

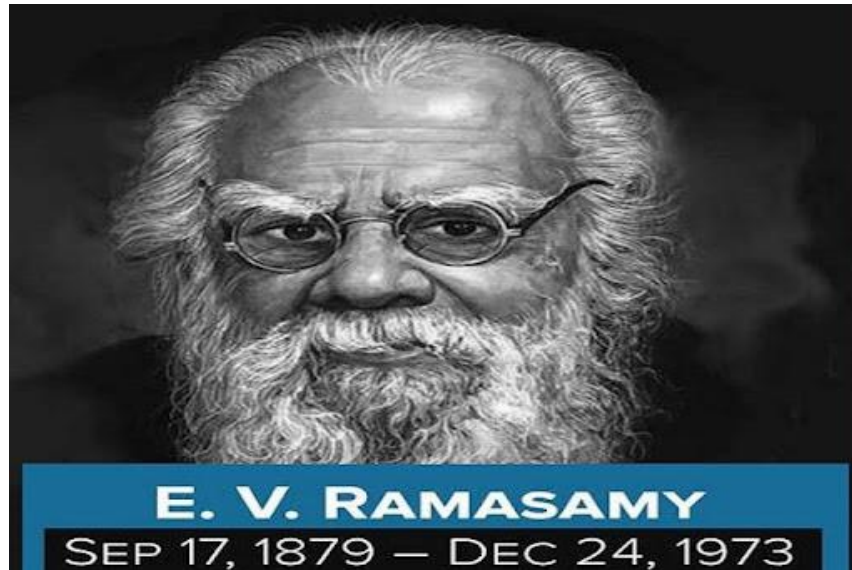
September - 21

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ MyGov India has launched the “Planetarium Innovation Challenge” for Indian start-ups and tech entrepreneurs.
- ❖ Two wildfires in California are burning through the Sequoia National Park.
 - The Sierra Nevada of USA is home to the world’s largest tree.
- ❖ Nagaland’s first and India’s 61st Software Technology Park of India (STPI) centre was inaugurated at Kohima.
- ❖ Hungary has unveiled the statue of Bitcoin founder Satoshi Nakamoto in Budapest.
- ❖ NITI Aayog has partnered with BYJU’S to provide free access to education to students in 112 Aspirational Districts in India.
- ❖ Yahoo appointed Tinder’s Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Jim Lanzone as yahoo’s new CEO.
- ❖ Captain Amarinder Singh of Congress resigned as the Punjab chief minister.
- ❖ The 6th BRICS Young Scientist Forum was hosted by the Department of Science and Technology of India in collaboration with the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru.
- ❖ The Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited has decided to commission India’s largest floating solar photovoltaic plant in Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ India has set an ambitious target of 175 GW capacity of Renewable Energy by 2022 and 450 GW of Renewable Energy by 2030.
- ❖ Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) became the second Indian company to cross the \$200-billion market capitalisation mark.
 - In 2020, Reliance Industries (RIL) was the first Indian company to cross that milestone.
- ❖ DBS Bank has been named (4th Consecutive time) the world's best bank by the UK-based financial publication Euromoney.
 - The Singapore-headquartered DBS bank was also named the world's best digital bank.

TAMIL NADU

Social Justice Day



- ❖ Tamil Nadu Government celebrated the 143rd birthday of E.V. Ramasamy Periyar as Social Justice Day on 17th September.
- ❖ The Chief Minister M.K. Stalin administered the social justice pledge to Government staff at the Secretariat.

Ravi – Governor of Tamilnadu



- ❖ The Chief Justice of the Madras High Court Justice Sanjib Banerjee administered the oath of office to RN Ravi.

- ❖ He is the 15th Governor of Tamilnadu since 1969.

Palmyra Development Mission



- ❖ Chief minister Stalin launched this Mission.
- ❖ The Speaker Appavu donated one lakh palm seeds for promoting this
- ❖ Palmyra is the state tree of Tamilnadu.
- ❖ Under the scheme, 76 lakh palm seeds and one lakh palm saplings would be distributed to farmers with cent per cent subsidy by the Agriculture Department
- ❖ It will be planted on the bunds of lakes and ponds.
- ❖ As part of the mission, research on palm trees will be undertaken in govt agriculture college in Killukulam in Thoothukudi district.

Francis Kiruba



- ❖ It aims to empower non-Brahmins and securing the space due to them in administration and politics.
- ❖ B.R. Ambedkar had sought Political reservation for Dalits before the Southborough Committee in 1919.
- ❖ In 1928, Muthiah Mudaliar, the then Education Minister under the Subba Rayan Government, introduced the Communal G. O. to implement the 1921 order.

NATIONAL

Surya Kiran

- ❖ Exercise Surya Kiran between Indian Army and Nepali Army is commenced at Pithoragarh of Uttarakhand.
- ❖ It is 15th Edition of Indo – Nepal Joint Military Training.



World's largest expressway

- ❖ The Delhi-Mumbai Expressway will be the world's largest expressway in India.
- ❖ It will be 1,380-km long and 8-lane wide.
- ❖ It will run through Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Haryana, and Delhi.
- ❖ It will be the first expressway that will have wildlife corridors (5 corridors).



Justice delivery at doorstep

- ❖ The Ministry of Law and Justice has launched a Pan-India Special Campaign called “Ek Pahal Drive” for Justice Delivery at doorstep.
- ❖ It was launched by Department of Justice and National Legal Services Authority (NALSA).
- ❖ It is to encourage mass registration under Tele-Law.

Gupta Period Inscriptions

- ❖ The Archaeological Survey of India discovered remains of an ancient temple dating back to the Gupta period in a village in Uttar Pradesh’s Etah district.
- ❖ The discovery becomes significant since only 2 other structural temples from the Gupta age have been found so far.
- ❖ They are Dashavatara Temple (Deogarh) and Bhitargaon Temple (Kanpur Dehat).
- ❖ The Guptas were the first to build structural temples, distinctly different from the ancient rock-cut temples.

Reforms in Urban Planning Capacity

- ❖ The NITI Aayog launched a report on measures to ramp up urban planning capacity in India.
- ❖ India is home to 11% of the total global urban population.
- ❖ By 2027, India will surpass China as the most populous country in the world.
- ❖ The report recommends a Central Sector Scheme ‘500 Healthy Cities Programme’, for a period of 5 years.

- ❖ Under this priority cities and towns would be selected jointly by the states and local bodies.



NCC Committee

- ❖ The Ministry of Defence has constituted a High-Level Expert Committee, for a comprehensive review of the National Cadet Corps (NCC).
- ❖ Baijayant Panda will be the Chairperson of the Committee.
- ❖ It will also include Cricketer MS Dhoni and Mahindra Group Chairman Anand Mahindra as members.
- ❖ The NCC is the largest uniformed organisation.
- ❖ It aims at developing character, discipline, a secular outlook and ideals of selfless service amongst young citizens.



Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana

- ❖ It has been launched by the Central Government under the aegis of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana.
- ❖ Under the programme, entry-level training will be provided to the youth in industry-relevant skills through Railway Training Institutes.
- ❖ Skill training will be provided to 50,000 candidates over a period of three years.



75
Azadi Ka
Amrit Mahotsav #RailKaushalVikasYojana

RAIL
KVVY

**Rail Kaushal Vikas
Yojana (RKVY)**

Training in four industry relevant trades Fitter | Machinist |
Electrician | Welding

NIELIT



- ❖ The union minister of state for electronics & information technology, Rajeev Chandrasekhar, inaugurated three National Institute of Electronics & Information Technology (NIELIT) centres of northeast states.
- ❖ These were inaugurated in Churachandpur district of Manipur, Kokrajhar and Tezpur districts of Assam.

INTERNATIONAL

CPTPP – China

- ❖ China has applied to join the Asia-Pacific Free Trade grouping or Comprehensive & Progress Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).
- ❖ CPTPP was originally the Trans-Pacific Partnership promoted by the former American President Barack Obama.

- ❖ Donald Trump had pulled out the group in 2017.
- ❖ The current President of US Joe Biden has not yet re-joined the group.
- ❖ China was not included in the initial group.
- ❖ CPTPP is a trade agreement among 11 countries namely, Australia, Brunei, Chile, Canada, Japan, Mexico, Malaysia, Peru, New Zealand, Singapore, and Vietnam.

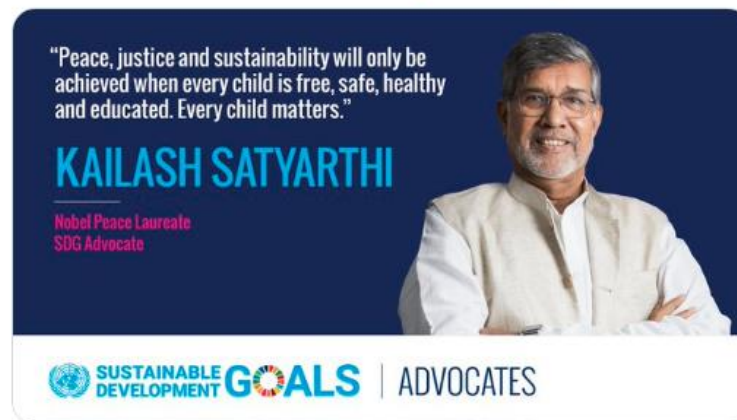


Kailash Satyarthi



SDG Advocates  @SDGAdvocates · Sep 18

Our new SDG Advocate, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate [@k_satyarthi](#) is a tireless advocate of children's rights, working to end child labour and ensuring that no child is left behind. unsdgadvocates.org

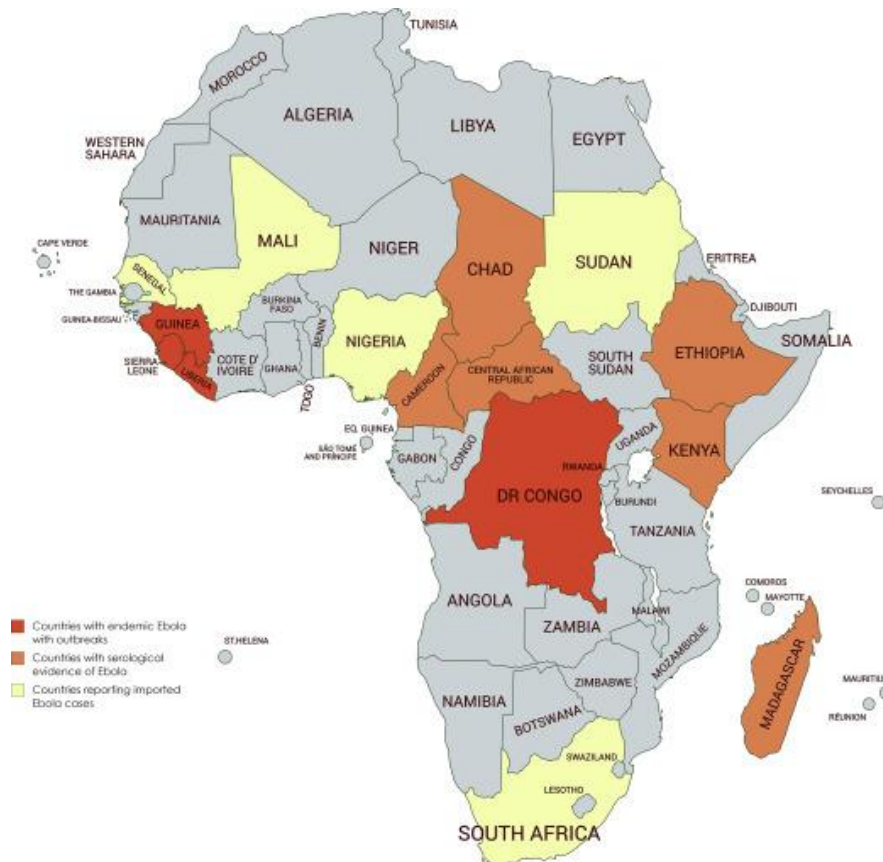


- ❖ The Indian Nobel Laureate Kailash Satyarthi was appointed as Sustainable Development Goals Advocate by the United Nations

- ❖ Microsoft President Brad Smith, STEM activist Valentina Munoz Rabanal and K-pop superstars BLACKPINK has also been appointed as new SDG advocates.
- ❖ They will be integral to advancing the 2030 agenda for sustainable development.

Ebola

- ❖ Jean-Jacques Muyembe held that Ebola has been defeated.
- ❖ He is the Congolese epidemiologist who discovered the Ebola virus in 1976
- ❖ It was discovered at Yambuku in the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- ❖ It was named Ebola after a river close to Yambuku.



A Multi-Billion-Dollar Opportunity: Repurposing agricultural support to transform food systems

- ❖ This report was launched by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).

- ❖ It estimates that 87 percent of growing producer supports are harmful to 2030 agenda.



A MULTI-BILLION-DOLLAR OPPORTUNITY

Repurposing agricultural support to transform food systems



ICAO

- ❖ Shefali Juneja from India has become the first woman Chairperson of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Aviation Security Committee.
- ❖ India has taken up the responsibility of the Aviation Security Committee after a gap of 12 years.
- ❖ Juneja is the first woman to lead this strategic committee.
- ❖ ICAO is a specialized United Nations agency headquartered at in Quebec, Canada.

- ❖ It is funded by 193 countries.



ECONOMY

Food delivery under GST

45th meeting of GST Council

Swiggy, Zomato to collect 5% GST on deliveries, food not to get dearer

There would be no extra tax burden on the end consumers taking food delivery from restaurants.



The illustration shows a delivery person in a green uniform and helmet riding a green scooter. A sign above the scooter reads 'DELIVERY ONLY'. The background is a stylized cityscape with buildings and a checkered pattern.

- ❖ E-commerce operators Swiggy & Zomato will come under GST regime.
- ❖ They are now required to pay GST on restaurant service supplied through by them.
- ❖ It is because tax is charged at point of delivery.
- ❖ Earlier, restaurants used to pay the tax.

‘Doing Business’ rankings

- ❖ The World Bank Group has decided to discontinue the publication of its ‘Doing Business’ rankings of country business climates.
- ❖ In August 2020, the World Bank found a number of irregularities were reported regarding changes to the data.
- ❖ The irregularities in Doing Business reports had affected four countries.
- ❖ They are China; Saudi Arabia; United Arab Emirates; and Azerbaijan.



‘Bad bank’ setup

- ❖ The government has set up two new entities to acquire stressed assets from banks and then sell them in the market.
- ❖ To make it work, the government has okayed the use of Rs 30,600 crore to be used as a guarantee.
- ❖ The NARCL-IDRCL structure is the new bad bank.
- ❖ The “National Asset Reconstruction Company Limited” (NARCL) has already been incorporated under the Companies Act.
- ❖ It will acquire stressed assets worth about Rs 2 lakh crore from various commercial banks in different phases.
- ❖ Another entity is India Debt Resolution Company Ltd (IDRCL).
- ❖ Bad Bank are set up to resolve the problem of bad loans which are impacting the public sector banks.



Central Government
guarantee to back
Security Receipts
issued by
National Asset
Reconstruction
Company Limited
(NARCL) for acquiring
of stressed loan assets



India's 1st Euro Green Bond

- ❖ Power Finance Corporation Ltd (PFC) has issued its first Euro 300 million 7-year Euro Bond.
- ❖ It is the leading Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) in power sector of India.
- ❖ It is the first ever Euro denominated green bond issuance from India.
- ❖ It is the first ever Euro issuance by an Indian NBFC.
- ❖ It is also the first Euro bond issuance from India since 2017.
- ❖ Green bond is a fixed-income instrument designed specifically to support specific climate-related or environmental projects.

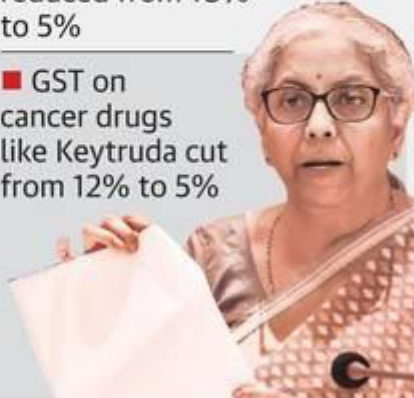


45th GST council meeting

- ❖ Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the 45th Meeting of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council.
- ❖ This is the first time that a GST Council meeting took place in Lucknow, capital of Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ It is also the first physical meeting of the GST Council following the outbreak of COVID-19.
- ❖ The GST Council members made it clear that they do not want petroleum products to be included under GST.
- ❖ It has decided to exempt the following life-saving drugs from the GST taxation
- ❖ They are Zolngelsma and Viltepsa (cost around Rs 16 Cr), Drugs to treat muscular atrophy.
- ❖ Transport of export goods by vessels and air is also exempted from GST.

What's in store | The 45th GST Council meeting was chaired by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in Lucknow on Friday. Among the key decisions are:

■ Concessional tax rates on COVID-19 essential medicines like Tocilizumab extended till December 31	■ Tax on fortified rice kernels for ICDS scheme reduced from 18% to 5%
■ Muscular atrophy drugs like Zolgensma and Viltepsa that cost around ₹16 crore exempted from GST	■ GST on cancer drugs like Keytruda cut from 12% to 5%
■ Import of leased aircraft exempted from I-GST	
■ 5% GST to be levied on food delivery apps	



STATES

Model Tenancy Act

- ❖ Assam has become the first state to adopt this Act.
- ❖ With this Assam Urban Areas Rent Control Act, 1972 gets repealed.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Prof. S.K. Joshi Laboratory Excellence Award

- ❖ It was launched recently by the Quality Council of India.
- ❖ This is country's first-of-its-kind Laboratory Excellence Award.

The Earthshot Prize

- ❖ Two Indian Projects out of 5 finalists across the world have been selected to this prize.
- ❖ One is Solar Powered Ironing Cart project that has been designed by Vinisha Umashankar of Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Second is Agricultural Waste Recycling Concept developed by Takachar and co-founded by Vidyut Mohan from Delhi.
- ❖ It is the first-ever Environment Prize launched by Britain's Prince William (Duke of Cambridge) and David Attenborough in 2020.
- ❖ It is given by the Royal Foundation, England.



IMPORTANT DAYS

57th Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) day – 15 September

- ❖ It was established in 1964 by the External Affairs Ministry
- ❖ It is to offer the benefit of India's development experience and appropriate technologies to the developing countries.



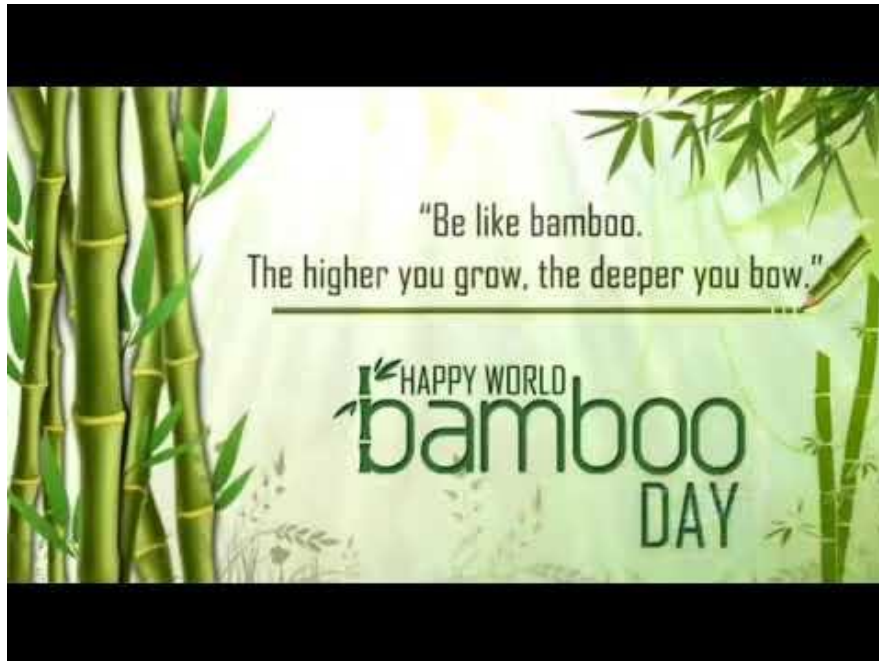
36th International Coastal Clean Up Day – 18 September

- ❖ It is traditionally held on the third Saturday in September since 1986.
- ❖ The theme in 2021 is “Keep trash in the bin and not in the ocean”.
- ❖ It was established by the Ocean Conservancy.



World Bamboo Day – 18 September

- ❖ The theme in 2021 is ‘#PlantBamboo: It Is Time To Plant Bamboo’.
- ❖ Bamboo is a tall, tree-like grass of the family Poaceae.
- ❖ It was declared by the World Bamboo Organization in 2009.



International Day of Peace – 21 September

- ❖ It is a United Nations-sanctioned holiday.
- ❖ It was first celebrated in 1981.
- ❖ To inaugurate the day, the United Nations Peace Bell is rung at UN Headquarters (in New York City)
- ❖ 2021 Theme is 'Recovering better for an equitable and sustainable world'.



World Alzheimer's Day – 21 September

- ❖ Alzheimer's Disease is the most common type of Dementia.
- ❖ There is no cure for Alzheimer's disease.



- ❖ The theme for 2021 is 'Know dementia, know Alzheimer'.
- ❖ It will launch the World Alzheimer Report entitled the 'Journey through the diagnosis of dementia'.



Zero Emissions Day – 21 September

- ❖ It is to help reduce carbon emissions from the atmosphere.
- ❖ It is to move towards renewable energies instead of fossil ones.
- ❖ The theme for 2021 is "Giving our planet a day off a year".

