

September - 16

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ India's U-16 team had secured its status as champion of the SAFF U-16 Championship 2023 by defeating Bangladesh.
- ❖ HSBC India has launched 'ONDC in a Box'.
 - It is making it the first foreign bank in India to offer an Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)-enabled proposition.
- ❖ Dennis Austin, the co-creator of PowerPoint presentation passed away recently.
- ❖ India batter Virat Kohli became the fastest to reach 13,000 ODI runs in just 277 innings.
 - He bettered the record of fellow Indian player Sachin Tendulkar (321 innings).

TAMIL NADU

Kalaingar Magalir Urimai Thittam



- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister on September 15, 2023, launched the Kalaingar Magalir Urimai Thittam (Kalaingar Women's Rights Grant Scheme) in Kancheepuram.
- ❖ This was launched on the occasion of the birth anniversary of former Chief Minister and Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) founder C.N. Annadurai.
- ❖ Under the scheme, ₹1,000 will be given as rights grant every month to 1.06 crore women heads of family in the State.



- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government will incur an expenditure of ₹12,000 crore annually, to implement this scheme.

NATIONAL

Report on Parliamentarians



- ❖ This report was released by the Association of Democratic Reforms (ADR) and the National Election Watch (NEW).
- ❖ Over 26% of Members of Parliament were Post Graduates while around 45% were Graduates.
- ❖ There were 54 MPs drawn from both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha who held doctorates, 22 were diploma holders, 89 had passed the class 12th exams and 51, the standard 10th exams.
- ❖ While 184 were graduates, 141 were professional graduates.
- ❖ Only one MP was illiterate.
- ❖ 239 (31.32%) MPs were in the 51-60 years age group, 209 (27.39%) were in the 61-70 years and 184 in the 41-50 years bracket.
- ❖ Only nine MPs were aged 25-30 years and a mere six were above 81.
- ❖ While 306 (40%) MPs have declared criminal cases, around 194 (25%) MPs have declared serious criminal cases.
- ❖ The average worth of assets per MP from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha was ₹38.33 crore and 53 (7%) were billionaires.
- ❖ The All-India Trinamool Congress has the highest percentage of MPs who have declared criminal cases against themselves.

- ❖ Looking at party-wise data, 139 (36%) out of 385 MPs are from the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).
- ❖ Kerala (73%) topped the list, followed by Bihar, Maharashtra and Telangana.
- ❖ Bihar (50%) has the highest percentage of MPs with serious criminal cases followed by Telangana (9%), Kerala (10%), Maharashtra (34%) and Uttar Pradesh (37%).

Aswasanidhi project

- ❖ Nearly 1,400 victims of sex crimes and highly heinous gender-based violence have collectively received an interim financial relief.
- ❖ This is provided under the Aswasanidhi project of the Women and Child Development department since its inception in 2018.
- ❖ The largest assistance under the Aswasanidhi project was released during the 2021-22 financial year with aid to 472 victims.
- ❖ Ten different categories of victims, including those who fall prey to sexual offences chargeable under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, are eligible for assistance under the Aswasanidhi project.



World's Highest Fighter Airfield

- ❖ The Border Roads Organisation is to construct India's highest fighter airfield in Nyoma, a village in Ladakh.
- ❖ The Nyoma village is located close to the south Bank of Pangong Tso at an altitude of about 13,700 feet.
- ❖ Nyoma is around 46 kilometres from the Line of Actual Control with China.
- ❖ Besides the Nyoma Airfield, the BRO would soon set in motion the construction of Shinkun La Tunnel.
- ❖ It will be the world's highest tunnel at an altitude of 15,855 feet.

- ❖ The tunnel will connect Lahaul-Spiti in Himachal to the Zaskar Valley in Ladakh and provide all-weather connectivity.



20th ASEAN India summit



- ❖ The 20th ASEAN-India Summit recently took place in Jakarta, Indonesia.
- ❖ It had the theme “ASEAN Matters: Epicentrum of Growth.”
- ❖ The PM of India presented a 12-point proposal for strengthening India – ASEAN cooperation.

- ❖ It will be covering connectivity, the digital transformation, trade and economic engagement, addressing contemporary challenges, people-to-people contacts, and deepening strategic engagement.
- ❖ India offered to share India's Digital Public Infrastructure Stack with ASEAN partners.
- ❖ He had also announced an ASEAN-India fund for Digital Future focusing on cooperation in digital transformation and financial connectivity.
- ❖ PM Invited ASEAN countries to join the Global Centre for Traditional Medicine being established by WHO in India.
- ❖ He has invited ASEAN countries to join the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure and called for cooperation in disaster management.
- ❖ India offered to share India's experience in providing affordable and quality medicines to people through Jan-Aushadhi Kendras.

INTERNATIONAL

18th EAS summit



- ❖ The 18th East Asia Summit (EAS) Summit was held in Jakarta, Indonesia.
- ❖ It was chaired by H.E. Joko Widodo, President of Indonesia.
- ❖ The East Asia Summit (EAS) serving as a platform for diplomatic engagement and cooperation among its member states.

- ❖ Comprising 18 countries, it includes 10 member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and eight key partners: Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Russia, and the United States.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

First tactical nuclear armed submarine



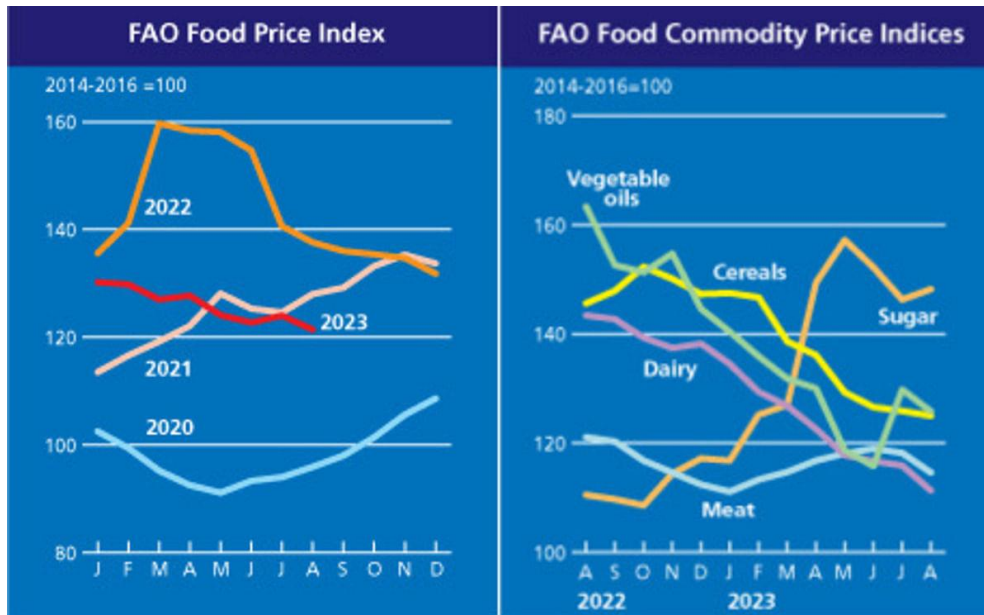
- ❖ North Korea launched its first operational "tactical nuclear attack submarine."
- ❖ The Submarine No. 841 was named Hero Kim Kun Ok, after a North Korean historical figure.
- ❖ This older model has been redesigned to carry nuclear-tipped ballistic missiles and possibly radar-evading cruise missiles as well.
- ❖ North Korea conducted its first nuclear test in October 2006.
- ❖ North Korea has about 20 Romeo-class submarines, powered by diesel-electric engines but obsolete by modern standards.

REPORTS AND INDICES

World food price index

- ❖ The Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) released this price index.
- ❖ It tracks the most globally traded food commodities.
- ❖ It consists of the average of five commodity group price indices – cereals, oilseeds, dairy products, meat and sugar.
- ❖ The August reading was the lowest since March 2021.

- ❖ It is also 24% below an all-time high reached in March 2022 in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.
- ❖ The FAO forecasted world cereal production this year at 2.815 billion tonnes.
- ❖ This is slightly lower from a previous estimate of 2.819 billion.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize (SSB) 2022

Name	Affiliation	Field of Study
Ashwani Kumar	CSIR-Institute of Microbial Technology	Biological Sciences
Maddika Subba Reddy	Centre for DNA Fingerprinting Diagnostics, Hyderabad	
Akkattu Biju	Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru	Chemical Sciences
Debabrata Maiti	Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay	Earth and Atmospheric Sciences
Vimal Mishra	Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar	
Dipti Ranjan Sahoo	Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi	Engineering Sciences
Rajnish Kumar	Indian Institute of Technology, Madras	
Apoorva Khare	Indian Institute of Science and	Mathematical Science
Neeraj Kayal	Microsoft Research Lab India	
Dipyaman Ganguly	Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, Kolkata	Medical Sciences
Anindya Das	Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru	Physical Sciences
Basudeb Dasgupta	Tata Institute of Fundamental Research	

- ❖ Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Awards for 2022 announced to honour 12 young scientists with India's top science prize, after a year's delay.

- ❖ The Bhatnagar Prizes are named after Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar, the first Director-General of CSIR.
- ❖ This is awarded annually in seven scientific disciplines: biology, chemistry, mathematics, physics, medicine, engineering, and earth, atmosphere, ocean, and planetary sciences.

MISCELLANEOUS

Fujianvenator



- ❖ Scientists in China have found fossils of a tiny bird-like dinosaur with a long lower leg.
- ❖ The "bizarre" fossil suggests that this strange pheasant-sized dinosaur.
- ❖ It has inhabited southeast China about 148 to 150 million years ago.
- ❖ It has elongated legs and arms built much like wings.
- ❖ They have named it as Fujianvenator prodigiosus.

