

September - 25

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Indian cueist Pankaj Advani has grabbed his 24th World title at the IBSF 6-Red Snooker World Cup.
 - He had a victory over Pakistan's Babar Masih in the final.
- ❖ The official motto of the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games Beijing 2022 was revealed as "Together for a Shared Future".

TAMIL NADU

L Murugan - BJP's RS candidate



New Members
of Council of Ministers

Dr. L.
Murugan

- Shri L Murugan has practiced as a Lawyer in Madras High Court for 15 years before joining full-time public life
- He was Vice Chairman of the National Commission of Scheduled Castes from 2017 to 2020
- He holds LLM and PhD in Law from Madras University

- ❖ The BJP named Union minister of state L Murugan, as its candidate for the Madhya Pradesh Rajya Sabha seat vacated by Thawarchand Gehlot.
- ❖ Murugan headed BJP's Tamil Nadu unit till July.
- ❖ He was then inducted into the Union cabinet by Prime Minister Narendra Modi as MoS information and broadcasting, and fisheries, animal husbandry and dairying.
- ❖ This necessitated his election to Parliament in six months.

- ❖ Madhya Pradesh's Rajya Sabha vacancy emerged after Gehlot was appointed the Karnataka Governor.

NATIONAL

R N Ravi resigns as Centre's interlocutor for Naga Peace Talks

- ❖ R N Ravi resigned from the post of the Centre's interlocutor for Naga peace talks after serving for the post since 2014.
- ❖ During his tenure as the interlocutor, Ravi negotiated key insurgent groups for signing the Naga Peace Accord.
- ❖ The Central government had deputed Ravi as Tamil Nadu Governor due to increased disapproval of his ways to handle the Naga Peace process.



Trans fat-free India - 2022

- ❖ India is all set and is on the right track to become industrial trans fat-free by 2022.
- ❖ This is as per Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) study.

Trans fat

- ❖ Trans fat is considered as the worst type of fat.

- ❖ Unlike other dietary fats, trans fat or trans-fatty acids increases bad cholesterol and lowers the good cholesterol.
- ❖ A diet comprising of trans fat increases the risk of heart disease.



ELIMINATE TRANS FATS

⚡ WHAT ARE TRANS FATS?

Industrially produced trans fat are harmful fats formed when liquid oils are converted into solid fats by a chemical process called hydrogenation. Trans fat leads to blockage of arteries, resulting in heart attack and other cardiovascular diseases.

⚡ WHERE ARE TRANS FATS FOUND?

- **Fats/oils:** Vanaspati, Margarine, Bakery shortenings.
- **Bakery products:** Biscuit, fan, rusk, cake etc.
- **Fried foods:** Bhatara, poori, pakora, bhujiya, fried savoury mixtures (namkeens), jalebi, imarti, boondi laddu, etc.
- **Re-heated oils:** Some trans fats are also formed when the same cooking oil is used for repeated frying.



⚡ WHY ARE TRANS FATS BAD?

- 1 Industrial trans fats are worst fats and estimated to cause more than 540,000 death worldwide each year.
- 2 Industrial trans fats have no health benefits.
- 3 Consumption of Industrial trans fats leads to cardiovascular diseases and other related disorders.

SC dismissed Centre's plea to postpone Women's entry into NDA

- ❖ The Supreme Court has rejected a plea by Central Government to postpone the entry of women into National Defence Academy (NDA) till May 2022.



- ❖ It refused to modify August 18 interim order, that allowed women candidates to appear in the NDA and the Naval Academy Examinations and to train at the NDA.

Centre's view

- ❖ The Centre had told the supreme court that women cadets' entry into the NDA is not possible in the year 2021 because several facilities had to be developed for them before they are allowed into the academy.

Plant Discoveries 2020

- ❖ The Botanical Survey of India, in its new publication Plant Discoveries 2020 has added 267 new taxa/ species to the country's flora.
- ❖ The 267 new discoveries include 119 angiosperms; 3 pteridophytes; 5 bryophytes, 44 lichens; 57 fungi, 21 algae and 18 microbes.
- ❖ There are 14 new macro and 31 new micro fungi species recorded from various parts of India.
- ❖ 22% of the discoveries were made from the Western Ghats followed by the Western Himalayas (15%), the Eastern Himalayas (14%) and the Northeast ranges (12%).

Fortified Rice Kernels

- ❖ Centre government, for the first time issued uniform specifications for Fortified Rice Kernels (FRK) for grade A & Common Rice.
- ❖ The specifications have been issued by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.
- ❖ The fortified rice is to be distributed under various government schemes, including the public distribution system (PDS) and midday meals in schools, by 2024.

Need for Rice fortification

- ❖ According to the Food Ministry, every second woman in the country is anaemic and every third child is stunted.
- ❖ India ranks 94 out of 107 countries and is in the 'serious hunger' category on the Global Hunger Index (GHI).

Note

- ❖ Food fortification is defined as the practice of adding vitamins and minerals to commonly consumed foods during processing to increase their nutritional value.

INTERNATIONAL

WHO's new Air Quality Norms

Pollutant	Averaging time	2005 AQGs	2021 AQGs
PM _{2.5} , $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Annual	10	5
	24-hour ^a	25	15
PM ₁₀ , $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Annual	20	15
	24-hour ^a	50	45
O ₃ , $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Peak season ^b	-	60
	8-hour ^a	100	100
NO ₂ , $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Annual	40	10
	24-hour ^a	-	25
SO ₂ , $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	24-hour ^a	20	40
CO, mg/m^3	24-hour ^a	-	4

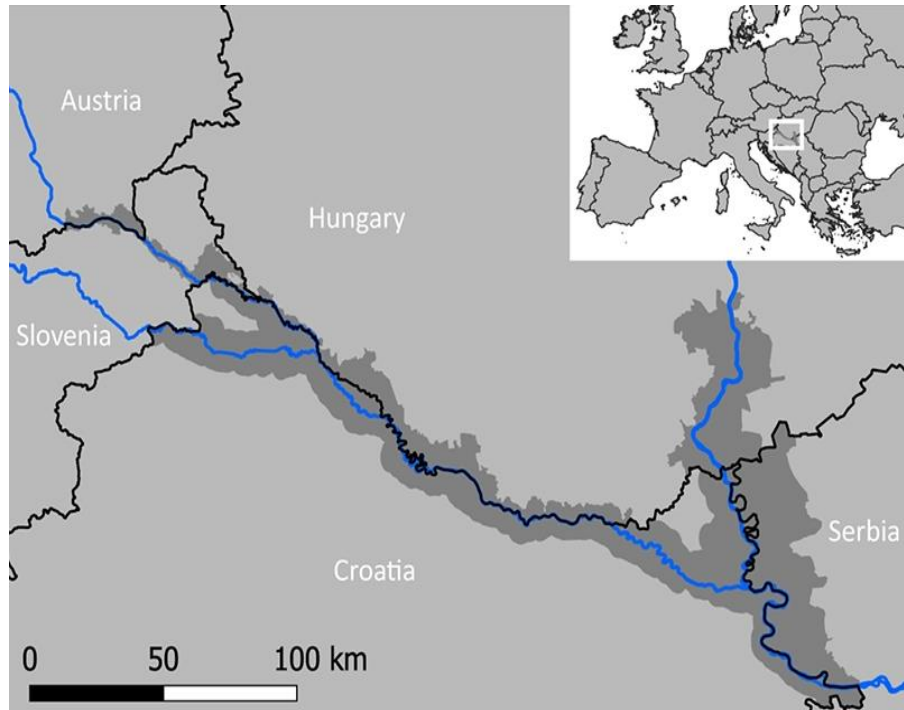


- ❖ The World Health Organization set the new standards in the first update of its air quality guidelines since 2005.
- ❖ PM 2.5 norms for 24 hours average has been changed to 15 micro-g/m³ against 25 micro-g/m³ in 2005.
- ❖ While the PM 2.5 norms for annual average has been changed to 5 micro-g/m³ against the 10 micro-g/m³ in 2005.

- ❖ The revised guidelines for air quality released by the World Health Organisation means that nearly entire India will be considered a polluted Zone for most of the year.

ENVIRONMENT

Mura-Drava-Danube



- ❖ Recently, Mura-Drava-Danube (MDD) was declared as the world's first 'five-country biosphere reserve' by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).
- ❖ The biosphere reserve covers 700 kilometres of the Mura, Drava and Danube rivers.
- ❖ It stretches across Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Hungary and Serbia.

Biosphere Reserves in India

- ❖ Presently, there are 18 Biosphere Reserves in India.
- ❖ 12 Biosphere reserves in India find their place in UNESCO's List of Man & Biosphere Reserves Programme.
- ❖ The latest included under the MAB was 'Panna Biosphere Reserve' (Madhya Pradesh).

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

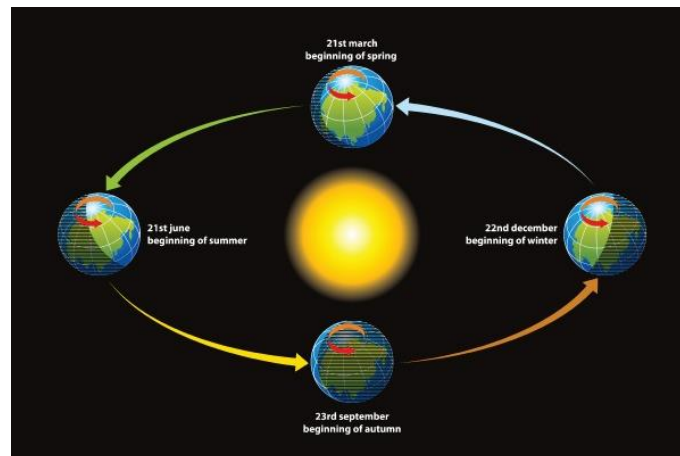
Global Goals Awards 2021

- ❖ The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announced its annual Goalkeepers 'Global Goals Awards' 2021.
- ❖ Goalkeepers is the foundation's campaign to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (Global Goals).
- ❖ Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka of South Africa has been honoured with the 2021 Global Goalkeeper Award.
- ❖ Jenifer Colpas from Colombia has been honoured with the 2021 Progress Award.
- ❖ Satta Sheriff of Liberia has been honoured with the 2021 Campaign Award.



IMPORTANT DAYS

Autumn Equinox 2021 – 23 September



- ❖ The Autumn Equinox can occur any time between September 21 and September 24.
- ❖ This year, it occurred on September 23.
- ❖ Equinox is an astronomical event caused by Earth's tilt on its axis as it revolves around the Sun.
- ❖ On this day, Earth's axis is tilted 23.5 degrees from the plane of its orbit.

International Day of Sign Languages – 23 September

- ❖ The day is celebrated annually across the world.
- ❖ This day is celebrated to raise awareness of sign languages and strengthen the status of sign languages
- ❖ The theme for the 2021 International Day of Sign Languages is “We Sign For Human Rights”.



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SIGN LANGUAGES

MISCELLANEOUS

ZEEL and SPNI

- ❖ Zee Entertainment Enterprises Limited (ZEEL) announced a merger with Sony Pictures Networks India (SPNI).
- ❖ The merger was approved by ZEEL board.
- ❖ Puneet Goenka will remain the Managing Director and CEO of the merged entity.
- ❖ Puneet Goenka is the Chief Executive Officer of Zee Entertainment Enterprises.

