

October - 25

NATIONAL

Bharat Ki Lakshmi initiative

- ❖ This Diwali, Deepika Padukone and sports star PV Sindhu carried the torch for PM Modi's 'Bharat Ki Laxmi' initiative.
- ❖ #BharatKiLaxmi was launched on social media by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the 57th episode of 'Mann ki Baat' to honour women and empower them.
- ❖ The 'Bharat Ki Lakshmi' campaign is aimed at honouring daughters, who have made a mark with their achievements in various fields for public good.

Drone Innovators Network

- ❖ Drone Innovators Network Summit 2019 was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ It was organized by the World Economic Forum under the aegis of the Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- ❖ India is one the few countries to come out with drone regulations.
- ❖ India's Directorate General of Civil Aviation issued Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR), effective 1 December, 2018 for drones.
- ❖ As per the regulations, manufacturers of drone are required to comply with the requirements of No Permission, No Take-off (NPNT) on the Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS).
- ❖ These regulations (CAR Version 1.0) only permit operations of drones during daytime Visual Line of Sight.
- ❖ DigiSky is a portal for registration and flying of civil drones in India.

17th Meeting of Maritime States Development Council

- ❖ The Ministry of Shipping organized 17th Meeting of Maritime States Development Council at New Delhi.
- ❖ The Ministry of Shipping is working on a plan to develop a National Grid for Ports based on synergy between the Major and Minor ports in the country.
- ❖ It has been said that there are 204 Minor ports in the country, of which only 44 are currently functional.
- ❖ India has 12 major ports which are controlled by Ministry of Shipping.
- ❖ The 204 minor ports are controlled by the states.

Skills Training Centres

- ❖ Union Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Minister Mahendra Nath Pandey has said that 14 Authorized World Skills India Training Centres (AWSITC) will be set up across 9 cities for media and entertainment sector.
- ❖ These cities are Chandigarh, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Indore, Mumbai, Pune, Shillong and Trivandrum.
- ❖ This year was India's best ever performance in the biennial WorldSkills competition held at Kazan, Russia.
- ❖ The 48-member Indian team won one Gold, one Silver, two Bronze medals besides 15 Medallions of Excellence at the competition.

National Blindness & Visual Impairment Survey India 2015-2019

- ❖ The report looks at district-wise prevalence of blindness and visual impairment.
- ❖ The survey randomly identified 31 districts with a sample size of about 93,000, among whom 18,000 were less than 50 years of age.
- ❖ The report found that the prevalence of blindness is highest among those who are at least 80 years old (11.6%).
- ❖ Untreated Cataract is the leading cause of blindness in people above 50 years.

PREVALENCE OF BLINDNESS, AGE 50 OR MORE

LOWEST 5

Thrissur (Kerala)	1.08
North Goa	1.13
Khera (Punjab)	1.15
Virudhunagar (TN)	1.18
Thoubal (Manipur)	1.23

HIGHEST 5

Bijnor (UP)	3.67
Warangal (Telangana)	3.47
Nalbari (Assam)	3.03
Guna (MP)	2.98
Sikar (Rajasthan)	2.81

National Coordination Centre (NCC)

- ❖ The Central Government is planning to create a National Coordination Centre (NCC).
- ❖ It will function as a databank on Maoists' core strongholds and cadres, and as a synergy point for intelligence gathering and anti-Maoist operations.
- ❖ It will also utilise the experience and knowledge of retired police officers who have served in anti-Maoist operations in areas of Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Chhattisgarh.
- ❖ According to the Government, the number of Maoist-affected police stations has significantly come down in comparison to the situation 10 years ago and the number of police stations affected with violence has also gone down from a peak of 465 police stations to 250.

Committee of Administrators (CoA) comes to an End

- ❖ The Supreme Court signalled the end of its monitoring of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).
- ❖ The Committee of Administrators (CoA) was put in place by the Supreme Court in 2017 to run BCCI and implement reforms suggested by the Justice RM Lodha panel.
- ❖ The Committee of Administrators was headed by former CAG Vinod Rai.
- ❖ He is here to look after the administrative duties of the board until the fresh elections are called.
- ❖ It also includes Ramachandra Guha, Vikaram Limaye and Diana Edulji as its members.

Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav

- ❖ The 10th edition of Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav was recently organised by the Ministry of Culture in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ It was conceived in 2015 to showcase the rich cultural heritage of the country in varied dimensions in one place - Handicrafts, Cuisine, Painting, Sculpture and Performing Arts-Folk, Tribal, Classical and Contemporary.
- ❖ It will cover a profusion of folk-artforms from 22 States.
- ❖ It was launched under EkBharat Shrestha Bharat initiative under Ministry of Human Resource and Development.



- ❖ Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat was launched in 2016 to promote bonding amongst the people of different States/UTs and diverse cultures, thereby securing unity and integrity of India.
- ❖ Each year, every State/UT would be paired with another State/UT in India for reciprocal interaction between the people.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Automated Real-Time Performance Smart-board

- ❖ The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) unveiled an Automated Real-Time Performance Smart-board for effective monitoring of the key programmes of the government including Digital India, Aadhaar, Digital Payments, etc.
- ❖ The performance of the Smart-board is aimed to be single window access for the Central govt., State govt. or District for specific projects implemented by MeitY.
- ❖ The smart-board is in line with PM's vision for a New Digital India.
- ❖ During an event to celebrate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the IT minister Ravi Shankar Prasad also unveiled the 'Digital Charkha', an art installation at the IT Ministry.
- ❖ Digital Charkha is an amalgamation of the traditional design with a digital spin.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Sankaralinganar Day – October 13

- ❖ In 1952, Potti Sreeramulu demanded a separate state for Telugu speaking people with Madras as its capital.
- ❖ He went on hunger strike with his demand, and later died during his fasts.
- ❖ The Government of India formed a separate state and reorganised states in 1956 based on linguistic lines.
- ❖ After reorganisation, Tamil speaking people became the majority in Madras State.
- ❖ Sankaralinganar started a hunger strike on 27 July 1956 in Virudhunagar, with twelve demands which included Madras State to be renamed Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ After 76 days of fasting, he died on 13 October 1956.
- ❖ The name officially changed to Tamil Nadu on 14 January 1969 by an amendment in the Parliament of India.



- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Government built a memorial dedicated to Sanakralinganar in Virudhunagar in 2015.

