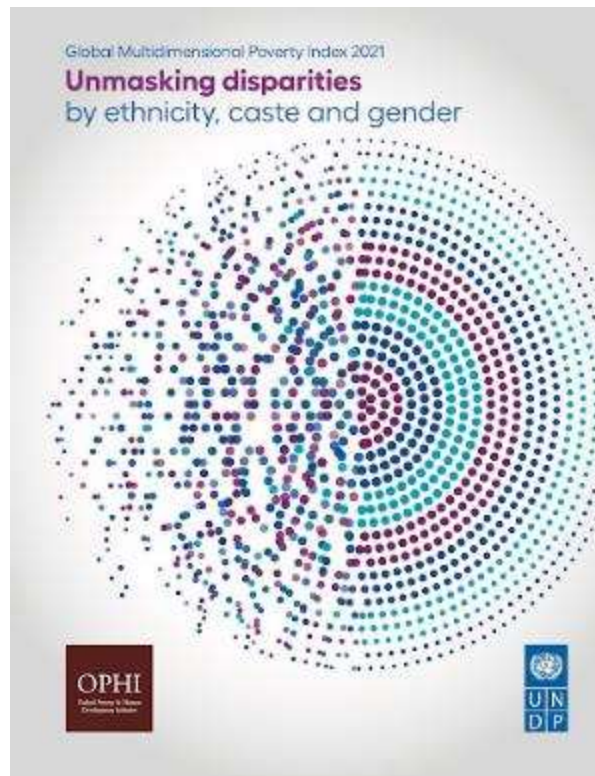
Minimum Corporate Tax

- ❖ 136 countries, including India, agreed to enforce a minimum corporate tax rate of 15% and an equitable system of taxing profits of big companies in markets where they are earned.
- ❖ Big multinationals such as Apple, Alphabet and Facebook, as well as those such as Nike and Starbucks are funnelling profits through low-tax jurisdictions to avoid paying taxes.

- ❖ The new proposal is thus aimed at minimising the opportunities for multinational enterprises (MNEs) to indulge in profit-shifting.

Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2021

- ❖ It was released by “United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)” and “Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative (OPHI)”.
- ❖ This report examines the level and composition of multidimensional poverty across 109 countries covering 5.9 billion people.



Indian Scenario

- ❖ The Scheduled Tribe group in India, which accounts for 9.4 per cent of the population, is the poorest.
- ❖ Out of 129 million people, 65 million are living in multidimensional poverty.
- ❖ Out of 283 million scheduled caste group people, 94 million are living in multidimensional poverty.

Unity Small Finance Bank

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India has granted a banking licence to Unity Small Finance Bank Ltd (USFBL).



- ❖ The bank was established jointly by Centrum Financial Services Ltd (CFSL) and Resilient Innovations Private Limited (BharatPe).
- ❖ It is the first time ever that two partners are uniting equally to build a Bank.

World Economic Outlook

- ❖ It was published by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- ❖ The report improved its growth forecasts of the Latin American and Caribbean economy in the year 2021.
- ❖ According to IMF, the world economy will grow by 9% in 2021.
- ❖ In July 2020, it expected an increase of 6%.
- ❖ The Growth is still conditioned by the prolongation of the covid-19 pandemic.
- ❖ IMF projected the growth rate by 4.9% in 2022.

IndusInd Bank

- ❖ IndusInd Bank has been authorised by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for the collection of Direct and Indirect Taxes, on behalf of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) and the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).
- ❖ With this, its customers will be able to pay their Direct and Indirect taxes through 'Indusnet' and 'Indusmobile' platforms.

Kotak Mahindra Bank - Micro ATMs

- ❖ The private lender Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd has announced the launch of Micro ATMs across the country.
- ❖ The Customers of all banks who possess a debit card can use a Kotak Micro ATM for key banking services such as cash withdrawals and checking account balances.
- ❖ A mini version of an ATM, micro ATMs are small handheld devices.
- ❖ The bank will use its extensive Business Correspondents (BC) network to launch micro ATMs.

Karur Vysya Bank to collect Direct taxes

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India has authorised Karur Vysya Bank (KVB) to collect direct taxes on behalf of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).
- ❖ After obtaining the approval, KVB has started the integration process with the CBDT to collect direct taxes.



- ❖ The integration would enable the bank to allow its customers to remit the direct taxes through any branch/net banking/ mobile banking services (DLite Mobile application).

NABSanrakshan

- ❖ The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has announced the creation of an Rs. 1,000 crore Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for FPOs (CGFTFPO).
- ❖ This is a dedicated fund for providing credit guarantees to FPOs.
- ❖ The fund has been launched under the trusteeship of NABSanrakshan Trustee Pvt Ltd.
- ❖ NABSanrakshan Trustee Pvt Ltd is a wholly-owned subsidiary of NABARD.

Bancassurance partnership

- ❖ Bharti AXA Life Insurance Company Limited (Bharti AXA Life) has entered into a bancassurance partnership with Utkarsh Small Finance Bank.
- ❖ This is to ensure distribution of life insurance products through the bank's network across India.
- ❖ This partnership will enable the Bharti AXA life to reach Tier II and Tier III markets with insurance solutions and increase the reach of insurance in India.

100 Million dollar Credit Facility

- ❖ The HDFC Bank, Mastercard, United States International Development Finance Corporation, and US Agency for International Development (USAID) launched a \$100 million credit facility for MSMEs (Micro Small and Medium Enterprises) in India.
- ❖ The credit facility is part of USAID's global Women Economic Empowerment Fund initiative and its COVID-19 response in India.

AIIB - Annual Meeting

- ❖ The Union Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman has participated in the 6th Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.
- ❖ The theme of the Annual Meeting of AIIB was "Investing Today and Transforming Tomorrow".



- ❖ This year, the meeting was jointly organized by AIIB in collaboration with the Government of the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- ❖ The basic objective of the annual meet is to take key decisions on important matters relating to AIIB, and its future vision.
- ❖ The Finance Minister of India shared her thoughts on the theme “COVID-19 Crisis and Post-COVID Support”.

Cryptocurrency Ownership - Report

- ❖ The Internet users in Nigeria have the world’s highest rates of cryptocurrency ownership.
- ❖ It is followed by Malaysia and Australia.
- ❖ These findings are according to data by comparison firm Finder.
- ❖ Japan ranked lowest in the list.
- ❖ India secured 7th place.
- ❖ About 57% of Indians who own cryptocurrency have invested in Bitcoin, according to the Cryptocurrency Adoption Index 2021.

Elon Musk

- ❖ Tesla Co-founder and CEO Elon Musk have emerged as the richest person in the world.
- ❖ He is the first person headed towards a net worth of \$300 billion.
- ❖ He added \$36 billion to his fortune on October 25, 2021.
- ❖ The Bloomberg Billionaires Index reported it as the largest single-day gain in its Index history so far.




SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Alternative to Corneal transplantation

- ❖ The Indian Institute of technology, Hyderabad (IIT-H) developed a hydrogel from discarded corneas.
- ❖ This can be used as an alternative to Corneal transplantation.
- ❖ The Research team was led by Dr Falguni Pati, an Associate Professor at Department of Bio-medical Engineering at IIT-H.

A RELIEF FROM COMPLEX SURGERY

- The technology can replace some of the complex surgical procedures in ophthalmology
- It was developed using discarded cornea from slaughterhouses and disqualified cornea for transplantation from eye banks
- The processing method is simple and using only eco-friendly and harmless chemicals
- Preclinical studies indicate that the corneal scar for which cadaveric corneal grafting is the only available option currently, can be cured using this hydrogel
- Its potential to treat thinning corneal disorders was also explored with successful outcomes

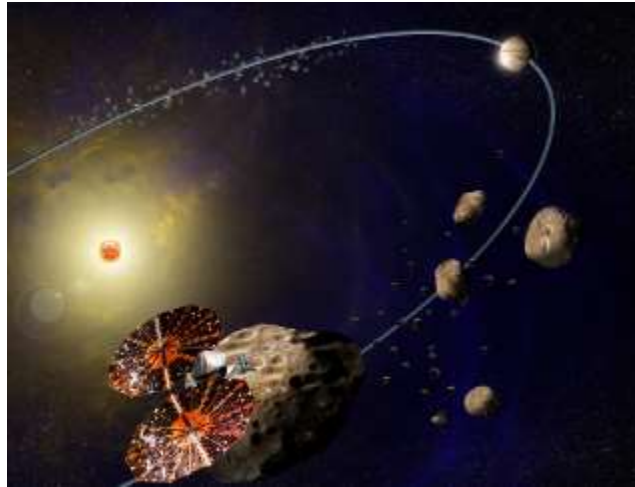


Cost-effective production of hydrogen

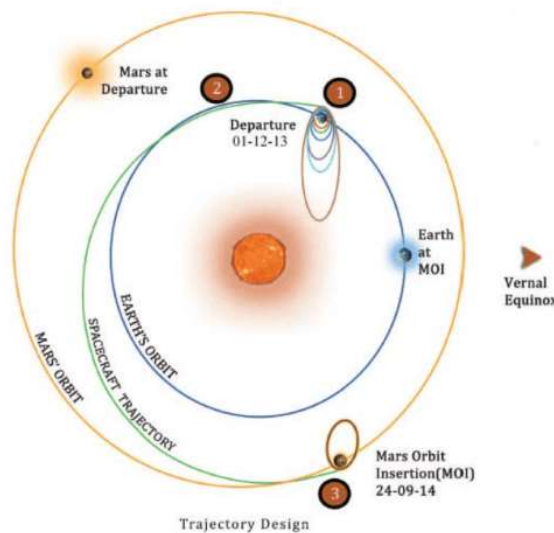
- ❖ The Scientists have, for the first time, developed a large-scale reactor that produces a substantial amount of hydrogen using sustainable sources like sunlight and water.
- ❖ This is a cost-effective and sustainable process.
- ❖ They have used earth-abundant chemical called carbon nitrides as a catalyst for the purpose.

Lucy Mission - First Mission to Trojans

- ❖ NASA will launch its first spacecraft, Lucy, on an Atlas V rocket to study Jupiter's Trojan asteroids.
- ❖ This is to collect insights into the solar system's formation.
- ❖ The mission is named 'Lucy' after an ancient fossil that provided insights into the evolution of the human species.



Mars Orbiter Mission

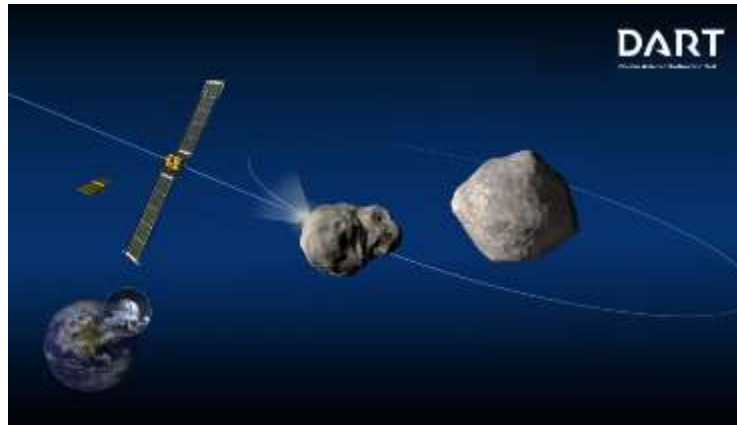


- ❖ India's Mars Orbiter spacecraft has completed seven years in its orbit.
- ❖ This is well beyond its designed mission life of six months.
- ❖ Mars Orbiter Mission is the maiden interplanetary mission of ISRO.
- ❖ Launched on November 5, 2013, the probe was successfully inserted into Martian orbit on September 24, 2014 in its first attempt.

DART spacecraft

- ❖ The American Space Agency, NASA has announced to launch “asteroid-killing Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) spacecraft”

- ❖ The DART mission is based on the idea of developing a defence system against asteroid collisions
- ❖ The spacecraft will be launched, aboard SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket.
- ❖ It will be launched from Vandenberg Space Force Base, California.



World's first Malaria vaccine - Mosquirix

- ❖ The World Health Organization (WHO) endorsed the Malaria Vaccine called "RTS,S/AS01" or mosquirix to use in Africa.
- ❖ RTS,S/AS01 is the world's first vaccine against Malaria.
- ❖ This vaccine was first made in 1987 by the pharmaceutical company GSK.
- ❖ It was tested in a pilot programme in the three African countries - Ghana, Kenya and Malawi.

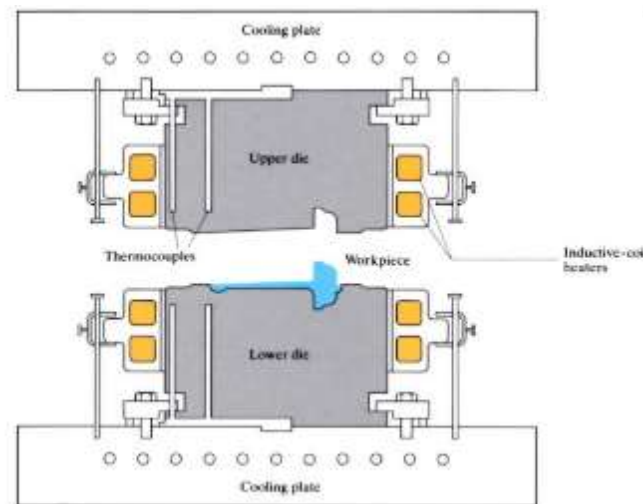


Starscapes

- ❖ Starscapes has launched a public observatory in Uttarakhand.
- ❖ The new observatory 'Stargate Observatory Bhimtal' by Starscapes Experiences Pvt Ltd is situated in Bhimtal.
- ❖ With this, the tourists will witness a holistic astronomical experience.

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.



Pluto's atmosphere

- ❖ The Researchers have found evidence that Pluto's atmosphere is starting to disappear as the dwarf planet moves farther away from the Sun.
- ❖ The icy dwarf planet's atmosphere is mainly made up of nitrogen.
- ❖ The dwarf planet lies in the Kuiper Belt.

Indian Ocean Dipole - prediction

- ❖ A new study from the University of Hyderabad (UoH) claims to have found out decadal prediction skills for the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) to enable monsoon forecast for the next 5-10 years in advance.
- ❖ It was found that the two models show significant prediction skills for up to 10 years.
- ❖ The models are MIROC5 from Japan and CanCM4 from Canada
- ❖ The IOD (also known as the Indian Nino) is an irregular oscillation of sea-surface temperatures.

Signals from outside of Solar System

- ❖ The Low-Frequency Array (LOFAR), the world's most powerful radio antenna located in the Netherlands picked up signals from planets outside of Solar System.
- ❖ For the first time, they detected signals from 19 distant red dwarfs.
- ❖ 4 of which have been recognized to have planets orbiting them.
- ❖ This phenomenon hints towards the presence of hidden planets around these stars.
- ❖ This technique could also answer the question if there is life in or beyond Solar System other than Earth.



Battery Energy Storage System

- ❖ The Central Government has given its approval to invite the expression of interest for installation of the pilot 1000 MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project.
- ❖ This pilot project is the joint effort of the “Ministry of New & Renewable energy” and the Ministry of Power.
- ❖ Both the ministries have been working on this in order to provide a road map for the installation of the energy storage systems in India.
- ❖ This project is to support the ambitious goal of achieving the 450 GW renewable energy target by the Ministry of New & renewable energy by 2030.

Lyocell Fibre

- ❖ The Lenzing Group has partnered with Italy's Orange Fiber to create the lyocell fibre made from orange peels.

- ❖ The Lyocell Fibre is a semi-synthetic fabric that is commonly used as a substitute for cotton or silk.
- ❖ Orange Fibre could help to put citrus waste to use.



Solar observation satellite

- ❖ China launched its first solar observation satellite.
- ❖ It is launched by a Long March 2D rocket from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre in northern Shanxi province.
- ❖ The 550-kg Xihe satellite will monitor the Sun for three years.

Shenzhou-13

- ❖ China launched Shenzhou-13 spacecraft carrying three astronauts on a historic 6-month long mission.
- ❖ The spacecraft was launched aboard a Long March-2F rocket from Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in the northwestern province of Gansu.
- ❖ The spacecraft will dock with the Tianhe module.

Lucy Spacecraft

- ❖ NASA launched the first-of-its-kind mission to study the Trojan asteroids of Jupiter.
- ❖ The space probe is called Lucy.
- ❖ Lucy mission is a 12-year expedition that will study a record number of asteroids.

Treatment for Prostate Cancer

- ❖ The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur team identifies a novel target - DLX1 gene - to treat prostate cancer.
- ❖ The team has discovered that the DLX1 gene has an important role to play in the growth and development of prostate cancer.
- ❖ When the team genetically removed the DLX1 gene that produces the protein, the ability of cancer cells to grow, develop and spread to other parts of the body was compromised.
- ❖ The team has further shown that both androgen receptor and fusion gene product 'ERG' are responsible for increased levels of DLX1 in prostate cancer cells.
- ❖ The team also found that Bromodomain and extra terminal (BET) protein assists the function of both androgen receptor and ERG.

New server chip

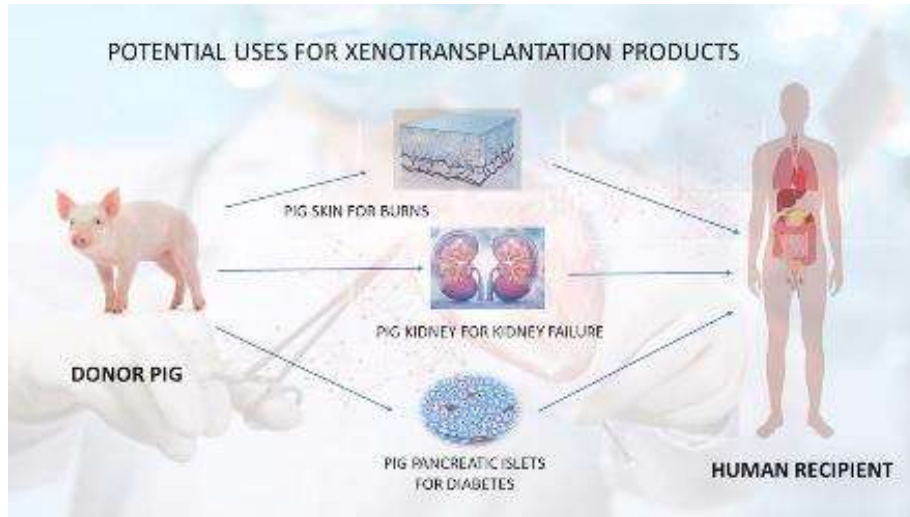
- ❖ Alibaba Group Holding Limited has launched a new server chip on the basis of advanced 5-nanometer technology.
- ❖ This marks a milestone in light of the semiconductor self-sufficiency of China.
- ❖ The newest chip was launched on the basis of micro-architecture provided by SoftBank Group Corporation.



Pig-to-human kidney transplants

- ❖ For the first time, US Medical surgeons successfully attached a kidney from a genetically modified pig to a human patient
- ❖ Scientists got the kidney from a pig genetically engineered so that it wouldn't produce a sugar called alpha-gal.

- ❖ Alpha-gal attacks the human immune system and would trigger the body to reject the organ.
- ❖ The recipient's body didn't immediately reject the kidney.
- ❖ And the kidney functioned normally for the hours it was attached.



NASA DART mission

- ❖ The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is preparing to launch the Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) mission.
- ❖ This is a planetary defence-driven test of technologies to prevent collision of Earth with an asteroid.
- ❖ The mission is scheduled to be launched on November 24, 2021, on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California.



ENVIRONMENT

Rakthamichtys mumba

- ❖ New species of blind freshwater eel has been by four scientists from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI).
- ❖ Eel species was discovered from a well in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- ❖ As per scientists, the eel is a blind freshwater hypogean.
- ❖ This is the first such discovered species from Maharashtra and Northern western Ghats.
- ❖ The species has been named 'Rakthamichtys mumba' to pay tribute to the city it was found in.
- ❖ This is the 5th species from Rakthamichthys genus to have originated from India.

August 2021 - warmest month

- ❖ August 2021 was the 6th warmest month in 142 years.
- ❖ This is as per National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Centre for Environmental Information analysis.
- ❖ The year 2021 was also the 2nd hottest summer on record in Northern Hemisphere.
- ❖ The year 2020 witnessed the hottest summer on record in the Northern Hemisphere.

The State of Climate Services 2021: Water report

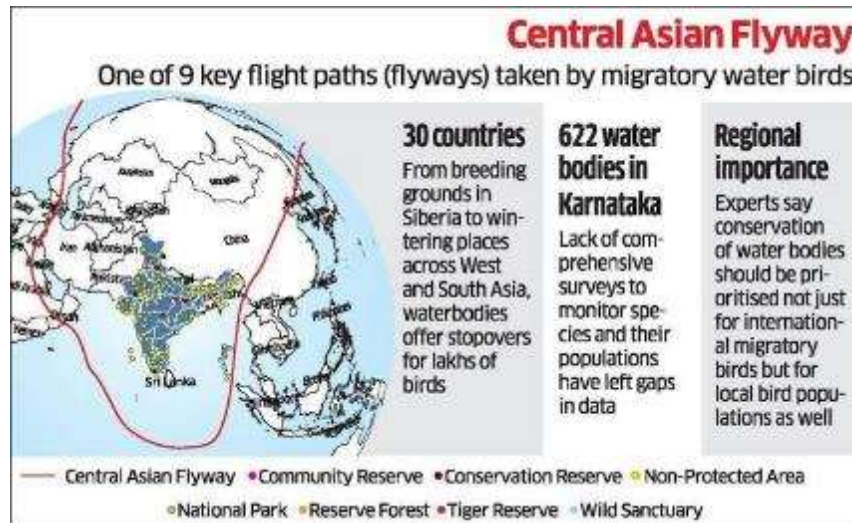


- ❖ The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) released this report.
- ❖ According to WHO, climate change increases the risk of water-related hazards such as floods and droughts.

- ❖ The Climate change will also increase the number of people affected by water scarcity.
- ❖ The report also notes that this situation is worsening as only 0.5 per cent of the water on the Earth is useable and available freshwater.

CAF range countries Meeting

- ❖ A virtual two-day Central Asian Flyway (CAF) range countries' meeting was held recently.
- ❖ A flyway is a geographical region within which a single or a group of migratory species completes its annual cycle.
- ❖ The annual cycle includes breeding, moulting, staging and non-breeding.
- ❖ The Central Asian Flyway (CAF) covers a large area of Eurasia between the Arctic and Indian Oceans.
- ❖ Including India, there are 30 countries under the Central Asian Flyway.



Cyclone shaheen

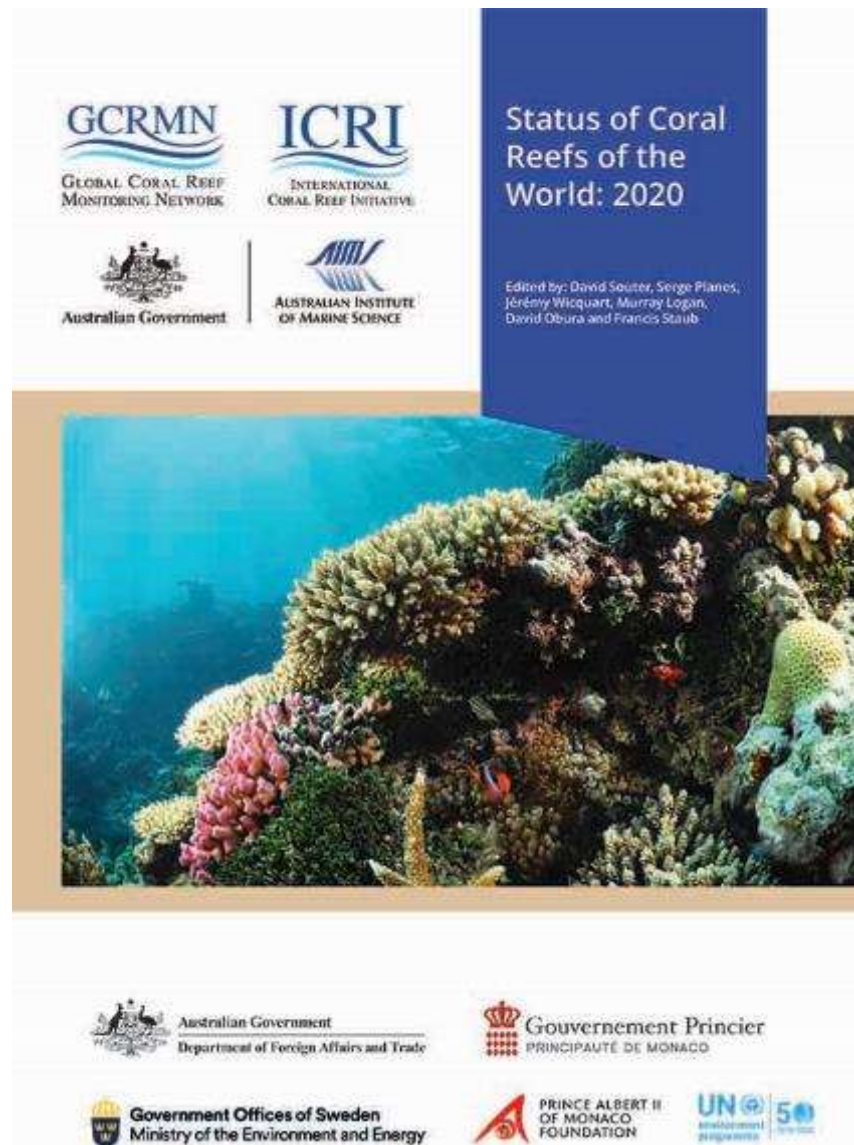
- ❖ Cyclones Gulab and Shaheen were two consecutive tropical cyclones that caused considerable damage to South and West Asia.
- ❖ Gulab impacted eastern India.
- ❖ Shaheen impacted Pakistan, Iran, Oman and the United Arab Emirates.
- ❖ Gulab was the third named storm of the 2021 North Indian Ocean cyclone 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, which the IMD named 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

- ❖ 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.



Climate Financing Goal

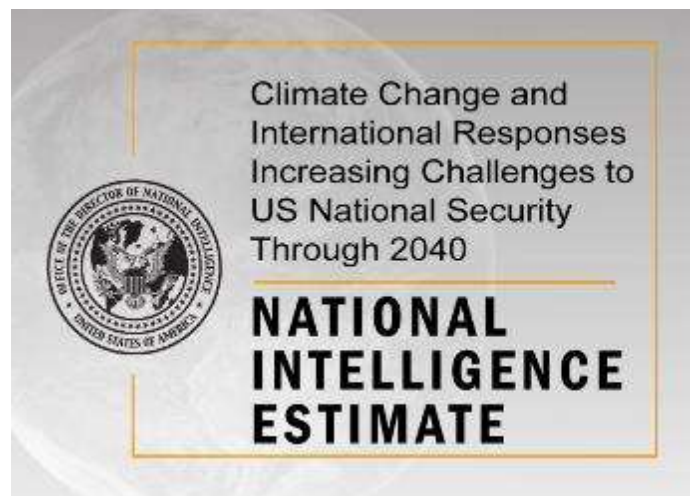
- ❖ The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has announced an increase in its climate financing goals 2019-2030 for developing member countries (DMCs) by \$20 billion to \$100 billion.
- ❖ Earlier in 2018, ADB had announced an \$80 billion goal for climate financing for developing countries in Asia during 2019-2030.
- ❖ The additional \$20 billion in financing support will be used for climate mitigation efforts including low-carbon energy sources, climate adaptation projects and private sector projects.

Emissions related to Crop Burning

- ❖ The Climate tech start-up, Blue Sky Analytics, published its report on emissions related to crop burning.
- ❖ In the report, India has been ranked at the top position.
- ❖ As per the report, India accounted for 13 per cent of total global emissions in the period of 2015-2020.
- ❖ The report notes a 12.2 per cent contribution by India towards the cropland fire emissions in 2020 alone.

National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) on climate

- ❖ The United States categorised India as a 'country of concern' on climate.
- ❖ This was mentioned in its report called "National Intelligence Estimate on climate".
- ❖ This was the first-ever kind of report on climate.
- ❖ It was put together by the US Office of the Director of National Intelligence.



Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change

- ❖ India is one of the five countries in the world whose vulnerable populations had the most exposure to extreme heat over the past five years.
- ❖ India has become 15% more vulnerable to extremes of heat than in 1990.
- ❖ These observations are from the report 'Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change'.
- ❖ This is a flagship report of the medical journal, the Lancet.

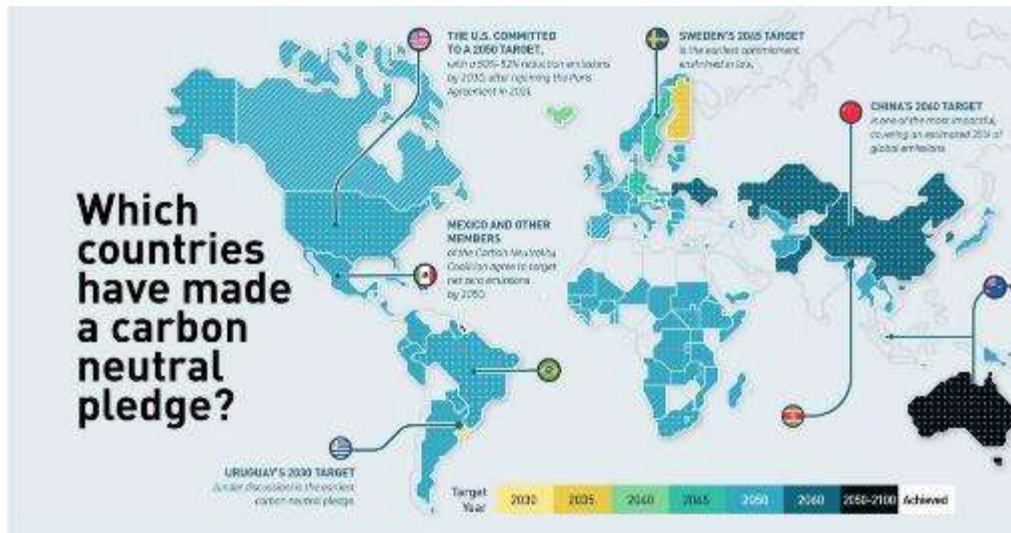


Saudi Green Initiative forum

- ❖ The Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has opened this forum in Riyadh.
- ❖ The Crown prince also announced the accession of Saudi Arabia to the Global Methane Pledge.
- ❖ It is the world's top oil exporter.
- ❖ It aims to reach "net zero" emissions of greenhouse gases by 2060, 10 years later than the United States.
- ❖ The United States, the world's second-biggest emitter, is committed to achieve the net zero by 2050.
- ❖ But China and India, the world's biggest and third-biggest emitters, have not committed to this timeline.
- ❖ The net zero means that it emits no more greenhouse gases than it can capture or absorb.

Zero net carbon emissions - 2050

- ❖ The Australian Cabinet is set to consider conditions that junior coalition partner of government has placed on committing to the target of zero net carbon emissions by 2050.
- ❖ This support is significant for Australia as Prime Minister Scott Morrison wants to take a more ambitious plan for reducing Australia's greenhouse gas emissions
- ❖ This is in the backdrop of the UN summit in Glasgow, Scotland.



State of the Climate in Asia 2020

- ❖ India has suffered an average annual loss (AAL) of around 87 billion USD due to tropical cyclones, floods and droughts.
- ❖ This is according to the State of the Climate in Asia 2020.
- ❖ This first of its kind multi-agency report was published by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).
- ❖ China experienced the highest ALL.
- ❖ It is followed by India and Japan.
- ❖ The highest AAL was associated with drought.
- ❖ Also, Cyclone Amphan hit the Sundarbans region between India and Bangladesh in May 2020 displacing 2.4 million people in India and 2.5 million people in Bangladesh.

Global Climate Tech Investment trend

- ❖ India ranked 9th in the list of top 10 countries for climate technology investment from 2016 to 2021.
- ❖ This is in accordance with the report 'Five years on: Global climate tech investment trends since the Paris Agreement' by London & Partners, and Co.
- ❖ Indian climate tech firms received USD 1 billion in venture capital (VC) funding in this period.
- ❖ The list has been topped by the United States which is followed by China.

STATES

Medical colleges - Rajasthan

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually laid the foundation stone of four new medical colleges in Rajasthan.
- ❖ The medical colleges are based in Banswara, Sirohi, Hanumangarh and Dausa.
- ❖ He also inaugurated the Institute of Petrochemicals Technology (IPT) located in Sitapura, Jaipur.

Alibaug white onion

- ❖ The Alibaug white onion of Maharashtra was given the Geographical Indication (GI) tag recently.
- ❖ It has a unique sweet taste, no-tears factor, as well as its medicinal properties.



Cultivation of cinnamon

- ❖ The CSIR's Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology has introduced cinnamon cultivation in Himachal Pradesh on a pilot basis.
- ❖ With this, HP has become the first state of India to have organized cultivation of cinnamon.
- ❖ True cinnamon or *Cinnamomum verum* is grown mainly in Sri Lanka.
- ❖ Minor producing countries include Seychelles, Madagascar, and India.

Wada Kolam rice

- ❖ A rice variety widely grown in Wada in Maharashtra's Palghar district has got the 'Geographical Indication' (GI) tag.
- ❖ Wada Kolam, also known as Zini or Jhini rice.
- ❖ It is a traditional variety grown in the Wada tehsil of Palghar, with the grain being off white in colour.

Edayur Chilli and Kuttiattoor Mango



- ❖ Edayur Chilli and Kuttiattoor Mango are the latest to receive the Geographical Indication status from the state of Kerala.
- ❖ Edayur chilli has been cultivated for at least 150 years.
- ❖ Kuttiattoor mango is a popular and tasty traditional mango.

Ropeway services - Varanasi

- ❖ Varanasi will soon become the first Indian city to use ropeway services in public transportation.
- ❖ The public transport ropeway is proposed to be constructed from Cantt Railway Station (Varanasi Junction) to Church Square (Godauliya).
- ❖ This is to ease the traffic congestion.
- ❖ India will be the third country in the world after Bolivia and Mexico City to have ropeway services in public transportation.

Fishwaale App

- ❖ The assam minister for Fisheries, Environment and Forest and Excise, Parimal Suklabaidya launched an App Fishwaale.
- ❖ It is India's first e-fish market.
- ❖ It was developed by Aqua Blue Global Aquaculture Solutions Pvt. Ltd. in collaboration with the fisheries department of Assam.



Mission Kavach Kundal

- ❖ The Maharashtra government launched a special 7-day COVID-19 vaccination drive called Mission Kavach Kundal.
- ❖ This is launched with an aim to inoculate 15 lakh, people, every day.
- ❖ The Mission is a part of Central Govt's target to achieve 100 crore vaccinations by October 15.

Bathukamma festival

- ❖ The nine-day floral festival has begun in Telangana.
- ❖ The Bathukamma festival is celebrated during Durga Navratri.
- ❖ Bathukamma festival begins on the day of Mahalaya Amavasya and the festival continues till nine days.
- ❖ It ends on the day of Durgashtami.



Swechha program

- ❖ The Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy has launched the 'Swechha' program.
- ❖ 'Swechha' (meaning freedom) is intended to ensure affordable access to health and menstrual hygiene in adolescent girls and women.
- ❖ The state government will provide good quality branded sanitary napkins to female students at government educational institutions free of cost.

e-voting process - Telangana

- ❖ The Telangana State Election Commission has planned to conduct a dry run of a "Mobile-Based e-voting system".
- ❖ The development of this system is guided by the necessity of holding polls in India amid the Covid-19 pandemic.
- ❖ This system, if successful, will facilitate voting using smartphones from home.
- ❖ The dry run will be held in the Khammam district of Telangana on October 20.
- ❖ It will be India's first smartphone-based e-voting process.




Athirappally hydroelectric project



- ❖ The Kerala government has called off the proposed 163-megwatt Athirappally hydroelectric power project on the Chalakudy river basin in Thrissur district.
- ❖ The Chalakudy River is a tributary of the Periyar River and originates in the Anamalai region of Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The Kadar tribal community has faced continued displacement due to the commissioning of different hydel power projects in the Chalakudy river basin.

Nationwide River Ranching Programme

- ❖ It was recently launched in Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ It was introduced as special activity under the 'Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) scheme.
- ❖ The National Fisheries Development Board, Hyderabad is the nodal agency.
- ❖ Along with Uttar Pradesh, other 4 states namely, Orissa, Uttarakhand, Tripura and Chhattisgarh also participated in this programme.
- ❖ 3 lakhs fingerlings were ranched at 3 sites in UP, namely, Brijghat, Tigri, Meerut, Garhmukteshwar and Bijnor.
- ❖ River Ranching is a form of aquaculture in which a population of a fish species (such as salmon) is held in captivity.



₹20,000 crores for Fishermen through Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)

- Critical gaps in fisheries value chain
- Government will launch the PMMSY for integrated, sustainable, inclusive development of marine and inland fisheries.
- ₹11,000 Cr for activities in Marine, Inland fisheries and Aquaculture
- ₹9000 Cr for Infrastructure - Fishing Harbours, Cold chain, Markets etc.
- Cage Culture, Seaweed farming, Ornamental Fisheries as well as New Fishing Vessels, Traceability, Laboratory Network etc. will be key activities.
- Provisions of Ban Period Support to fishermen (during the period fishing is not permitted), Personal & Boat Insurance
- Will lead to Additional Fish Production of 70 lakh tonnes over 5 years.
- Employment to over 55 lakh persons; double exports to ₹1,00,000 Cr.
- Focus on Islands, Himalayan States, North-east and Aspirational Districts.

Source: Government of India

Ropeway services – Varanasi

- ❖ Varanasi of Uttar Pradesh will become the first city in India to use ropeway services in public transportation.
- ❖ Overall, Varanasi will be the third city in the world after Bolivia and Mexico City to use ropeway in public transportation.
- ❖ The project will be executed on a public-private partnership model.
- ❖ The cost of the project will be divided between the Centre and the state government at 80:20.

Funding units under job scheme – Uttar Pradesh tops

- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh has financed the highest number of units in the country under the Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP).
- ❖ The UP government has facilitated a total of over Rs 123 crore as margin money.
- ❖ It has done through various banks to about 3,588 units under PMEGP.



Kudumba Shree products on online platform

- ❖ The Kerala Government has planned to start an online platform to market and deliver products.
- ❖ The products manufactured by 'Micro, Small and Medium production units including Kudumba Shree will be available on the platform.
- ❖ This plan was announced while inaugurating the "State-level seed capital financial assistance scheme"
- ❖ Under this scheme, assistance will be provided to self-help Groups.
- ❖ The scheme was launched as part of the "Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PMFME) project".

Generating power with stubble

- ❖ Sukhbir Agro Energy Limited biomass power plant in Ferozepur in Punjab is generating electricity using paddy stubble.
- ❖ The initiative by this biomass power plant in Ferozepur has been termed favourable for farmers.
- ❖ The Farmers will be now paid for selling stubble to the plant.

Bhaskarabda

- ❖ Bhaskarabda will be added to the Saka and Gregorian eras in the official calendar of the Assam Government.
- ❖ Bhaskarabda is an era counted from the date of the ascension of a seventh-century local ruler.
- ❖ Bhaskarabda began when Bhaskara Varman was crowned ruler of the Kama Rupa kingdom.
- ❖ Unlike Gregorian, where a day starts at midnight, the Assamese calendar begins and ends at sunrise over 24 hours.
- ❖ The gap between Bhaskarabda and Gregorian is 593 years.

Shri Dhanwantri Generic Medical Store scheme

- ❖ The Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has virtually launched this scheme.
- ❖ This is to provide low-cost generic medicines and enable seamless healthcare services to the vulnerable people of the state.
- ❖ The scheme will be implemented by the Urban Administration and Development Department (UADD).

Rani Chennamma Jayanthi

- ❖ Karnataka celebrated “Kittur Rani Chennamma Jayanthi” on October 23.
- ❖ Kittur Chennamma was born on October 23, 1778.
- ❖ She belonged to the Lingayat community.
- ❖ She led an armed rebellion in the year 1824, against the British East India Company.



Goa's recent achievement

- ❖ Goa has achieved ODF (Open Defecation Free) and Electricity for every household.
- ❖ Goa has also become the first state to provide tap water to every household under the “Har Ghar Jal Mission”.
- ❖ Apart from that, Goa achieved 100 per cent target to provide free ration to the poor and needy.
- ❖ It has also completed 100 per cent first dose of covid-19 vaccination.

Free education scheme

- ❖ The Chief Minister of Haryana, Manohar Lal Khattar, announced a free education scheme in the state.
- ❖ This is to boost the level of education in the state.
- ❖ The scheme has been announced to those whose verified family income is lower than Rs. 1.80 lakh per annum.
- ❖ The announcement was made under Haryana's ‘Super 100 Programme’.



Faizabad Junction

- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh government has decided to rename the Faizabad Junction to Ayodhya Cantt railways station.
- ❖ Opened in 1874, the Faizabad railway station comes under the Northern Railway zone.
- ❖ The BJP government also changed the name of Allahabad to Prayagraj and Mughalsarai railway junction as Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay junction.

Wildlife Action plan - Maharashtra

- ❖ Maharashtra became the first state 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.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

2021 IHA Blue Planet Prize for excellence

- ❖ The 2021 IHA Blue Planet Prize for excellence in sustainable hydropower development has been awarded to the 510-MW Teesta-V hydropower project in India.
- ❖ The project is operated by NHPC Limited.
- ❖ The prize was awarded by the International Hydropower Association (IHA) at the biennial World Hydropower Congress.
- ❖ The Teesta-V project is located on the Teesta River in Sikkim.



Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for science and technology 2021

- ❖ It was announced during the 80th foundation day of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).
- ❖ Every year, CSIR presents this award to scientists below 45 years of age for their contributions in biology, chemistry, mathematics, physics, medicine, engineering and earth, atmosphere, ocean and planetary sciences.
- ❖ The award comprises a cash prize of Rs 5 lakh.



Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize
For Science and Technology



Lieutenant General Gurbirpal Singh

- ❖ He has taken charge as the 34th Director-General of the National Cadet Corps (NCC).
- ❖ He succeeds Lt Gen Tarun Kumar Aich.
- ❖ He was commissioned into the PARACHUTE REGIMENT in 1987.



2021 Yidan Prize

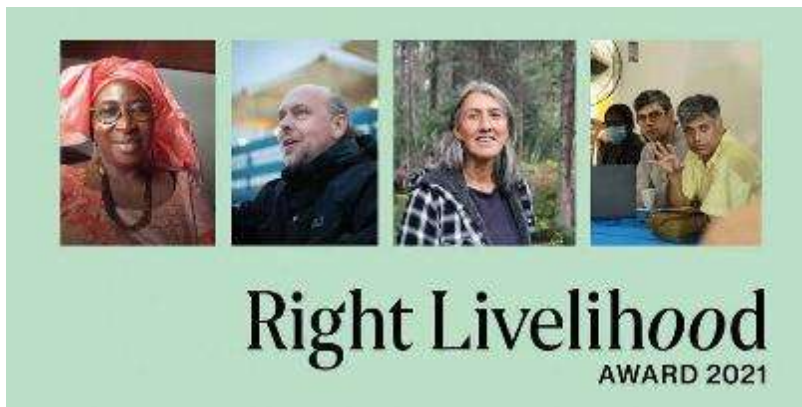
- ❖ Professor Eric A. Hanushek and Dr Rukmini Banerji have been awarded the 2021 Yidan Prize.
- ❖ This prize is considered as the world's highest education accolade.

- ❖ This was awarded in recognition of their ground-breaking work addressing the 'improving quality of education and outcomes for learners at scale'.



Right Livelihood Award 2021

- ❖ The award honours and supports people in solving global problems.
- ❖ The Right Livelihood Award 2021 was conferred to Delhi-based environmental organisation “Legal Initiative for Forest and Environment (LIFE)”.
- ❖ This award is also known as “Sweden’s alternative Nobel Prize”.
- ❖ LIFE has received the award for its “grassroots approach to empower vulnerable communities in protecting their livelihoods and claiming their right for a clean environment.”
- ❖ Other awardees include,
 - Marthe Wandou,
 - Vladimir Slivyak and
 - Freda Huson.



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.

Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi Award

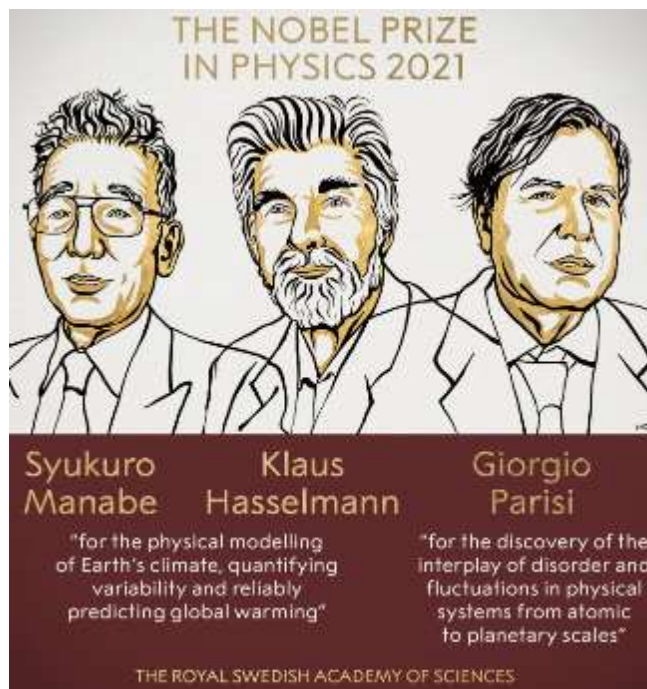


- ❖ The “Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi Award for National Integration and National Contribution 2021” was conferred by Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu.

- ❖ Awards were conferred to “Shillong Chamber Choir”, Assam branch of Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust as well as writer Nirod Kumar Baruah.
- ❖ This award is one of the biggest civilian awards in Assam. It carries a citation along with a cash prize of Rs 5 lakh.
- ❖ Award is conferred in the name of the first chief minister of Assam, Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi.

Nobel Prize in Physics 2021

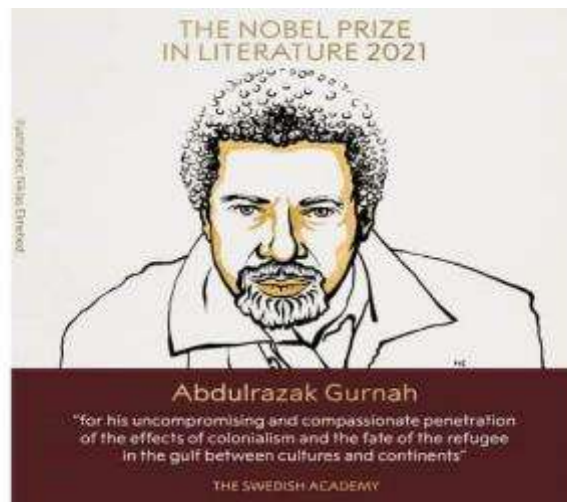
- ❖ Syukuro Manabe, Klaus Hasselmann, Giorgio Parisi jointly won the 2021 Nobel Prize in Physics.
- ❖ This is for their ground breaking contributions to our understanding of complex physical systems.
- ❖ The Nobel Prize in Physics is awarded by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm, Sweden.
- ❖ Syukuro Manabe (Princeton University, USA) and Klaus Hasselmann (Max Planck Institute for Meteorology, Hamburg, Germany) awarded for the physical modelling of Earth’s climate, quantifying variability and reliably predicting global warming”.
- ❖ Giorgio Parisi (Sapienza University of Rome, Italy) was awarded for the discovery of the interplay of disorder and fluctuations in physical systems from atomic to planetary scales.



National Service Scheme Awards 2019-2020

- ❖ The President of India Ram Nath Kovind conferred the National Service Scheme (NSS) Awards for the year 2019-20.
- ❖ The main aim of the NSS awards is to recognize and reward outstanding contributions towards their voluntary service.
- ❖ The National Service Scheme Awards were instituted by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in 1993-94.
- ❖ It was instituted on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee Year of National Service Scheme.

Nobel Prize in Literature 2021



- ❖ The Nobel Prize in Literature 2021 was awarded to Abdulrazak Gurnah of the United Kingdom.
- ❖ It is "for his uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugee in the gulf between cultures and continents."
- ❖ The Nobel Prize in literature is awarded by the Swedish Academy, Stockholm, Sweden.

Daniel Craig

- ❖ James Bond star Daniel Craig has been honoured with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in California.
- ❖ Craig started playing James Bond with 2006's "Casino Royale".
- ❖ Later he reprised the part in "Quantum of Solace" (2008), "Skyfall" (2012) and "Spectre" (2015).

- ❖ The movie “No Time To Die” marks his fifth and final appearance as James Bond.



2021 Nobel Peace Prize

- ❖ The Norwegian Nobel Committee has decided to award it to Maria Ressa and Dmitry Muratov.
- ❖ This is “for their efforts to safeguard freedom of expression, which is a precondition for democracy and lasting peace”.
- ❖ Maria Ressa uses freedom of expression to expose abuse of power, use of violence and growing authoritarianism in the Philippines.
- ❖ Dmitry Muratov has for decades defended freedom of speech in Russia under increasingly challenging conditions.

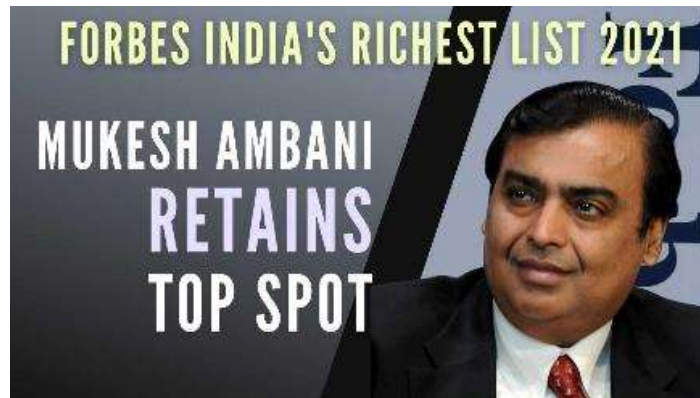
Nobel Peace Prize 2021

 FOR THEIR EFFORTS TO SAFEGUARD
FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION 

	
Maria Ressa Philippines Born in 1963	Dmitry Muratov Russia Born in 1961
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Journalist, co-founded Rappler in 2011, a digital media company for investigative journalism• "Uses freedom of expression to expose abuse of power, use of violence and growing authoritarianism in her native country"	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Journalist, founded Novaya Gazeta in 1993 and has been editor-in-chief since 1995• "Has for decades defended freedom of speech in Russia under increasingly challenging conditions"

Forbes India Rich list for 2021

- ❖ The Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) Chairman Mukesh Ambani has topped the list.
- ❖ The list ranks India's 100 richest Indians.
- ❖ He has retained his position as the wealthiest Indian for the 14th consecutive year on the Forbes India list, since 2008.
- ❖ The second spot has been retained by Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani
- ❖ Shiv Nadar acquired the third spot.



Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank

- ❖ Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB), has bagged two national awards ('APY Big Believers' and 'Leadership capital') for significant enrolment under the Atal Pension Yojana (APY).
- ❖ It received the from the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).
- ❖ KVGB is sponsored by Canara Bank.
- ❖ KVGB is playing a pivotal role in implementing all three social security schemes (PMJJBY, PMSBY and APY) launched by the Central government.



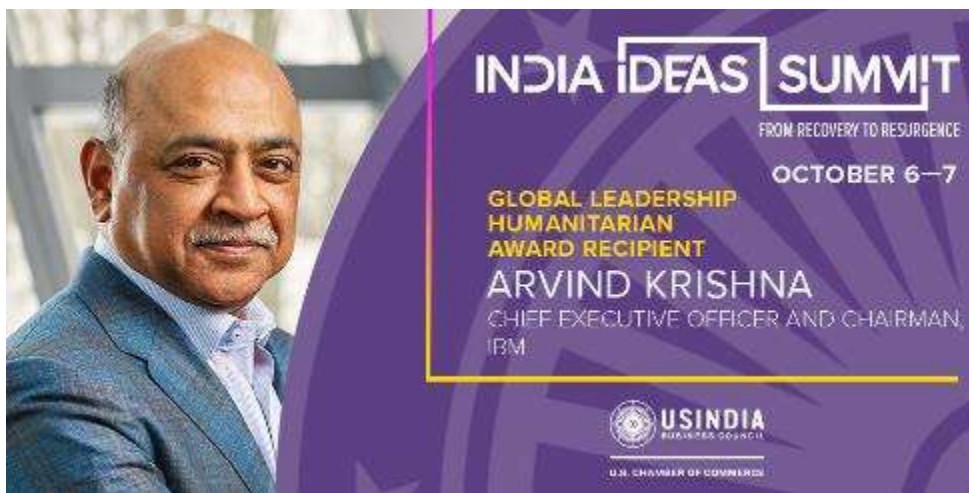


Raja Chari



- ❖ Raja Chari is an Indian American Astronaut who will command NASA-SpaceX's Crew-3 Mission to the International Space Station.
- ❖ NASA-SpaceX's third mission will carry four astronauts - three NASA astronauts Raja Chari, Tom Marshburn, and Kayla Barron and one ESA astronaut Matthias Maurer.
- ❖ The Crew-3 mission will be SpaceX's fifth crewed flight to space and the fourth to the International Space Station.

2021 Global Leadership Humanitarian Awards



- ❖ The US-India Business Council announced to present the 2021 Global Leadership Humanitarian Awards to CEOs of Accenture, IBM and Microsoft.

- ❖ This is in recognition of their strong leadership and contributions towards the Global Task Force on Pandemic Response.
- ❖ Julie Sweet, CEO and chair, Accenture; Arvind Krishna, chairman and CEO, IBM; and Brad Smith, president and vice-chair, Microsoft, would be presented the prestigious award during the India Ideas Summit.

Satyajit Ray Award

- ❖ Telugu filmmaker B Gopal, alias Bejawada Gopal, has been chosen for the fourth Satyajit Ray Award.
- ❖ The award is instituted by the Satyajit Ray Film Society Kerala, a state-based organisation.

Vayalar Award

- ❖ The Malayalam writer Benyamin has bagged the 45th Vayalar Ramavarma Memorial Literary Award for his book “Manthalirile 20 Communist Varshangal”.
- ❖ This award is instituted by the Vayalar Ramavarma Memorial Trust.



Vayalar Award 2021

**Vayalar Award for Benyamin; Manthalirile
20 Communist Varshangal**

Actor Nedumudi Venu passed away

- ❖ National Award-winning actor Nedumudi Venu has 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.

- ❖ He made his debut in films with Thambu, directed by G Aravindan in 1978.



Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence

- ❖ The Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu presented the 22nd Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence.
- ❖ It was presented to the eminent pulmonologist and Director of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Dr Randeep Guleria.
- ❖ He lauded Dr Guleria's devotion to duty and in nurturing the Department of Pulmonary Medicine and Sleep Disorders in AIIMS.



Arun Kumar Mishra

- ❖ The EESL appoints Arun Kumar Mishra as CEO
- ❖ The Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) has announced the appointment of Arun Kumar Mishra as chief executive officer (CEO) on deputation.
- ❖ The EESL is a joint venture of Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Power.
- ❖ He will be responsible for EESL's operations across the nation.



Sajjan Jindal



- ❖ The World Steel Association (WSA) has elected Sajjan Jindal Chairman for the year 2021-22.
- ❖ Sajjan Jindal is the Chairman and Managing Director of JSW Steel Ltd.
- ❖ Jindal is the first representative from India to serve as Chairman of the WSA.

C K Prahlad award

- ❖ Indian American Microsoft CEO, Satya Nadella has won the prestigious C K Prahlad award for Global Business Sustainability Leadership for the year 2021.
- ❖ Apart from Nadella, Microsoft's President and Vice-Chair Brad Smith, Chief financial officer Amy Hood and chief environment officer Lucas Joppa have shared the award for Global Business Sustainability Leadership.

- ❖ The four top Microsoft leaders have received the Award for their collaborative leadership to transform Microsoft into a carbon negative company by 2030 and remove all its historical emissions by 2050.



Prani Mitra 2021

- ❖ S. Chinny Krishna has been conferred with the prestigious 'Prani Mitra' award for 2021 by the Animal Welfare Board of India.
- ❖ He is the co-founder of Blue Cross of India.
- ❖ This is awarded for his lifetime service to animals.
- ❖ Prani Mitra is the country's highest award for animal welfare.

Vegan leather initiative

- ❖ PETA India has decided to confer on Meghalaya Environment Minister James P K Sangma the Progressive Business Concept Award.
- ❖ This is for his plans to produce 'vegan leather' in the north eastern state.
- ❖ Sangma had recently announced that the Meghalaya government plans to produce leather using pineapples.

Henrietta Lacks

- ❖ The Chief of the World Health Organisation honoured the late Henrietta Lacks with the Director-General award.
- ❖ She is an American woman whose cancer cells were taken without her knowledge during the 1950s.
- ❖ The cells provided the foundation for vast scientific inventions, including research about the coronavirus.
- ❖ The 'HeLa' cell line, derived from the first two letters of Henrietta Lacks, helped in the development of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccines.



William Shatner

- ❖ Actor William Shatner became the oldest person ever in space at the age of 90.
- ❖ He is the actor best known as the heroic Captain James T. Kirk in “Star Trek”
- ❖ He travelled the latest excursion over the West Texas desert aboard a rocket built (New Shepard) by Blue Origin.



Tallest living woman



- ❖ Rumeysa Gelgi from Turkey is the tallest living woman in the world.
- ❖ The 24-year-old's height is 7 feet and 0.7 inch.
- ❖ Her condition is due to a disorder called Weaver syndrome.

Eco Oscars

- ❖ An Indian Project, Takachar's Innovation, that recycles agricultural waste into fuel has won the "Prince William's inaugural Earthshot Prize".
- ❖ This Prize is also called as Eco Oscars.
- ❖ Eco Oscars honour people who are trying to save the planet Earth.
- ❖ This award is presented with the aim of providing assistance to and inspires innovative local solutions as the climate crisis is growing globally.
- ❖ Takachar's Innovation is led by Vidyut Mohan.



Martial Arts Education Prize 2021

- ❖ The Prestigious "Martial Arts Education Prize 2021" was conferred to the Kung Fu Nuns of the Drukpa order of Buddhism.
- ❖ The prize was given to them from the UNESCO International Centre for Martial Arts.
- ❖ The Prize recognises the historic "acts of service and championing of gender equality in the Himalayas" by the Kung Fu Nuns.
- ❖ Through martial arts, Drukpa nuns empower young girls with defending themselves, taking leadership roles across their communities and building confidence.

Earth Guardian Award

- ❖ The Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation (PaTCoF) has won the "Earth Guardian Award".

- ❖ The award is instituted by the NatWest Group.
- ❖ PaTCoF is a non-profit organisation under the forest department.
- ❖ It seeks to facilitate the conservation of tigers and biodiversity in the Parambikulam tiger reserve.
- ❖ Parambikulam Tiger Reserve is a protected area in the Palakkad district of Kerala.
- ❖ It was established in 1973.
- ❖ The sanctuary lies in the Sungam range of hills in between Anaimalai Hills and Nelliampathy Hills.

Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award



- ❖ Film directors Martin Scorsese and Istvan Szabo will be honoured with Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award.
- ❖ They will be awarded at the 52nd International Film Festival of India (IFFI).
- ❖ This is to be held in Goa.
- ❖ Also, this is the first time that IFFI has invited major OTT platforms to participate in the international film festival.

Dadasaheb Phalke Award

- ❖ Actor Rajinikanth was honoured with the prestigious 51st Dadasaheb Phalke Award.
- ❖ It was awarded at the 67th National Film Awards ceremony.

- ❖ This is for his contribution as an actor, producer and screenwriter.
- ❖ Instituted in 1969, the award is the highest honour for an artiste in Indian cinema.

67th National Film Awards for 2019

- ❖ Manoj Bajpayee, Kangana Ranaut and Dhanush were conferred with acting honours.
- ❖ Best Feature Film award was given to Priyadarshan's Malayalam period epic named 'Marakkal: Lion of the Arabian Sea'.
- ❖ Best Hindi Film Award was presented to Chhichhore movie, starring the late Sushant Singh Rajput.
- ❖ Vijay Sethupathi and Pallavi Joshi won the supporting actor awards.

2022 Joseph A. Cushman Award

- ❖ Dr Rajiv Nigam has been selected for the 2022 Joseph A. Cushman Award for Excellence in Foraminiferal Research.
- ❖ He is the Former Chief Scientist at CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography.
- ❖ Dr Nigam is the first Indian Citizen to be selected for the prestigious award.
- ❖ He has been chosen for his outstanding lifetime contributions to the field of foraminifera (microfossil) research.





Anita Anand

- ❖ The Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau reshuffled his cabinet.
- ❖ He has appointed Indian-origin Canadian politician Anita Anand as the new Defence Minister of Canada.
- ❖ Anita Anand (54-year-old) will replace Indian-origin Harjit Sajjan.



Peace Prize of the German Book Trade 2021

- ❖ The award has been awarded to the Zimbabwean author and filmmaker Tsitsi Dangarembga.
- ❖ Dangarembga is the first black woman to win the German Peace Prize.
- ❖ She has won the PEN Pinter prize 2021.



SPORTS

T20 World Cup Anthem

- ❖ The International Cricket Council has launched the official anthem of the upcoming T20 World Cup.
- ❖ It was launched along with a campaign film featuring 'avatars' of Indian batting maestro Virat Kohli and West Indies skipper Kieron Pollard.
- ❖ The song is composed by Bollywood music director Amit Trivedi.
- ❖ The tournament will begin on October 17 in Oman and UAE, with the final to be played in Dubai on November 14.



10,000 runs in T20 cricket - Virat Kohli



- ❖ Virat Kohli became the first Indian batsman to notch up 10,000 runs in Twenty20 cricket.
- ❖ This was achieved during his side Royal Challengers Bangalore's (RCB) game against the Mumbai Indians in Dubai.
- ❖ He is also the second man after West Indies' Chris Gayle to reach the landmark in both T20 and one-day international cricket.

First Sports Arbitration Centre of India

- ❖ The Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju inaugurated the country's first "Sports Arbitration Centre of India" in Gujarat.
- ❖ This will serve as an independent body to fast track disputes in the sports sector.
- ❖ The SACI is promoted by Ahmedabad-based SE TransStadia Pvt Ltd.



Asian Table Tennis Championship

- ❖ The Indian men's table tennis team has won a bronze medal at the Asian Table Tennis Championship.
- ❖ Indian team won bronze after losing to South Korea by 0-3 in the semi-finals.
- ❖ The team was assured of winning a medal after beating Iran by 3-1 in the quarterfinals.
- ❖ Both the semi-finalists won a bronze medal.



Smriti Mandhana

- ❖ Smriti Mandhana became the first Indian woman to score a Test hundred on Australian soil.
- ❖ The match was played at the Carrara Oval in Queensland, Australia.
- ❖ She scored 127 runs.



Durand Cup



- ❖ The FC Goa beat Mohammedan Sporting to win their maiden Durand Cup football title, 1-0, in the final.
- ❖ The game was held at Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan, Kolkata.
- ❖ The 2021 Durand Cup was the 130th edition of the Durand Cup.

- ❖ This is the oldest football tournament in Asia.
- ❖ The tournament was held in West Bengal.

Hockey Stars Awards 2020-21

- ❖ Gurjit Kaur won the FIH Women's Hockey Player of the Year at the International Hockey Federation's (FIH) Hockey Stars Awards 2020-21.
- ❖ Harmanpreet Singh won the FIH Men's Hockey Player of the Year.



2024 European Championship logo

- ❖ Germany has unveiled the logo for soccer's 2024 European Championship.
- ❖ The logo features an outline of the Henri Delaunay Cup.
- ❖ 24 slices around the trophy are to represent the 24 teams that will ultimately qualify for the tournament in Germany.



ISSF Junior Championships



- ❖ Young Indian shooter, Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar smashed the world record in the final to win gold in the men's 50m rifle 3 positions event at the ISSF Junior World Championships.
- ❖ International Shooting Sport Federation (IISF) Junior World Championships was held in Lima, Peru.

FIH Stars Awards

- ❖ Indian hockey players swept the 2020-21 edition of the FIH Stars Awards.
- ❖ The following are the winners of the given categories.
 - Goalkeeper of the Year: PR Sreejesh (men) and Savita Punia (women)
 - Rising Star of the Year: Vivek Sagar Prasad (men) and Sharmila Devi (women)
 - Coach of the Year: Graham Reid (men) and Sjoerd Marijne (women)



Men's world Boxing championships

- ❖ Asian medal winners such as Shiva Thapa (63.5kg), Deepak Kumar (51kg) and Sanjeet (92kg) are to participate in the men's world Boxing championships.
- ❖ It is to be held in Belgrade, Serbia.
- ❖ Shiva Thapa, Sanjeet and Rohit qualify for Boxing World Championships after winning gold medals at Nationals.

Anshu Malik

- ❖ Indian wrestler Anshu Malik created history as she became the first Indian women finalist at the World Championship.
- ❖ She is also the first female player from India to claim a silver medal at the 2021 World Wrestling Championships.
- ❖ She won in a 57 kg freestyle bout.
- ❖ Helen Lousie Maroulis of the United States won the gold medal.



Sunil Chhetri

- ❖ Sunil Chhetri has equalled the legendary Pele by making the 77th international goal.
- ❖ 77th goal by Chhetri during the strike helped India to beat Nepal by 1-0.
- ❖ This achievement was made by Chhetri while playing in his 123rd match for India.
- ❖ He is now placed on joint third with Ali Mabkhout from UAE, in the list of highest scorers among active footballers.
- ❖ He is behind Cristiano Ronaldo with 112 goals and Lionel Messi with 79 goals.



Ibha

- ❖ The World football body, FIFA has unveiled the official mascot of the U-17 Women's World Cup India 2022 "Ibha".
- ❖ It is an Asiatic lioness representing women power.
- ❖ The tournament will be held in India from October 11-30 next year.
- ❖ The announcement coincided with the International Day of the Girl Child.
- ❖ Ibha aims to inspire women and girls across India and around the world to realise their potential.



Junior World Championship - Indian Shooters

- ❖ The 2021 International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Junior World Championship Rifle/Pistol/Shotgun was held at Lima in Peru.
- ❖ The Indian shooters claimed a historic win with 43 medals to stand atop the medal table.

- ❖ These included 17 Gold, 16 Silver and 10 Bronze medals.
- ❖ The USA finished second on the medal table with 21 medals including six gold, eight silver and six bronze.



Amy Hunter



- ❖ Ireland's Amy Hunter is the youngest batter to score an ODI century (121 not out) in either men's or women's cricket.
- ❖ She broke the record previously held by India's Mithali Raj.
- ❖ Amy Hunter achieved this feat on her 16th birthday against Zimbabwe.

IPL 2021

- ❖ Chennai Super Kings has defeated Kolkata Knight Riders in the finals to win the 2021 Indian Premier League title.
- ❖ This was the 14th edition of IPL.
- ❖ Harshal Patel (RCB) is awarded the Player of the Tournament.
- ❖ This was the 4th win of Chennai Super Kings in IPL.
- ❖ They had previously won the tournament in 2010, 2011, and 2018.

- ❖ Mumbai Indians team has won the IPL title highest number of times (5 times).



SAFF Championship



- ❖ India beat Nepal, 3-0, to win the 2021 SAFF (South Asian Football Federation) Championship final title.
- ❖ It was held at the National Football Stadium in Male, Maldives.
- ❖ This is the eighth SAFF Championship title claimed by the Indian men's national football team.
- ❖ Previously the team had won the title in 1993, 1997, 1999, 2005, 2009, 2011, 2015.
- ❖ Sunil Chhetri, Suresh Singh Wangjam and Sahal Abdul Samad were the goal scorers for the Indian team in the final.

- ❖ Sunil Chhetri (Captain) is the top scorer in the championship (5 goals).
- ❖ Sunil Chhetri scored his 80th international strike at the championship.
- ❖ He had equalled his score with iconic Lionel Messi.
- ❖ He has now become the second-highest goal-scorer in international football among active players.

Curtis Campher



- ❖ Ireland pacer Curtis Campher became only the third bowler to claim four wickets in four balls in T20Is.
- ❖ This feat was achieved when Ireland beat the Netherlands in their first-round Group A T20 World Cup match.

Honorary Life Membership



- ❖ India's Harbhajan Singh and Javagal Srinath joined 16 other cricketers to receive the Honorary Life Membership of Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC).

- ❖ Harbhajan Singh is India's third-highest wicket-taker in Tests, with 417 wickets in 103 Tests.
- ❖ Srinath is one of the country's greatest ODI players, having taken 315 wickets.
- ❖ He ended his career as India's second-highest wicket-taker in 50-over internationals.

Cross Country Championships

- ❖ The 2022 South Asian Federation Cross Country Championships is scheduled to be held in Kohima, Nagaland.
- ❖ This 56th National Cross Country Championships will also be clubbed with the South Asian Federation Cross Country Championships.
- ❖ This will be the first-ever national athletics event hosted by Nagaland.

FIFA Rankings 2021

MEN			WOMEN		
Rank	Team	Total Points	Rank	Team	Total Points
1	 Belgium	1822.34	1	 USA	2197.29
2	 Brazil	1797.67 ▲	2	 Germany	2073.09
3	 France	1761.77 ▼	3	 France	2038.68 ▲
4	 England	1752.83	4	 Netherlands	2035.49 ▼
5	 Italy	1744.67 ▲	5	 Sweden	2010.52
6	 Argentina	1714.43 ▲	6	 England	1973.98
7	 Spain	1680.44 ▼	7	 Brazil	1971.43
8	 Portugal	1661.51 ▼	8	 Canada	1961.9
9	 Mexico	1658.29 ▲	9	 Australia	1952.01
10	 USA	1647.75 ▲	10	 Japan	1941.74 ▲

- ❖ India has ranked 106th in the FIFA Rankings 2021.
- ❖ After the victory in the SAFF (South Asian Football Federation) Championship 2021 of team India led by Sunil Chhetri, it has secured the 106th position.

- ❖ Under the FIFA Rankings, Belgium is at 1st position.
- ❖ Brazil holds 2nd position and France holds 3rd position,

World's biggest cricket bat

- ❖ Former Indian captain and now Hyderabad Cricket Association president Mohd Azharuddin has unveiled the biggest cricket bat.
- ❖ It is designed by Pernod Ricard India (P) Ltd.
- ❖ The bat measures 56.10 feet, weighs 9-tonnes and is made of poplar wood.
- ❖ This was to convey best wishes to the Indian cricket team and bring back the T-20 World Cup in Dubai.



Fabio Quartararo

- ❖ Fabio Quartararo of France became the “2021 MotoGP World Champion”.
- ❖ Francesco Bagnaia of Italy (Ducati Lenovo Team) secured the second spot.
- ❖ Joan Mir of Spanish (Team Suzuki Ecstar), finished at the third spot.
- ❖ Fabio Quartararo is the sixth-youngest rider to clinch a premier class world title, aged 22 years, 187 days.



IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Older Persons – 01 October

- ❖ The day aims to raise awareness about issues affecting the elderly.
- ❖ It also appreciates the contributions that older people make to society.
- ❖ The theme for this year is 'Digital Equity for All Ages'.

International Coffee Day – 01 October

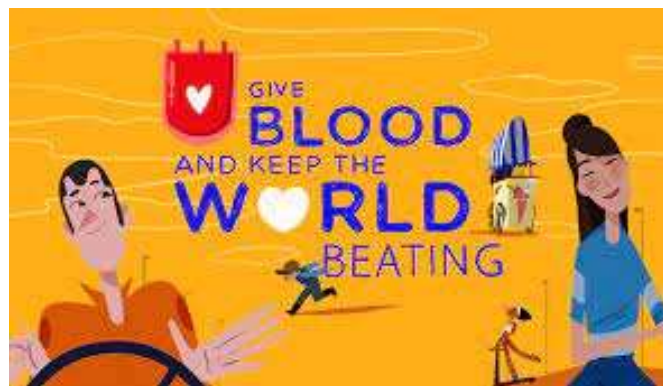
- ❖ The day is to celebrate and promote the use of coffee.
- ❖ The hard work and efforts of these workers and people who are associated with the coffee industry are also recognized on this day.
- ❖ For the first time, International Coffee Day was celebrated back in 2015.

World Vegetarian Day – 01 October

- ❖ The day is globally observed to raise awareness about the ethical, environmental, health, and humanitarian benefits of a vegetarian lifestyle.
- ❖ The full week between October 1–7 is observed as the International Vegetarian Week (IVW).

National Voluntary Blood Donation Day – 01 October

- ❖ The day is celebrated every year across the country.
- ❖ This is to raise awareness about Blood donation and promote voluntary blood donation in the country.
- ❖ The theme for this year's Blood donation event is "Give Blood and keep the world-beating".



The International Day of Non-Violence – 02 October

- ❖ The day is observed on the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly adopted this day on June 15, 2007.
- ❖ This day is observed across the world to give the message of non-violence.

World Farm Animals Day – 02 October

- ❖ The Farm animals are indeed playing a significant role in providing food for humans.
- ❖ World Farm Animals Day is observed to bring in some form of improvements to their lives.

Wildlife Week 2021 - October 02 to 08

- ❖ The first Wildlife Week was observed in 1957.
- ❖ Wildlife Week 2021 marks the 67th Wildlife Week.
- ❖ Theme for this year is 'Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet'



The World Space Week - October 04 to 10

- ❖ The dates commemorate the launch of the first artificial satellite, Sputnik I, on 4 October 1957.
- ❖ This is to celebrate science and technology, and their contribution towards the betterment of the human condition.
- ❖ World Space Week was declared by the United Nations General Assembly on December 6, 1999.
- ❖ The 2021 theme is “Women in Space!”

World Habitat Day - October 04



- ❖ The United Nations designated the first Monday of October as World Habitat Day.
- ❖ In 2021, World Habitat Day is being celebrated on October 04.
- ❖ The theme for 2021 World Habitat Day is “Accelerating urban action for a carbon-free world”.

World Animal Day - October 04

- ❖ The day aims to raise the status of animals and help improve welfare standards across the globe.
- ❖ The day was celebrated for the first time in 1925 by cynologist Heinrich Zimmermann.

World Architecture Day 2021 - October 04

- ❖ The day is celebrated on the first Monday of October in parallel with UN World Habitat Day.
- ❖ This day was created in 1985 by the Union International des Architects.
- ❖ This year’s theme is "Clean Environment for a Healthy World".

World Teachers’ Day – 05 October

- ❖ World Teachers’ Day also, known as International Teachers Day, is held annually since 1994.
- ❖ The Day aims to focus on appreciating, assessing and improving the educators of the world.
- ❖ The Theme for 2021 International Teachers Day is “Teachers at the heart of education recovery”.



Ganga River Dolphin Day – 05 October

- ❖ The day is observed in India to raise awareness and encourage the conservation of Ganga River Dolphins.
- ❖ It was on this day in 2010, that Ganga Dolphins were declared national aquatic animals.
- ❖ The Gangetic Dolphins are included under the First Schedule of Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- ❖ They have been declared “Endangered” under IUCN
- ❖ The Vikramshila Ganges Dolphin Sanctuary was established in Bihar.

National Pension System Diwas – 01 October

- ❖ India celebrated the first-ever National Pension System (NPS) Diwas on 1st October 2021.
- ❖ This is to promote pension and retirement planning for a carefree ‘azad’ retirement.
- ❖ NPS Diwas is a campaign of the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority.



Mental Health Awareness Campaign Week - October 05 to 10

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare is observing the “Mental Health Awareness Campaign Week”.
- ❖ It starts on October 5, 2021, and will culminate on October 10, 2021.
- ❖ October 10 is also marked as the “World Mental health Day”.
- ❖ The Mental Health Awareness Campaign Week is being observed in India with the aim of encouraging people’s participation in breaking the stigma associated with Mental Disorders.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month 2021 - October 01 to 31

- ❖ Every year the Breast Cancer Awareness Month is observed in the month of October, from 01 to 31.
- ❖ The annual international health campaign aims to increase awareness of the disease.
- ❖ It also aims to raise funds for research into its cause, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure.
- ❖ The pink ribbon is an international symbol of breast cancer awareness.

World Cotton Day – 07 October

- ❖ The international day aims to celebrate the advantages of cotton, ranging from its qualities as a natural fibre to the benefits people obtain from its production, transformation, trade and consumption.
- ❖ The initiative of World Cotton Day was born in 2019.
- ❖ The four cotton producers in sub-Saharan Africa – Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali, proposed World Trade Organization a World Cotton Day celebration on October 7.
- ❖ These countries are known as the Cotton Four.



World Financial Planning Day 2021 – 06 October

- ❖ Every year on the first Wednesday in October is celebrated as World Financial Planning Day.
- ❖ This year it falls on October 6th.
- ❖ The day is held to raise awareness about the importance of financial planning.
- ❖ The first World Financial Planning Day was held on October 4, 2017.
- ❖ The Financial Planning Standards Board (FPSB) hosts the day.
- ❖ Every year, the FPSB partners with the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO).



World Egg Day 2021 – 08 October

- ❖ The World Egg Day is celebrated worldwide on the 'Second Friday of October' month each year since 1996.
- ❖ This year's World Egg Day will take place on Friday 8 October.
- ❖ It marks the 25th anniversary of the event.
- ❖ The theme for 2021 World Egg Day is "Eggs for all: Nature's perfect package".

Indian Air Force Day - 08 October

- ❖ The day is celebrated every year by the Indian Air Force.
- ❖ This year Indian Air Force celebrated its 89th anniversary.
- ❖ Indian Air Force was officially established on 8 October 1932 by the British Empire as the Royal Indian Air Force.
- ❖ The name was changed to Indian Air Force in 1950.



Rapid Action Force Raising Day – 08 October

- ❖ Rapid Action Force (RAF) was created as a specialised wing of CRPF in 1992.
- ❖ It is tasked to tackle riot and riot-like situations that too with promptness and less application of physical force.
- ❖ It is popularly known as Zero - time response Force.
- ❖ RAF has been acting in accordance with its own tagline 'Serving Humanity with Sensitive Policing.'

World Migratory Bird Day 2021 – 09 October

- ❖ Every year, World Migratory Bird Day is officially celebrated twice a year since it started in 2006.
- ❖ Firstly it is held on the Second Saturday of May and again on the Second Saturday of October.
- ❖ In 2021, the WMBBD fell on May 08, 2021, and October 09, 2021.
- ❖ The theme for 2021 WMBD is "Sing, Fly, Soar – Like a Bird!"



World Post Day – 09 October

- ❖ The purpose of World Post Day is to create awareness of the role of the postal sector in people's and businesses' everyday lives.
- ❖ The theme of 2021 World Post Day is "Innovate to recover."

Indian Foreign Service Day – 09 October



- ❖ On October 9, 1946, the Indian Foreign Service was established for India's diplomatic, consular and commercial representation overseas.
- ❖ The IFS Day is celebrated on 9 October every year since 2011.
- ❖ This is to commemorate the day the Indian Cabinet created the IFS.

National Postal Day - October 10

- ❖ In India, the day is celebrated annually as an extension of World Post Day, which is celebrated on 9 October.
- ❖ The Day aims to commemorate the role played by the Indian postal department.
- ❖ It was founded in 1854 by Lord Dalhousie
- ❖ The 6-digit PIN system was introduced by Shriram Bhikaji Velankar, an additional secretary in the Union Ministry of Communications on 15 August 1972.

World Mental Health Day - October 10

- ❖ The objective of World Mental Health Day is to raise awareness of mental health issues around the world and to mobilize efforts in support of mental health.
- ❖ The theme for World Mental Health Day 2021 is 'Mental health in an unequal world'.
- ❖ World Mental Health Day was first observed on October 10, 1992.



World Day Against the Death Penalty - October 10

- ❖ It is a day to advocate for the abolition of the death penalty and to raise awareness of the conditions and the circumstances which affect prisoners with death sentences.
- ❖ The theme for 2021 is "Women Sentenced to Death: An Invisible Reality."
- ❖ The day was first organised by the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty in 2003.
- ❖ 2021 marks the 19th World Day Against the Death Penalty.

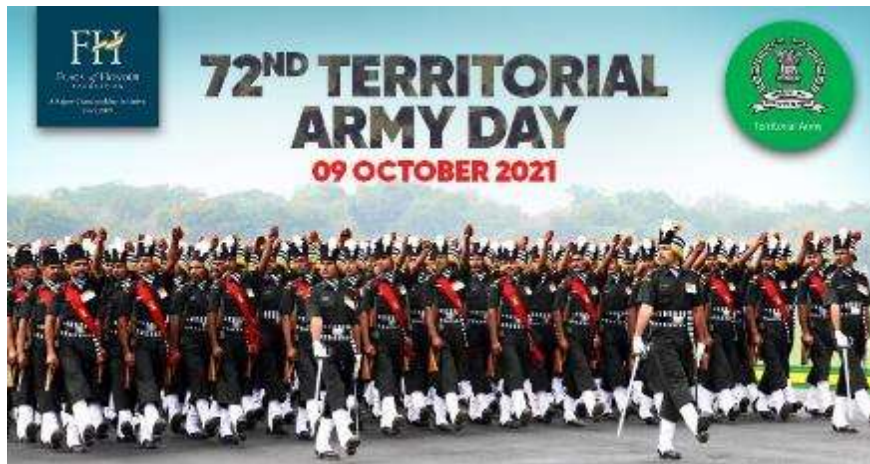
WOMEN SENTENCED TO DEATH: AN INVISIBLE REALITY

International Day of the Girl Child - October 11

- ❖ The International Day of the Girl Child (also known as Day of Girls and the International Day of Girls) is observed annually since 2012.
- ❖ This international observance day was declared by the United Nations.
- ❖ It is to raise awareness of issues facing girls internationally surrounding education, nutrition, child marriage, legal and medical rights.
- ❖ The theme for 2021 International Day of the Girl Child is “Digital generation. Our generation”.

72nd Territorial Army Day – 09 October

- ❖ India’s first Governor General C Rajagopalachari formally inaugurated the Indian Territorial Army on October 9 in 1949.
- ❖ Territorial Army comes under the Defence Ministry.



World Hospice and Palliative Care Day – 09 October

- ❖ It is an annual unified day of action to celebrate and support hospice and palliative care around the world.
- ❖ The theme of this year is "Leave no-one behind - equity in access to palliative care".



World Arthritis Day – 12 October

- ❖ It is to spread awareness about the existence and impact of rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases.
- ❖ "Arthritis" is an umbrella term that encompasses the common disabling disorders that primarily or secondarily affect joints.
- ❖ This year the theme of the day is 'Don't Delay, Connect Today: Time2Work'.



International Day for Disaster Reduction - October 13

- ❖ 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 reigning in the risks that they face.
- ❖ The theme for 2021 is “International cooperation for developing countries to reduce their disaster risk and disaster losses”.



International E-Waste Day – 14 October



- ❖ The day is celebrated every year since 2018.
- ❖ It is to promote the correct disposal of e-waste throughout the world with the aim to increase re-use, recovery and recycling rates.
- ❖ 2021 is the fourth edition of the International E-Waste Day.
- ❖ This year's International E-Waste Day will focus on the crucial part each of us has in making circularity a reality for e-products.
- ❖ The theme for 2021 IEWD is “Consumer is the key to Circular Economy!”
- ❖ The day was developed in 2018 by the WEEE Forum.

World Sight Day 2021 – 14 October

- ❖ World Sight Day is an annual day of awareness held on the second Thursday of October.
- ❖ This year it falls on October 14.
- ❖ It is to focus global attention on vision impairment, including blindness.
- ❖ The theme for this year is 'Love Your Eyes'.

World Standards Day – 14 October



- ❖ The World Standards Day or International Standards Day is observed globally every year.
- ❖ The day aims to raise awareness about the importance of standardisation to the global economy among consumers, regulators and industry.
- ❖ World Standards Day 2021 theme is “Standards for sustainable development goals – shared vision for a better world”.
- ❖ The First World Standards Day was celebrated in 1970.

The International Day of Rural Women – 15 October

- ❖ The day recognizes the crucial role of women and girls in ensuring the sustainability of rural households and communities, improving rural livelihoods and overall well-being.
- ❖ In India, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare observes the day as the Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas since 2016.
- ❖ This is to increase the active participation of women in agriculture.
- ❖ This International Day, under the theme “Rural women cultivating good food for all”.

World Student's Day 2021 – 15 October

- ❖ The day is celebrated in honour of the birth anniversary of the former president of India, Late Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.
- ❖ Since 2010, the United Nations Organisation (UNO) has marked this day in an attempt to acknowledge the efforts of Dr Kalam toward education and his students.
- ❖ The current year's (2021) theme of World Students' Day is "Learning for people, planet, prosperity and peace".



World White Cane Day – 15 October

- ❖ It is observed in order to celebrate the achievements of people, who won against their physical limitations in sight and still achieving success,
- ❖ The white cane is the most easily recognized symbol of a visually impaired person around the globe.

Global Hand washing Day – 15 October

- ❖ The Global Hand washing Day was observed across the world in order to raise awareness and develop better understanding on the importance of hand hygiene in keeping people safe and healthy.
- ❖ Theme of the year 2021 is "Our Future is at Hand - Let's Move Forward Together."





World Food Day – 16 October

- ❖ It is celebrated across the globe to eradicate worldwide hunger from our lifetime.
- ❖ The World Food Day also commemorates the date of the founding of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in 1945.

World Anesthesia Day – 16 October

- ❖ The World Anaesthesia Day is also known as National Anaesthesia Day or Ether Day.
- ❖ The World Anaesthesia Day commemorates the first successful demonstration of ether anaesthesia on 16 October 1846.
- ❖ Anesthesia was introduced by an American dentist, Sir William Morton.

International Day for the Eradication of Poverty – 17 October

- ❖ The UN General Assembly had declared this day in 1992.
- ❖ It aims to raise awareness about people living in poverty.
- ❖ This year's theme is "Building forward together: Ending Persistent Poverty, Respecting all People and our Planet."



World Statistics Day – 20 October

- ❖ The day is observed to highlight the achievements of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics.
- ❖ The celebration of World Statistics Day 2021 is a global collaborative endeavour, organized under the guidance of the United Nations Statistical Commission.
- ❖ The first World Statistics Day was celebrated on 20 October 2010

- ❖ In 2015, the day was marked once again, with the theme of “Better data, better lives.”
- ❖ In 2015, it was also decided to mark the occasion every five years.
- ❖ In 2020, the theme for the third World Statistics Day was “Connecting the world with data we can trust”.



World Osteoporosis Day (WOD) – 20 October

- ❖ The day aims to raise global awareness of the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis and metabolic bone disease.
- ❖ The day is organized by the International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF).
- ❖ In 2021, the Global WOD Campaign theme is “Serve Up Bone Strength”.

International Chefs Day – 20 October



- ❖ The day aims to celebrate and honour the noble profession and educate people around the world about eating healthy.
- ❖ The theme of the International Chefs Day 2021 campaign is Healthy Food for the Future.
- ❖ International Chefs Day was created by Dr Bill Gallagher.

National Solidarity Day – 20 October

- ❖ The National Solidarity Day is observed every year on October 20 in India.
- ❖ The day is observed in our country to honour the Armed forces, who guard our extensive borders.
- ❖ On October 20th of 1962, China started attacking India and the Sino-Indian War started.



NATIONAL SOLIDARITY DAY OCT 20

Celebrated every year to remember the national integrity shown by Indians on the occasion in defeat at Sino-Indo war against China.

OCT 20 1962 The war began when **People Liberation Army of China** attacked **India** at the **Himalayan borders in Ladakh and Arunachal** simultaneously.

The war lasted for 3 weeks and one day till **21 November 1962** in which

	Indian army 10,000 SOLDIERS	India lost 3250 SOLDIERS		Chinese Army 80,000 SOLDIERS	China lost 722 SOLDIERS
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1966 A prestigious committee constituting **PM Indira Gandhi** and other dignitaries dedicated **20th October** as **National Solidarity Day** annually as a reminder of **Indo-China war**.

Police Commemoration Day – 21 October





- ❖ The National Police Commemoration Day is observed every year on October 21, in India.
- ❖ This day is dedicated to the sacrifices of ten policemen, who died in a Chinese firing in the year on October 21, 1959.
- ❖ The National level Police Commemoration Day Parade is held at the Police Memorial, Chanakyapuri, since the year 2012.

World Iodine Deficiency Day – 21 October

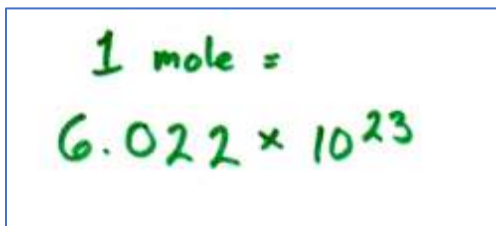
- ❖ Iodine is stored in the thyroid gland of our body and is an essential dietary mineral.
- ❖ It is important for our body as it helps in the production of thyroid hormones thyroxine (T4) and triiodothyronine (T3).

International Stuttering Awareness Day – 22 October

- ❖ This day is observed every year since 1998.
- ❖ The day is intended to raise public awareness of the millions of people who have a speech disorder of stuttering or stammering.
- ❖ Theme of 2021 is “Speak the change you wish to see”.



Mole Day – 23 October



- ❖ Every year mole day is celebrated which is popular amongst all chemistry enthusiasts.



- ❖ This day is marked to commemorate and honour the Avogadro's number.
- ❖ The celebration of this day happens from 6:02 a.m. to 6:02 p.m. commemorating the chemistry is measuring unit.
- ❖ This occasion aims to make the students interested in chemistry and its concepts.
- ❖ The theme for the occasion is inspired by the mascot - A Mole.
- ❖ This year the theme is Despica Mole Me.

World Energy Day – 22 October

- ❖ The World Energy Day is an initiative endorsed by Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the then Prime Minister of the UAE, during the World Energy Forum in Dubai in 2012.
- ❖ The World Energy Day is one of the UAE's contributions to the world to achieve sustainable development.
- ❖ The 2021 World Energy Day (WED) Conference was held at Kampala in Uganda.



International Snow Leopard Day – 23 October

- ❖ The day is observed since 2014.
- ❖ The day commemorates the anniversary of the Bishkek Declaration.
- ❖ It is also observed to raise awareness for its conservation and protection.
- ❖ It was on October 23, 2013, when political leaders from 12 countries came together to endorse the 'Bishkek Declaration on the conservation of snow leopards.
- ❖ Snow Leopard is found in 12 countries.
- ❖ They are India, Nepal, Bhutan, China, Mongolia, Russia, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

United Nations Day – 24 October

- ❖ This year will mark this intergovernmental organisation's 76th year since the foundation.
- ❖ The day marks the anniversary of the day when the UN Charter entered into force in 1945.
- ❖ This year's UN Day Concert held under the theme "Building Back Together for Peace and Prosperity".
- ❖ It was sponsored by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations.
- ❖ The name 'United Nations' was coined by former United States President Franklin D Roosevelt.
- ❖ It currently has 193 member states.
- ❖ In 1953, Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, sister of Jawaharlal Nehru, became the first woman President of the Un General Assembly.

World Development Information Day - 24 October

- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly in 1972 established this Day to draw the attention of the world to development problems.
- ❖ This year's theme is Action for Sustainable Development Goal.



World Polio Day – 24 October

- ❖ It was established by Rotary International to commemorate the birth of Jonas Salk.
- ❖ He led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis.



- ❖ The theme of this year's World Polio Day is “One Day. One Focus: Ending Polio – delivering on our promise of a polio-free world”.
- ❖ Poliomyelitis is an infectious disease that affects children under the age of 5.
- ❖ India was declared polio-free in 2014.
- ❖ The 'Pulse Polio' programme of India was started in 1995 with an aim towards 100% eradication of the disease.
- ❖ The pulse immunization' using Oral Polio Vaccine was conducted in Vellore in 1981.
- ❖ Vellore is the first Indian town to be polio-free
- ❖ The very last polio case was reported in West Bengal's Howrah district in 2011.
- ❖ The last stronghold of this poliovirus is in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

The International Day of Diplomats – 24 October

- ❖ The day aims to commemorate the contributions made by diplomats in shaping the world since ancient times and in making our planet a better place.
- ❖ It also aims to bridge the gap in perception and reality of diplomats' lives among the general public.
- ❖ The first International Day of Diplomats was celebrated in Brasília on 24 October 2017.
- ❖ The day was proposed by Indian poet-diplomat Abhay K.

International Artists' Day – 25 October

- ❖ 25th October marks the celebration of International Artists' Day around the globe.
- ❖ This is to honor artists and their contribution to society.
- ❖ The day also pays homage to Pablo Picasso.

The World Day for Audiovisual Heritage – 27 October

- ❖ The World Day for Audiovisual Heritage is a key initiative for both UNESCO and the Coordinating Council of Audiovisual Archives Associations.
- ❖ This is to honour audio-visual preservation professionals and institutions that safeguard our heritage for future generations.
- ❖ The day was chosen to raise awareness of the significance and preservation risks of recorded sound and audiovisual documents.



- ❖ The theme of the World Day for Audiovisual Heritage 2021: “Your Window to the World”.



Indian Army 75th Infantry Day – 27 October

- ❖ This year nation celebrates its 75th Infantry Day.
- ❖ Infantry Day is celebrated as a remembrance of the first military event of independent India.
- ❖ It was when the First Battalion of the Sikh Regiment of Indian Army fought battle to accomplish victory over the first attack on the Indian soil by the Pakistan Army and Lashkar invader on October 27, 1947.
- ❖ The battle was in the Kashmir valley.
- ❖ The infantry is the largest fighting arm of the Indian Army.
- ❖ It is popularly known as the “Queen of the Battle”.

Disarmament Week 2021 - October 24 to 30

- ❖ Disarmament Week is observed annually to promote awareness and understanding of the issues of disarmament in several countries.
- ❖ The week aims to reduce the use of weapons, specifically nuclear weapons, to bring peace to society.



Vigilance Awareness Week 2021 - October 26 to November 01

- ❖ The Vigilance Awareness Week 2021 has been organised by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC).
- ❖ The annual event is celebrated during the week in which the birthday of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel falls, which is held on October 31.
- ❖ The theme of Vigilance Awareness Week 2021: 'Independent India @75: Self Reliance with Integrity'.



International Animation Day – 28 October

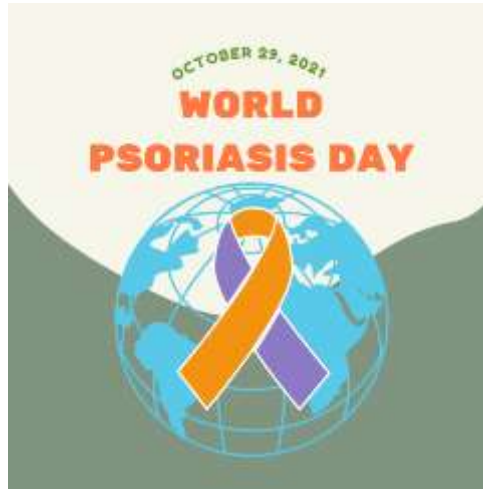
- ❖ The day is observed every year to celebrate the art of animation and also recognise the artists, scientists and technicians behind animation.
- ❖ This year marks the 20th International Animation Day.
- ❖ The day was created in 2002 by the International Animated Film Association (ASIFA).

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

- ❖ World Stroke Day was established by the World Stroke Organization.
- ❖ 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

- ❖ 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
- ❖ Global MIL Week 2021 is hosted by South Africa and co-organised by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).
- ❖ The theme of 2021 Global MIL Week is “Media and Information Literacy for the Public Good”.



World Savings Day – 30 October

- ❖ It is also called World Thrift Day.
- ❖ It is observed to promote the thought of savings to the worldwide public and its relevance to the economy and the individual.
- ❖ This day was established in the year 1934 during the 1st International Savings Bank Congress in Milan, Italy.

World Cities Day – 31 October

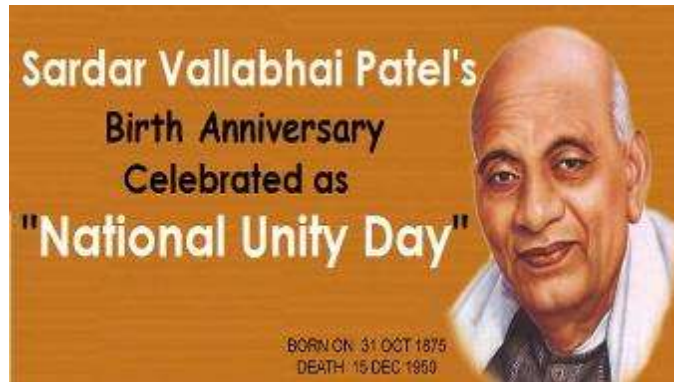


- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly designated this Day in 2013.
- ❖ The Day is expected to greatly promote the international community's interest in global urbanization.
- ❖ It pushes the forward cooperation among countries in meeting opportunities addressing challenges of urbanization and contributing to sustainable urban development around the world.



- ❖ The global theme of World Cities Day 2021 is “Adapting cities for climate resilience”.
- ❖ It is organized by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat).

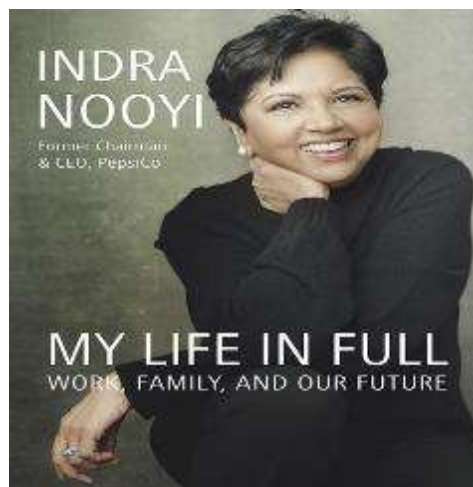
National Unity Day – 31 October



- ❖ It is the annual celebration that marks the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- ❖ It is also known as Rashtriya Ekta Diwas.
- ❖ This celebration was first started in 2014 to mark the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

MISCELLANEOUS

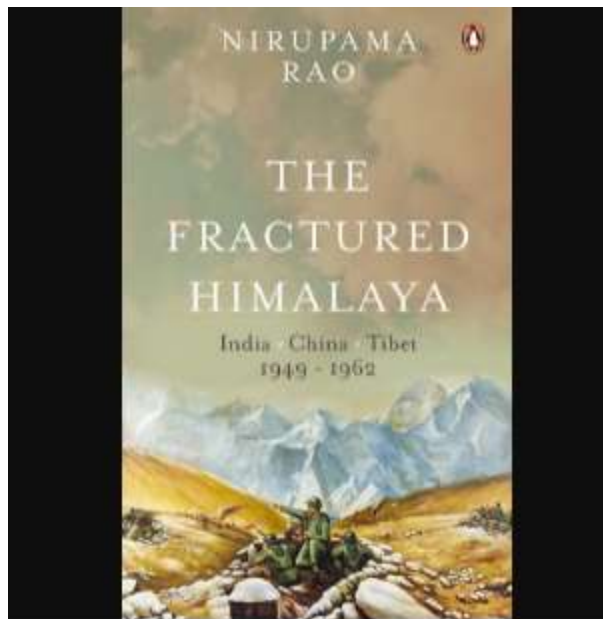
My Life in Full book



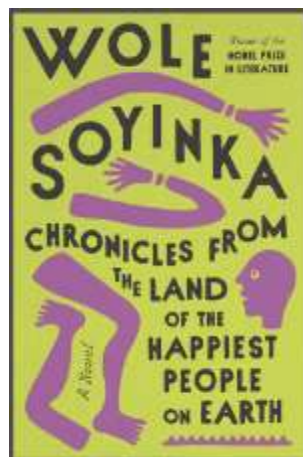
- ❖ In her book, *My Life in Full: Work, Family and our Future*, Indra Nooyi focuses on the importance that organisational support plays in working women's lives.
- ❖ The book was published by Hachette India.

The Fractured Himalaya book

- ❖ A book titled "The Fractured Himalaya: How the Past Shadows the Present in India-China Relations", authored by Nirupama Rao.
- ❖ The book traces how the origins of the dispute between India and China form part of a living history that shapes their fractious relationship today.
- ❖ Nirupama Rao is a former Foreign Secretary.



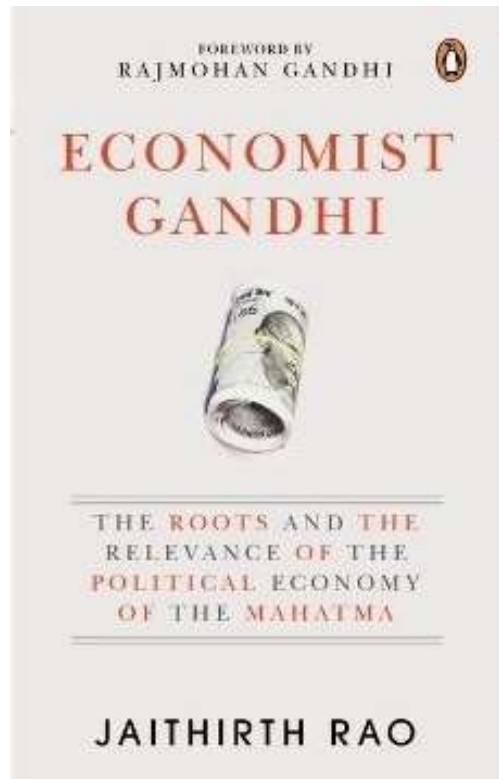
Wole Soyinka's new book



- ❖ A novel titled “Chronicles from the Land of the Happiest People on Earth” authored by Wole Soyinka has been released.
- ❖ Wole Soyinka is Africa’s first Nobel laureate in Literature.
- ❖ He wrote his last novel “Season of Anomy” in 1973.

Jaithirth Rao's new book

- ❖ The Indian Entrepreneur and writer Jaithirth Rao have come out with a book on Mahatma Gandhi.
- ❖ He is popularly known as Jerry Rao.
- ❖ It is titled as “Economist Gandhi: The Roots and the Relevance of the Political Economy of the Mahatma”.
- ❖ Jaithirth Rao is the founder and former CEO of the software company Mphasis.



Mercer Global Pension Index - 2021

- ❖ Mercer Consulting has released the 13th edition of the Mercer Global Pension Index (2021 MCGPI).
- ❖ India has been ranked at 40th position out of 43 countries in the 2021 Mercer CFS Global Pension Index survey.



- ❖ In 2020, India was ranked at 34th position out of 39 pension systems.
- ❖ Iceland has topped this ranking.
- ❖ It was followed by the Netherlands and Norway.
- ❖ India had an overall index value of 43.3.
- ❖ Thailand had the lowest overall index.



Writing for My Life

- ❖ "Writing for My Life", an anthology of author Ruskin Bond, has been released.
- ❖ It contains some of the most exemplary stories, essays, poems and memories of Ruskin Bond.
- ❖ This anthology has been released 25 years after the first anthology of Bond titled, "The Best of Ruskin Bond".

HOOTE

- ❖ Superstar Rajinikanth has launched "HOOTE", a voice-based social media app.
- ❖ His daughter Soundarya Vishagan has co-founded with Amtex CEO Sunny Pokala.
- ❖ The platform provides a sixty-second live voice recording option or uploading a recorded voice.

