



TNPSC EXAMS 24 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE



Foot Prints

(Compilation of Current Events)

























CONFERENCES &

SUMMITS



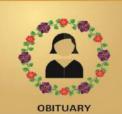


























EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-NOVEMBER 1-15, 2021

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TAMILNADU

25th Puthumaipithan Memorial Award

✓ Dalit historian and writer Stalin Rajangam and feminist poet Sukirtharani have been chosen for the 25th Puthumaipithan Memorial Award by Vilakku Ilakkiya Amaippu, a U.S.-based forum, for 2020.

> 10.5% Reservation – Vanniyar Community

- ✓ On November 1, the Madras high court set aside a Tamil Nadu legislation granting 10.5% reservation to the Vanniyar community within an existing 20% quota for the most backward classes (MBC) in the state.
- ✓ A division bench of Justice M Duraiswamy and Justice K Murali Shankar held the law as unconstitutional and illegal that amounts to discrimination among same category of castes.
- ✓ The Judges cited lack of quantifiable data to measure the "extreme backwardness" of the Vanniyars in quashing the law.

Mega Housing Project for Sri Lankan Tamils

- ✓ On November 2, Chief Minister M K Stalin laid the foundation stone for the first phase of a mega housing project for Sri Lankan Tamils.
- ✓ Under the government sponsored scheme, 3,510 houses are to be constructed at a cost of 142.16 crore for Sri Lankan Tamil people residing at Melmonavur rehabilitation camp in Vellore district.
- ✓ The government has proposed to construct houses and extend all basic amenities for Sri Lankan Tamil peoples in all the 106 rehabilitation camps across the state.
- ✓ The CM announced that the government would bear the tuition and hostel fees of the wards of Sri Lankan Tamil people pursuing engineering, agriculture and agricultural engineering and postgraduate courses.

➤ Mobile Vaccination Camp

- ✓ In a first, Health Minister Ma Subramanian kicked off a mobile vaccination camp in the villages of Chengalpattu on November 2.
- ✓ The initiative aims to achieve 100% coverage in administering Covid-19 vaccines to people in the districts.
- ✓ This door-to-door drive will cover as many as 79,395 villages, 1,064 corporation wards, 3,474 municipality wards, and 8,688 panchayat wards in the State
- ✓ A doctor and two nurses in the vehicle will visit towns and city wards for vaccinations on every day of the week.
- ✓ The aim of the initiative is to push first dose coverage from 71% to 100% by the end of November and encourage all people to take the second dose.

T.N. Forest and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau

- ✓ G.O. issued to set up T.N. Forest and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau.
- ✓ The State Government on Tuesday issued orders for setting up the Tamil Nadu Forest and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau with four zonal offices in Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai and Ramanathapuram.
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu Forest and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (TNFWCB) shall develop and maintain State-wide data on forest and wildlife offences, forest offenders and wildlife smuggling incidences.

Government order – Weekly off to TN Police Personnel

- ✓ On November 3, the state government has issued an order allowing police personnel up to the rank of Head Constable to take one day off every week
- ✓ The move was recommended by the State DGP, C Sylendra Babu, soon after he assumed the charge, so that the police personnel can take care of their health and spend time with their family members.
- ✓ Earlier, during the demand for grants for the police department for the year 2021-2022, chief minister MK Stalin made an announcement in this regard on the floor of the assembly on September 13.

➤ Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)

- ✓ On November 2, the Union Government had sanctioned 27.5 crore as central assistance to Tamil Nadu for paying the wages under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA).
- ✓ The amount will be released on daily basis and should be utilized to clear the pending liabilities first.
- ✓ The development comes after Chief Minister M K Stalin drew the attention of Prime Minister Narendra Modi through a letter on November 1 seeking his intervention to release 1,178 crore under MGNREGA.

Keeladi

- ✓ Keeladi 8th phase excavations likely after Pongal.
- ✓ The State Archaeological Department has made its submission to the Central Advisory Board for Archaeology (CABA) for carrying out the eighth round of excavations at Keeladi, where the remnants of Sangam Age settlement are being unearthed.
- ✓ The eighth phase will most likely begin after Pongal in January 2022.

> Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) - Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government sets up the first ever Special Purpose Vehicle
 (SPV) Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company to professionally manage three
 critical natural conservation missions of the state.
- ✓ The proposed company will manage three missions namely, Tamil Nadu Climate
 Change mission, Tamil Nadu Wetlands mission and Tamil Nadu Green movement
 mission.

- ✓ The SPV will devise strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, benchmarking of industries to move towards green manufacturing and promote eco-friendly technologies towards a sustainable future.
- ✓ It will also develop collaborations and strengthen community engagement to build long term commitment for a net zero carbon future for Tamil Nadu.

Tambaram Corporation

- ✓ The government has declared the formation of the Tambaram corporation by promulgating an ordinance on November 4, 2021
- ✓ Governor RN Ravi has promulgated an Ordinance for upgrading Tambaram municipality as a municipal corporation.
- ✓ The Tambaram municipal corporation has been formed by merging 10 adjacent urban local bodies five municipalities and five town panchayats.
- ✓ The ordinance says the corporation will be formed based on the Municipal Corporation Act 1981, which was used to form Avadi corporation.
- ✓ Tambaram is the 21st municipal corporation in Tamil Nadu.
- ➤ Stanford University's list of the leading 2% of scientists Anna University vice-chancellor R Velraj has been named among the top 2% scientists in the world listed by Stanford University.
- ✓ A team from Stanford University along with Elsevier BV released an updated list of top 2% scientists, based on the references and research citations made in the year 2020.
- ✓ Of 1,86,177 scientists featured in the list, 2,042 were from India with more than 100 researchers and faculty members from Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Scientists working in areas such as chemistry, nanoscience, mechanical engineering, material science, bioinformatics, automation, energy, geology and environmental engineering feature on the list.

Principal Secretary - Finance Department

- ✓ On November 6, the Tamil Nadu government appointed N Muruganandam as principal secretary, finance department, replacing additional chief secretary S Krishnan.
- ✓ Krishnan will now take charge of the industries department.
- An order to this effect was issued by chief secretary V Irai Anbu.

Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC)

- ✓ The Union environment ministry's Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) has granted environmental clearance (EC) for phase III of the Chennai-Bengaluru Expressway project.
- ✓ The Phase III of the project will connect Sriperumbudur with Gudipala in Andhra Pradesh.

- ✓ At present, Chennai motorists mostly take the Vellore-Hosur route to reach Bengaluru, which takes at least six to seven hours.
- ✓ The expressway aims at bringing it down to four hours.
- ✓ The total length of the proposed third phase is 106 km.

> Padma Vibhushan goes to SPB

- ✓ Legendary singer S.P. Balasubrahmanyam was on Tuesday posthumously honoured with the Padma Vibhushan, the second highest civilian award of the country, at a ceremony at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi.
- Balasubrahmanyam's son S.P. Charan received the award on his father's behalf from President Ram Nath Kovind.

Reservation For Widow and Destitute Women

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government passed an order to provide 25% reservation for widow and destitute women in jobs in anganwadi centres.
- ✓ The order dated on November 9 was passed by the Principal secretary of social welfare department Shambu Kallolikar.
- ✓ The order is announced based on the recommendation from Director of Integrated Child Development Scheme.
- ✓ The posts to be covered include Anganwadi Worker, Micro Anganwadi Worker and Anganwadi Assistants under the Integrated Child Development Program and nutrition organizer and cook under the MGR Noon Meal Program.

> Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB)

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) has reclassified coir pith units to orange category from the white category on November 10, putting them in the category of polluting industries.
- ✓ In general, Industries are colour-coded red, orange, green and white based on their pollution emission levels.
- ✓ Out of the three categories, red indicates high pollution levels, orange and green represents moderate levels, while white is the least polluting category.
- ✓ Following the reclassification, coir industries have to get approval from the pollution control board and their operation will be monitored periodically.

Mullaperiyar

- ✓ On November 10, the Kerala cabinet decided to cancel the order permitting Tamil Nadu to fell trees near the baby dam in Mullaperiyar.
- ✓ It has been decided to instruct principal secretary (forests and wildlife) to cancel the order.
- ✓ According to the cancelled order, Tamil Nadu was allowed to cut 15 trees, under woods and saplings within 40 cents of the baby dam so as to strengthen it.
- ✓ The cabinet observed that the application submitted by Tamil Nadu did not comply with the clearances stipulated by the Centre.

> The Porunai Museum

- ✓ The Porunai museum to come up on 13 acres close to the picturesque Sivanthipatti hillock on the outskirts of Tirunelveli city.
- ✓ The museum will exhibit artefacts excavated from archaeological sites at Adichanallur, Korkai and Sivakalai.
- ✓ The museum, to be established at an outlay of 15 crore, will exhibit 2,617 artefacts.
- ✓ These artefacts were collected at Sivakalai, Korkai and Adichanallur and artefacts that would be collected in the upcoming excavations will also be included.

Muthalvarin Mugavari

- ✓ The government of Tamil Nadu issued a directive to create a new department, Muthalvarin Mugavari.
- ✓ The new department is set up by integrating various wings, such as CM's Special Cell, CM's help desk, Integrated and Inclusive Public Grievance CM Helpline Management System (IIPGCMS), and CM in your Constituency.
- ✓ Special officer of CM in your Constituency, Shilpa Prabhakar Satish will head the new department.
- ✓ According to the government, a single website will be used to resolve petitions in the Muthalvarin Mugavari Department.

Flood Mitigation Panel Head

- ✓ Officer who worked with Modi appointed flood mitigation panel head.
- ✓ Retired IAS officer V. Thiruppugazh, who served in Gujarat under the then Chief Minister Narendra Modi and also in the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) under the Prime Minister, has been appointed by the DMK government to lead an advisory panel on mitigation and management of flood risk in the city.
- ✓ Mr. Thiruppugazh also happens to be the sibling of Tamil Nadu Chief Secretary V. Irai Anbu.

Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL)

- ✓ Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) commenced the state's plan for a mass rapid transit system (MRTS) in Madurai.
- ✓ During the Budget session earlier this year, the government said a feasibility study would be conducted and a report submitted for establishing a metro rail network in Madurai.
- ✓ The study would involve identifying routes along which the modern transit network would be built
- ✓ It will also analyse the feasibility of establishing a metro rail network or any other alternative option based on passenger traffic movement and travel demand.

STATE

Full Tax Exemption for EVs - Odisha

- ✓ Government of Odisha announced full exemption of motor vehicles taxes and registration fees on electric vehicles (EVs) in the state.
- ✓ This decision was taken for encouraging faster adoption of EVs. Exemption was granted under the Odisha Motor Vehicles Taxation Act and is applicable till 2025.
- ✓ State government also proposed to extend some incentives for the manufacturers, buyers, batteries & charging stations of electric vehicles in accordance with Odisha Electric Vehicle Policy.
- ✓ Government announced an exemption of 100 per cent on motor vehicles taxes and registration fees for battery-operated vehicles.

> Formation Day

- ✓ Kerala celebrating its 65 formation day on 1 November
- ✓ Kerala is celebrating its 65 "Kerala Pirayi," the formation day of the State, on 1 November. Kerala was created on 1 November 1956 by amalgamating the province of Malabar, Cochin, and Thiruvithancoor.
- ✓ Kerala was formed following the passage of the States Reorganisation Act 1956 after separating it from the Madras Presidency.

> Elevated corridor between Ahmedabad-Gandhinagar

- ✓ Union Home Minister Amit Shah on November 1, 2021, inaugurated a 4.18-km long elevated corridor between Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar in Gujarat.
- ✓ With a construction cost of Rs 170 crores, the 4.18-kilometer long elevated Ahmedabad-Gandhinagar corridor will connect the flyovers between Gota and Science City.

> International Seed Conference

- ✓ Telangana has been invited to participate in International Seed Conference
 which will be held virtually by Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) on
 November 4 and 5 in Rome, Italy
- ✓ The FAO invited Telangana State Seed and Organic Certification Authority
 (TSSOCA) Director K Keshavulu to address the global seeds conference on the
 topic 'A Success Story of India: Telangana State as a Global Seed Hub'
- ✓ The development is seen as recognition of the growing prominence of Telangana State as the global seed hub, boosting the seed trade and seed exports, making it a leader in the seed production.

Delhi Bazaar Portal

✓ Delhi Government is preparing a Delhi Bazaar web portal for traders, industrialists, and professionals to help them promote their products all over the

- world both nationally and internationally, Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal announced on November 3, 2021.
- ✓ The portal will aid in boosting Delhi's revenue, Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and economy in a big way.
- ✓ The Delhi Bazaar will offer virtual markets and host virtual exhibitions that will allow people to browse through shops, products, and make purchases.

Grand Annual Deepotsav Celebrations

- ✓ The grand annual Deepotsav celebrations in Uttar Pradesh's Ayodhya district –
 started on November 3 by lighting 12 lakh earthen lamps this year.
- ✓ Out of this, 9 lakh lamps have been lit on the banks of the Saryu, while the remaining three lakh lamps were lit in temples of the town, setting up a new Guinness World Record.
- ✓ The celebration witnessed a special show of 500 drones showcasing Ramayan scenes in the sky.
- ✓ The nine lakh lamps will represent the 9 lakh houses provided to people under the PM and CM Awas Yojana housing schemes in the urban areas of Uttar Pradesh.

29 Museums Inaugurated to Protect Culture of Ethnic Tribes

- ✓ Manipur CM inaugurates 29 museums to protect culture of ethnic tribes.
- ✓ Twenty-nine tribal museums constructed at ten different districts of the state were inaugurated on 3 November 2021.
- ✓ Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh virtually inaugurated these museums at a function held at CM Secretariat Imphal.

➤ Go to Village 2.0

- ✓ Manipur Govt launches Go to Village 2.0 in Thoubal district In Manipur, the State Government revived its initiative to deliver governance at doorstep and bring inclusive development in the state with launching the Go to Village 2.0 in Thoubal district.
- ✓ The Go to Village 2.0 had been launched to continue village to village visits of Government officials making sure that governance reaches every corner of the State.

Indus River Dolphin – The Most Threatened Species

- ✓ The Punjab Government is set to start the Census of Indus River dolphin, the most threatened species, as part of a five-year project by the Centre.
- ✓ The Indus river dolphin was declared the State aquatic animal of Punjab in 2019
- ✓ It is a freshwater dolphin that is found in river Beas.
- ✓ The Indus river dolphin is classified as endangered by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Jai Bhim Mukhyamantri Pratibha Vikas Yojana

- ✓ The Delhi government to provide free coaching to 15,000 students belonging to marginal communities and economically weaker sections this year under the Jai Bhim Mukhyamantri Pratibha Vikas Yojana.
- ✓ The scheme will cover school children who want to become doctors, engineers, civil servants or serve any other government jobs.
- ✓ The scheme covers a wide range of competitive exams including UPSC, CDS, banking exams, medical and engineering entrances.
- ✓ This scheme was launched in 2018 only for SC & ST students.
- ✓ In the year 2019, 15,000 students were enrolled in the scheme as it was opened for students belonging to OBC and EWS category.

Open Defecation Free (ODF) Status

- ✓ Goa has become the first state in the country to achieve Open Defecation Free (ODF) status and has connected every household with electricity.
- ✓ This was announced by Information and Broadcasting Minister, Anurag Thakur, recently.
- ✓ The minister also praised Goa for providing tap water to every household under Har Ghar Jal Mission and it has become the first state to achieve the feat
- ✓ Goa also has completed 100% first dose Covid-19 vaccination to all the eligible population in the state
- ✓ The original ODF protocol was issued in the year 2016.

> Eastern West Khasi Hills District

- ✓ The Meghalaya Cabinet has given its approval to create a new district named Eastern West Khasi Hills District. under the proposal, the Mairang civil subdivision will be upgraded to a full-fledged district.
- ✓ On 10th November 2021, the new district will be inaugurated by Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Sangma.
- ✓ With this, Meghalaya will have 12 total number of districts.

Janasevaka Scheme

- ✓ Karnataka government launches Janasevaka scheme offering home delivery.
- ✓ Karnataka CM Basavaraj Bommai launched the 'Janasevaka' Scheme ir November 2021 offering 58 government services at the doorstep of citizens.
- ✓ Under the programme, various services such as caste certificate, property Khata certificate, old age, and widow pension schemes will be provided.

Kittur Karnataka

- ✓ The Mumbai-Karnataka region has been renamed as 'Kittur Karnataka'.
- The Mumbai-Karnataka region, which was formerly under the Bombay presidency, became part of Karnataka in 1956.
- ✓ The region has been named after 19th-century ruler, Kittur Rani Chennamma.

✓ Kittur Rani Chennamma fought the British for freedom about 40 years before Jhansi Rani Laxmibai.

> Shramik Mitra Scheme

- ✓ The Government of Delhi has launched the Shramik Mitra Scheme. It aims at ensuring that all construction workers in Delhi are informed and are able to avail benefits of government schemes.
- ✓ As per the Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi Manish Sisodia, the scheme will help in spreading awareness of the benefits of several government schemes among workers through Shramik Mitras.

Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Rural Energy and Development (MGIRED)

- ✓ Karnataka to train 18,000 women self-help group members.
- ✓ The Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Rural Energy and Development (MGIRED) will train 18,000 rural women from Karnataka's SHGs (Self Help Groups) in various aspects.
- ✓ They will be trained in solid waste management and solar energy utilization in rural areas.
- ✓ This will be done in collaboration with the Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj and the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM).

> Pushkar Cattle Fair

- ✓ Pushkar cattle fair began on 8 November 2021.
- ✓ Internationally renowned and one of the biggest cattle fairs of north India began in Rajasthan's Pushkar on 8 November 2021. This is a 13-day fair but this time it is restricted only to the cattle trade. There will be no exhibitions, cultural and sports activities and no foreign tourists to enjoy the event due to Covid-19 guidelines. 415 cattle and 235 camels are a part of it this time.

COP26 in Glasgow

- ✓ Maharashtra Bags Top Leadership Award at COP26 in Glasgow.
- ✓ Maharashtra has bagged the inaugural Inspiring Regional Leadership award at the U2C General Assembly that coincided with the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) summit in Glasgow on 7 Nov'21.
- ✓ It also received high commendations in two other categories Climate Partnerships and Creative Climate Solutions.

UNESCO Creative Cities Network 2021

- ✓ Srinagar joins UNESCO Creative Cities Network 2021 under crafts, folk arts category.
- ✓ UNESCO has included Srinagar city of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir in its coveted list of Creative Cities Network (UCCN).

- ✓ The announcement was made by UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay in recognition of their commitment to placing the culture and creativity at the heart of their development and to sharing knowledge and good practices.
- ✓ The UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) is a project of UNESCO launched in 2004 to promote cooperation among cities which recognized creativity as a major factor in their urban development.

Tissue Culture-Based Seed Potato Rules

- ✓ Punjab became the 1st Indian state to approve Tissue Culture-Based Seed Potato Rules.
- ✓ The Punjab Cabinet headed by chief minister Charanjit Singh Channi approved the 'Punjab Tissue Culture Based Seed Potato Rules-2021' to develop Punjab as a standard potato seed centre.
- ✓ With this decision, Punjab has become the first Indian state to have the facility of tissue culture-based certification, which will develop the Jalandhar-Kapurthala belt of Punjab as the export hub of potatoes.

Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana

- ✓ Odisha CM launches distribution of Smart Health Cards.
- ✓ Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on 8 Nov 2021 launched the distribution of Smart Health Cards under Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana in Kalahandi and Nuapada district.
- ✓ As many as 14 lakh people in the Kalahandi district and 1.73 lakh people in the Nuapada district will be benefited from the initiative.
- ✓ Biju Swastya Kalyan Yojana is a universal health coverage scheme launched in 2018.

Srinagar Airport Declared as 'Major Airport'

- ✓ The Ministry of Civil Aviation declared "Srinagar International Airport" as a "Major Airport" on November 6, 2021.
- ✓ Airport was declared as major airport by exercising powers conferred by Sub-Section (i) of Section 2 of the Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India Act, 2008.
- ✓ Earlier on October 23, Union Home Minister Amit Shah had inaugurated international flight operations at Srinagar airport. First direct international flight was inaugurated between Srinagar, Sharjah and United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- ✓ With this decision, tariff for aeronautical services at the Srinagar Airport will be determined by Airports Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA).

Uttarakhand State Disaster Management Authority (USDMA)

✓ The Uttarakhand state disaster management authority (USDMA) - has signed an MoU with Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS) to carry out satellite-based mountain hazard assessment.

- ✓ As per the agreement, IIRS will monitor glacial lakes, glaciers, landslide zones and avalanche-prone areas in Uttarakhand through satellites for next two years.
- ✓ The move is expected to help the disaster-prone state get timely alerts about detectable natural calamities in advance so as to respond to catastrophes.

Rakshak

- ✓ Odisha government launches road safety initiative 'Rakshak' to train first responders
- ✓ Odisha government on November 10, 2021, launched a first-of-its-kind road safety initiative called Rakshak.
- ✓ Under Rakshak, 30,000 volunteers near accident-prone spots will be trained as First Responders to road accidents.
- ✓ The 30,000 first responders will be equipped to administer first aid and prehospital trauma care to accident victims.

➤ The Inland Water Transport Department (IWT)

- ✓ World Bank sanctions Rs 770 crore for Inland Water Transport Department.
- ✓ The Inland Water Transport (IWT) Department has signed an MoU with the World Bank for a Rs 770 crore loan to improve river transportation in Assam.
- ✓ The central government would refund 80 per cent of the sanctioned amount and the state government would bear the remaining 20 per cent.
- ✓ This was announced by CM Himanta Biswas while flagging off four steel catamaran vessels at Pandu Port.

Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM)

- ✓ IBM has launched a client naming center in Mysuru.
- ✓ IBM Corp. launched the Mysuru Client Establishment Center with the support of the Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM) to attract companies to create jobs in cities beyond Bengaluru.
- ✓ The program aims to support rapid economic growth, with advanced technology in 2nd and 3rd tier regions while providing mixed cloud and interactive capabilities for AI technologies.

Niramay Gujarat Yojana

- ✓ The Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel launched 'Niramay Gujarat Yojana' to screen and protect people above 30 years from non-communicable diseases on 12 November 2021.
- ✓ The scheme will cover more than 3 crore people in the state.
- ✓ Non-communicable diseases include high blood pressure, heart attack, paralysis, cancer, renal diseases, anaemia, diabetes, etc.

Farm Laws

✓ On November 11, the Punjab Assembly - has adopted a resolution against the Central Government's three contentious farm laws passed in September 2020.

- ✓ This is the second resolution, which was adopted by the State against the Centre's three farm laws.
- ✓ The three contentious farm laws are the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020; Farmers' (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020; and the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2020.
- ✓ On August 29, Tamil Nadu became the seventh state to adopt a resolution against the three controversial farm laws passed by the Centre

Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) Programme

- ✓ Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) Programme was launched in the state of Karnataka, on November 12, 2021.
- ✓ PCV programme was launched under the universal immunisation programme on the occasion of 'World Pneumonia Day'.
- ✓ It was launched with the aim of spreading awareness and reducing pneumonia induced mortality & morbidity among children.

Punjabi Made Compulsory in Punjab schools

- Chief Minister of Punjab, Charanjit Singh Channi, announced that Punjabi will now be a compulsory subject for all students in the state of Punjab.
- ✓ Punjabi language will be made compulsory from classes 1-10.
- ✓ Apart from that, it will be made mandatory in offices as well.
- ✓ It has been made compulsory to promote mother tongue.

> State Level Scheme Sanctioning Committee (SLSSC)

- ✓ Uttar Pradesh government approves 735 drinking water supply schemes.
- ✓ The State Level Scheme Sanctioning Committee (SLSSC) of Uttar Pradesh on 11th November 2021 approved proposals submitted by the state of worth Rs 1,882 crore for making provision of tap water connections in rural areas.
- √ These schemes will cover a population of 39 lakh in 1,262 villages of 33 districts.
- √ 735 schemes have been approved by the committee.

Children's Day

- ✓ On Children's Day, the Rajasthan assembly held a special session for schoolchildren to provide them an experience of functioning of the House.
- ✓ A total of 200 schoolchildren from 15 states carried out mock proceedings in a special session of the state assembly on the day.
- ✓ The Rajasthan legislative assembly will be the first such assembly in the country
 to organise a session for children.
- ✓ The children, divided into ruling party and opposition, discussed and debated 18 issues that the state is facing.
- ✓ The session was conducted under the aegis of the Rajasthan branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

> Technopreneurship Series For Innovators

- ✓ Kerala Start-up Mission and CLAP (Cisco LaunchPad Accelerator Program) have tied-up to host the Technopreneurship Series for innovators and start-ups in Kerala.
- ✓ The virtual programme comprises a series of workshops on business and technology and aimed at giving corporate and institutional support to young innovators.
- ✓ The nation-wide initiative was powered by Cisco LaunchPad, which is the accelerator wing of the networking and software giant Cisco

World's Largest Solar Power

- ✓ Bhadla Solar Park, located in Rajasthan, is the World's largest solar power park.
- ✓ The solar park is located in Bhadla, a dry & sandy region in Rajasthan.
- ✓ It spans over 14,000 acres.
- ✓ The Park comprises of 10 million solar panels at the park. These solar panels contribute to an operational capacity of 2245 MW.

Bhagwan Birsa Munda Museum

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the Bhagwan Birsa Munda Museum in Ranchi, Jharkhand.
- ✓ The inauguration was done to commemorate the birth anniversary of the tribal freedom fighter Birsa Munda on November 15.

➤ Kaiser-i-Hind: Arunachal's State butterfly

- ✓ State Cabinet of Arunachal Pradesh, headed by Chief Minister Pema Khandu, approved "Kaiser-i-Hind" as state butterfly on November 13, 2021.
- ✓ Kaiser-i-Hind' is a large and brightly coloured butterfly.
- ✓ It is an elusive swallowtail butterfly, which carries 'India' in its name.
- ✓ It is found in China and now it has been approved as the State butterfly of Arunachal Pradesh.

NATIONAL

'Net zero' goal by 2070

- ✓ On October 1, Prime Minister Narendra Modi committed India to becoming a 'carbon neutral' country through a 'net zero' goal by 2070 along with major targets on renewables and reductions in greenhouse gases by 2030.
- ✓ This is the first time such a 'net zero' goal has been set for the country
- ✓ The PM resisted pressure for a 2050 deadline as was being pushed as a COP26 target by UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson.
- ✓ It is also 10 years more than the 2060 deadline announced by China.
- ✓ He appealed to world leaders to make 'lifestyle change' a global movement –
 World LIFE by avoiding "mindless consumption" and adopting mindful utilisation
 of resources.

> 5th edition of "Ganga Utsav 2021"

- ✓ The 5th edition of the three-day-long Ganga Utsav has been organised from November 01 to 03, 2021 in virtual format.
- ✓ The "Ganga Utsav 2021 The River Festival " will not only celebrate the glory of the river Ganga but all the rivers of the country to promote the celebration of 'Nadi Utsav' (River Festival).
- ✓ The annual event is organised by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) jointly with the Ministry of Jal Shakti to mark the anniversary of the announcement of River Ganga as the 'National River' on November 04, 2008.
- ✓ The 2021 celebrations will be part of the 75 years of Independence and Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations.

> India-World Bank sign MoU - Strengthen Health Systems in Meghalaya

- ✓ Indian government and the World Bank have signed MoU for a \$40 million project for improving the quality of health services in Meghalaya.
- ✓ This MoU will strengthen the capacity of state to handle future health emergencies like covid-19 pandemic. Project is dubbed as "Meghalaya Health Systems Strengthening Project".
- ✓ Project will enhance management & governance capabilities of the state as well as its health facilities.
- ✓ It will finally enable efficient access to medicines and diagnostics.

SpaceX Incorporates Subsidiary in India

- ✓ Elon Musk-owned SpaceX has incorporated its wholly-owned subsidiary in India on November 1, 2021 to start local broadband operations.
- ✓ The satellite broadband arm of SpaceX, Starlink, aims to start broadband services in India from December 2022. It has 2 lakh active terminals subject to permission from the Indian government.

- ✓ The subsidiary has been named as SSCPL, that stands for 'Starlink Satellite Communications Private Limited'. The company was incorporated on November 1, 2021.
- ✓ Starlink has already received more than 5,000 pre-orders from India.

> Pneumococcal 13-valent Conjugate Vaccine

- ✓ The government has launched a nationwide expansion of Pneumococcal 13 valent Conjugate Vaccine (PCV). This is under the Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP) as a part of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'.
- ✓ It was for the first time in the country that PCV would be available for universal use. PCV13 protects against 13 types of bacteria that cause pneumococcal disease.
- ✓ Pneumonia caused by pneumococcus is the most common cause of severe pneumonia in children. Pneumonia was a leading cause of death among children under five, globally and in India. Around 16% of deaths in children occur due to pneumonia in India.

XtraGreen

- ✓ On November 2, Indian Oil launched a cleaner and greener diesel 'XtraGreen' to 126 fuel stations across 63 cities in the country and also launched Indian Oil's fuel gift card, One4U.
- ✓ The launch of XtraGreen is in sync with the Prime Minister's commitment to drive the country towards a greener future, continuous reduction of carbon emission and gradual achievement of the net-zero goal by 2070.

Bharat Biotech's Covaxin

- ✓ On November 3, the World Health Organisation (WHO) approved emergency use listing (EUL) of Bharat Biotech's Covaxin.
- ✓ The technical advisory team's nod applies to all those aged 18 and above, but does not cover pregnant women.
- ✓ Covaxin vaccine was also reviewed by WHO's Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (SAGE), and recommended use of this vaccine in two doses with a dose interval of four weeks.
- ✓ The decision has come at a time when close to 20 countries like Guyana, Iran, Mauritius, Mexico, Nepal, Paraguay, the Philipines, Zimbabwe, Australia, Oman, Sri Lanka, Estonia, Greece have recognised Covaxin.

Excise Duty on Petrol and Diesel Slashed

- ✓ On November 3, the Centre slashed excise duty on petrol and diesel by 5 and 10 per litre respectively.
- ✓ The reduction will vary in other states in accordance with the level of VAT levied.

- ✓ The move will cut about 60,000 to 65,000 crore in the government's tax collection in the remaining months this fiscal.
- ✓ The Union government also appealed to the states to match the Centre's step by reducing VAT to give bigger relief to consumers.

Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM)

- ✓ The Ministry of Rural Development signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Walmart-owned Flipkart to bring more women businesses into the e-commerce fold.
- ✓ Flipkart, India's homegrown e-commerce marketplace, has signed the agreement under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM) on November 2.
- ✓ The agreement aims to empower local businesses and self-help groups (SHGs) especially those that are led by women by bringing them into the e-commerce fold.
- ✓ The MoU will enable rural women to sell their products to more than 10 crore Flipkart's customers.

➤ The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)

- ✓ The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) got registered in the Guinness Book of World Records on the first day of the Ganga Utsav -- the River Festival 2021.
- ✓ The record was established for the highest number of photos of handwritten notes uploaded on the social media platform in an hour.
- ✓ The event was organised to raise awareness on Ganga rejuvenation and to give importance to the reach of the Ganga Utsav.

Climate Equity Monitor

- ✓ India launched an online dashboard the 'Climate Equity Monitor' ahead of commencement of COP26 summit in Glasgow in Scotland.
- ✓ The Climate Equity Monitor will assess equity in climate action, inequalities in emissions, energy and resource consumption across the world, and ongoing climate policies of several countries.
- ✓ The Climate Equity Monitor is aimed at monitoring the performance of Annex-I
 Parties (developed countries) under the UNFCCC (UN Framework Convention on
 Climate Change) based on the foundational principles of the Climate Convention.

Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana (PMGKAY)]

✓ On November 5, the food ministry - said there is no proposal at present to extend the PM Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana (PMGKAY) beyond November 30, 2021.

- ✓ Under the scheme, nearly 80 crore people got monthly distribution of 5 kg foodgrains over and above the 5 kg they get at very subsidised rate under National Food Security Act.
- ✓ Initially, the additional free foodgrain under the PMGKAY was provided for three months (April-June 2020) to bring quick relief to migrants and poor hit during the first wave of Covid-19 pandemic.
- ✓ The scheme was again extended for another five months, till November 2020.
- ✓ After the onset of the second wave, the scheme was again re-launched for two months (May-June 2021) and was then extended till November end.

> Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules

- ✓ The government is going to implement new rules Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules for the packaging of items from April next year.
- ✓ It aims to empower the customers to make the right decisions before buying any packaged item.
- ✓ Under the new rules, manufacturers will have to add additional declarations to the MRP.
- ✓ They have to mention the price per unit of the commodity per kg or litre for items weighing more than a kg or litre and per gram or millilitre (ml) for items of less than one kg or a litre.

➤ The 52nd International Film Festival of India (IFFI)

- ✓ The 52nd International Film Festival of India (IFFI) will be held in Goa from November 20 to 28.
- ✓ The festival is being organized by the Directorate of Film Festivals of India, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, in collaboration with the State Government of Goa
- ✓ India's official Oscar entry, Koozhangal, a Tamil Film will be screened in the Indian panorama section in the IFFI.

Indian Railways

- ✓ Indian Railways has registered the two historic logos of the iconic "toy train" of Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR) as an intellectual property (IP) right internationally.
- ✓ The UNESCO declared DHR a World Heritage Site on December 5, 1999.
- ✓ The DHR, which started operations in 1880, has two logos, both of which have been patented.
- ✓ One has "DHR" in bold black, intertwined letters, while the other is a circular seal with a picture of mountains, forests and a river, with "Darjeeling Himalayan Railway" in white lettering on a green background around it.
- ✓ Henceforth, the use of logos anywhere in the world would require written permission from the Indian Government along with the payment of required fees for using it.

Zydus Cadila's three-dose Covid vaccine - ZyCoV-D

- ✓ The Ministry of Health has placed a purchase order for one crore doses of Zydus Cadila's three-dose Covid vaccine ZyCoV-D at Rs. 358 per dose, excluding GST.
- ✓ The government aims to start distribution of the jabs by December once supplies start flowing in.
- ✓ The vaccine will be administered using a needle-free applicator called "PharmaJet", as against the usage of traditional syringes.
- ✓ ZyCov-D the world's first plasmid DNA vaccine is a three dose vaccine that will be given on day zero, day 28 and day 56.
- ✓ ZyCoV-D is the first vaccine cleared by India's drug regulator for inoculation of those aged 12 years and above.

Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana (KVPY)

- ✓ The Union government informed the Madras high court that it would conduct the
 aptitude test for a centrally-sponsored scholarship programme Kishore Vaigyanik
 Protsahan Yojana (KVPY) in all 22 official languages.
- ✓ Earlier, the Madras high court suspended conducting of the exams scheduled for November 7, as the examination was to be conducted only in English and Hindi.
- ✓ KVPY is a National Program of Fellowship in Basic Sciences funded by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.
- ✓ The main objective of the exam is to identify students with talent and aptitude for research, to help them realize their academic potential and to encourage them to take up research careers in science by providing fellowships.

Ayushman Bharat-Digital Mission

- ✓ Health Ministry begins digital registration of all medical facilities.
- ✓ The Union Health Ministry on November 10, 2021, began digital registration of all medical facilities and all doctors under the Ayushman Bharat-Digital Mission for digitizing their health records.
- ✓ Under Ayushman Bharat-Digital Mission, every Indian citizen will receive a unique Health ID that will store all personal health records of an individual.
- ✓ The Mission aims to create interoperability within the digital health ecosystem.

Covid – 96 Countries Recognise India's Vaccination Certificate

- ✓ According to Union health minister Mansukh Mandaviya, about 96 countries have agreed to mutually recognise India's Covid-19 vaccination certificate.
- ✓ With this recognition, persons travelling from these countries will be provided certain relaxations as mentioned in Union health ministry's guidelines on international arrivals.
- ✓ Government is further communicating with other countries for the recognition so that beneficiaries of the world's largest Covid-19 vaccination programme are

accepted and recognised in order to travel for the purposes of education, business and tourism.

✓ India has so far administered around 109.08 crore jabs.

Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)

- ✓ On November 10, the government decided to restore the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS).
- ✓ The scheme was suspended in April 2020 so that funds could be used in the fight against Covid-19 during the FY 2020-21 and 2021-22.
- ✓ An MP will get 2 crore for development activities for 2021-22.
- ✓ From the next financial year, the stipulated annual grant of 5 crore will be given to each MP.
- ✓ Under the MPLAD scheme, all the MPs can recommend development programmes involving expenditure of 5 crore every year in their constituencies.

Civil Aviation Minister launches e-GCA

- ✓ Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia has launched an online platform called eGCA (e-Governance for Civil Aviation).
- ✓ It is an e-governance platform for rendering 298 services including pilot licensing and medical examination.
- ✓ The portal is for the dissemination of information and providing online, speedy service delivery in a secure environment.

> Cotton Corporation of India

- ✓ Union Cabinet approves price support to Cotton Corporation of India.
- ✓ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on November 10, 2021, approved the committed price support of over Rs 17,408 crore to the Cotton Corporation of India.
- ✓ The CCEA approved incurring expenditure for reimbursing losses under MSP operations for cotton during cotton seasons from October 2014-15 to September 2020-21.

Ethanol Blended Petrol Programme

- ✓ Union Cabinet approves higher ethanol prices under Ethanol Blended Petrol Programme.
- ✓ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on November 10, 2021, cleared higher ethanol prices derived from different sugarcane-based raw materials for sugar season 2020-21 under Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme to facilitate setting up advanced biofuel refineries in India.
- ✓ The decision on pricing of ethanol will aid in price stability and remunerative prices for ethanol suppliers, reducing the pending arrears of cane farmers, facilitating the setting up of advanced biofuel refineries in India, helping in savings in foreign exchange, and reducing dependency on crude oil imports.

National Achievement Survey (NAS)

- ✓ Indian Government is ready to implement sample-based National Achievement Survey (NAS) for Classes 3, 5, 8, and 10 with a cycle period of three years.
- √ This survey will help in assessing the learning interruptions and new learnings during covid-19 pandemic. After assessment, it will help in taking remedial measures.
- ✓ NCERT has done instrument development, testing, sampling of the schools and finalization of the test items etc.
- ✓ NAS 2021 is set to cover entire spectrum of schools including Government Schools of Central Government as well as State Government, Government Aided Schools and Private schools across India.

Covid-19 in India

- ✓ Children below five years are exempted from both pre-and post-arrival testing for Covid-19 in India.
- ✓ This is based on the revised guidelines for international arrivals released by the Health ministry on November 11.
- ✓ However, if found symptomatic for coronavirus infections on arrival or during home quarantine period, they shall undergo testing and be treated according to laid down protocol.
 - This standard operating procedure (SOP) shall be valid from November 12 (00.00 hours IST) till further orders.

National Maritime Security Coordinator (NMSC)

- ✓ The Cabinet Committee on Security has approved the post of a national maritime security coordinator (NMSC) to ensure maritime and coastal security.
- ✓ The NMSC will ensure effective coordination and cohesive policy-making among various central and state authorities dealing with maritime affairs from the coastline to the high seas.
- ✓ The NMSC will also act as the interface between military and civilian agencies to strengthen the country's maritime security, energy and 'blue economy' needs.

Norovirus Infection

- ✓ India registers the first case of a rare norovirus infection in 13 students of a veterinary college in Pookode near Vythiri in Wayanad district, Kerala.
- ✓ Norovirus is an extremely contagious virus that causes vomiting and diarrhoea and can spread across people of all ages.
- ✓ It is an animal-borne disease transmitted through contaminated water and food, causing gastrointestinal illness.

Tele-Law on Wheels

- ✓ The Department of Justice is conducting the week- long "Tele-Law on Wheels" campaign from 8th to 14th November, 2021.
- ✓ As a part of the campaign, a special login week is being organised throughout the country
- ✓ Under this, legal advice and consultation can be sought through tele-and video conferencing facilities by the needy after visiting to a nearest Common Service Centers or CSCs offering tele-law services.
- ✓ The week will be dedicated to ensure 'Justice for All' by digital legal empowerment
 of the needy and disadvantaged
- ✓ To promote this campaign, special mobile vans displaying the message of the campaign have been rolled out

NITI Aayog

- ✓ The Central government think tank NITI Aayog has announced the top five most aspirational districts in education sector for the month of September.
- ✓ The Aspirational Districts programme was launched in the year 2018
- ✓ The initiative aims to transform 112 most under-developed districts across the country
- ✓ The 'delta ranking' for the aspirational districts measures the incremental progress made by them across six developmental areas of health and nutrition, education, agriculture and water resources, financial inclusion, skill development, and basic infrastructure.

➤ Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC)

- ✓ The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has announced
 to launch the Ramayana Yatra special express train to meet the requirements of
 tourists from south India.
- ✓ The IRCTC, a subsidiary of the Indian Railways, offers various religious tourism packages as part of the 'Dekho Apna Desh' initiative.

 The first train under the Shri Ramayana Yatra-Madurai Package will start from November 16 and return on November 29.

Ordinances

- ✓ On November 14, the Centre promulgated two ordinances to extend the terms of the chiefs of the Enforcement Directorate and the Central Bureau of Investigation to up to five years.
- ✓ Earlier, the central agency chiefs were appointed for two-year terms. The twin ordinances, signed by President Ram Nath Kovind, amend the Central Vigilance Commission Act and the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, which govern the ED and the CBI, respectively.

INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

Presidential Election - Uzbekistan

- ✓ Chief Election Commissioner **Sushil Chandra** visited **Uzbekistan** as an international observer for four days for the October 24 presidential election.
- ✓ The CEC led a three-member delegation to Uzbekistan from October 21-25
- ✓ Uzbekistan's President Shavkat Mirziyoyev emerged victorious with more than 80% of the vote in the elections and was re-elected for a second five-year term
- ✓ CEC Sushil Chandra and Uzbekistan's election commission, led by Zainiddin Nizamkhodjaev, held a meeting on electoral cooperation during the visit.
- ✓ The presidential election in Uzbekistan was held under the country's new election code.
- ✓ Uzbekistan has an electorate of about 20 million.

Bharat Biotech's COVAXIN

- ✓ Australia adds Bharat Biotech's COVAXIN to recognized COVID-19 vaccines list.
- ✓ The Australian government on November 1, 2021, announced recognition
 of Bharat Biotech's COVAXIN COVID-19 vaccine for the purpose of establishing
 the vaccinating status of a traveler in Australia.

> India and Israel

- ✓ India and Israel decided to set up a new Task Force and a sub-working group to boost bilateral defence cooperation.
- ✓ This was agreed upon in the 15th India-Israel Working Group Meeting held recently in Tel Aviv, Israel.
- ✓ During the meeting, both the countries reviewed the progress made in military-tomilitary engagements including industry cooperation and exercises.
- ✓ The proposed task force will be formulating a comprehensive ten-year roadmap in order to identify new areas of cooperation.

India and Gambia

- ✓ India, Gambia signed two agreements for deepening bilateral relations.
- ✓ These include an agreement on exemption from visa requirement for holders of diplomatic and official passports, and a General Framework Agreement for cooperation between India and Gambia.
- ✓ Based on Gambia's request, repurposing of 5 lakh US dollar grant for procuring dialysis machines has also been announced.

India and Bhutan

- ✓ India and Bhutan issued LoE to add 7 entry-exit trade points.
- ✓ In November 2021, India and Bhutan formalized seven additional entry-exit points for trade through Letters of Exchange (LoE) issued during the

Commerce Secretary level meeting between the countries that discussed Trade & Transit issues.

✓ This formalization is a part of measures to increase trade connectivity.

Diwali as a National Holiday – United States of America

- ✓ The US Attorney General introduced the Bill to declare Diwali as a national holiday.
- ✓ U.S. lawmakers, led by Congresswoman Carolyn B Maloney of New York, have introduced a bill to declare Diwali as a national holiday in the country.
- ✓ The Attorney announced the Deepavali Day law in the House of Representatives.

 This landmark law is supported by a number of lawmakers.

India and Senegal Sign MoU on Health and Medicine

- ✓ India and Senegal signed an MoU on health and medicine in Dakar on 5 November 2021.
- ✓ Both sides also celebrated the 60th anniversary of their diplomatic ties.
- ✓ The MoU entails collaboration including in disease surveillance, medical research, drugs and pharma, medical equipment, and traditional medicine.

Nano Nitrogen Fertilizer

- ✓ On November 4, the Indian Air Force deployed two military aircraft to send 100 tones of nano nitrogen fertiliser to Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- ✓ The deployment of two IAF C-17 Globemaster aircrafts was essentially to support Sri Lanka's organic farming initiatives.
- ✓ India had sent the consignment of fertiliser following a request from the Sri Lankan government.

Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI)

- ✓ India, US hold Defence Technology and Trade Initiative Group meeting.
- ✓ The 11th Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI) Group meeting between India and the United States (US) was held virtually on November 9, 2021.
- ✓ The DTTI Group meetings are normally held twice a year, alternating between India and the US.
- ✓ The aim of the DTTI Group is to bring sustained leadership focus to the bilateral defence trade relationship.

➤ International Solar Alliance (ISA)

- ✓ On November 10, the United States became the 101st member country of the inter-governmental treaty based 'International Solar Alliance' (ISA), launched and promoted by India and France.
- ✓ US Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry signed the ISA framework
 agreement in Glasgow at COP26 climate summit venue.

✓ The International Solar Alliance was launched in 2015 by PM Modi and the former President of France Francois Hollande.

World Trade Organization (WTO)

- ✓ India has rejected the latest draft for an agreement to lower fisheries subsidy at the World Trade Organization (WTO).
- ✓ According to India, the draft on the proposed fishery subsidies agreement was weak, unbalanced and biased in favour of countries such as Norway, China and Japan, which were exploiting international waters.
- ✓ India is suggesting that those countries which are engaged in distant water fishing and beyond their natural geographic area should stop giving subsidies for 25 years in fishing areas in international waters beyond their exclusive economic zones (200 nautical miles).

The India- Sri Lanka Parliamentary Friendship Association

- ✓ India and Sri Lanka have revived their "Parliamentary Friendship Association" for which Minister Chamal Rajapaksa has been selected as its president.
- ✓ This association was there in the past.
- ✓ It is being revived for current Parliament which was elected in August 2020.
- ✓ At the revival event, Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister G.L. Peiris noted the "close civilisational ties" between India & Sri Lanka. He observed that greatest gift of India to Sri Lanka was Buddhism.
- ✓ This association will help in "reinvigorating" Parliamentary exchanges and strengthening bilateral ties between both the countries.

INTERNATIONAL

➤ COP26

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to participate in the 26th session of the Conference of Parties (COP-26) on climate change in Glasgow today, November 1, 2021.
- ✓ The Prime Minister is currently on a two-day visit to the United Kingdom to participate in COP-26. He is also scheduled to meet the UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson on the sidelines of the climate conference and discuss bilateral ties.

Pfizer-BioNTech COVID vaccine

- ➤ The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on October 31, 2021, approved the Emergency Use of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine in children aged between 5 to 11 years.
- ➤ The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine will be the first COVID-19 vaccine for young children aged 5 to 11 years in the US. The approval came after a high-level medical panel advised the US government.

Microsoft

- ✓ Microsoft surpassed Apple to become the world's most valuable company by m-cap.
- ✓ Microsoft Corporation has surpassed Apple Inc. to become the world's most valuable publicly-traded company by market capitalization.
- ✓ At market close on October 29, 2021, Apple stood at about \$2.46 trillion while Microsoft reached nearly \$2.49 trillion. Apple had held the top position for more than a year. Microsoft became the second US public firm to surpass a \$2 trillion market value in June.

Vax' named Oxford English Dictionary's Word of the Year 2021

- √ 'Vax' has been chosen as the word of the year by the Oxford English Dictionary (OED) in 2021. Vax is derived from the Latin word Vacca, which means cow.
- ✓ Vax is used as a short form for vaccines and means a substance put into a person's body to prevent them from getting a disease.
- ✓ Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, words related to vaccines saw a surge in 2021, including terms like double-vaxxed, unvaxxed and anti-vaxxer.

> COP26 global climate conference

- ✓ On November 2, leaders at the COP26 global climate conference agreed to stop deforestation by the end of the decade and cut emissions of the potent greenhouse gas methane to help slowing the climate change.
- ✓ Over 100 countries joined a US- and EU-led effort to cut emissions of methane 30% by 2030 from 2020 levels.

- ✓ Methane is highly short-lived in the atmosphere than carbon dioxide but 80 times more potent in warming the planet.
- ✓ It is estimated to have accounted for 30% of global warming since pre-industrial times
- ✓ Hence, cutting emissions of the methane gas is one of the most effective ways of slowing climate change.

COP26 - One Sun, One World & One Grid initiative

- ✓ One Sun, One World & One Grid' will not only reduce storage needs but also enhance the viability of solar projects, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi during COP26 Leaders event 'Accelerating Clean Technology Innovation & Development'. He stated that the creative initiative will not only reduce carbon footprints & energy cost but also open a new avenue for cooperation between different countries & regions.
- ✓ OSOWOG is the first ever international network of global interconnected solar power renewable energy grids.
- ✓ During the event, PM Modi reiterated that the idea for the One Sun One World One Grid (OSOWOG) initiative was put forth by him at the First Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) in October 2018.

> Facebook

- ✓ Facebook shuts down face recognition system.
- ✓ Meta informed on November 2, 2021 that it is shutting down the Face Recognition system on Facebook.
- ✓ The company informed that those people who had opted for it will no longer be automatically recognized in photos and videos. Meta will be deleting more than a billion people's facial recognition templates.

> 1 Trillion Dollar Hike in Climate Finance

- ✓ India calls for 1 trillion dollar hike in climate finance.
- ✓ Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav called upon Like-Minded Developing Countries (LMDC) on November 2, 2021 to work closely to protect the interests of developing countries.
- ✓ He urged that climate finance cannot continue at the levels that were decided in 2009 and should be hiked to at least 1 trillion dollars to meet the climate action goals.
- ✓ The Minister also underlined the strength and unity of LMDC as fundamental to preserve the interest of the Global South in the fight against climate change.

Saudi Arabia excavates 'Forgotten Kingdoms'

- ✓ Excavation will be done by a team of French and Saudi Archaeologists.
- ✓ They will excavate five nearby sites related to Dadanite and Lihyanite civilisations.

 Both of the civilisations were important regional powers, some 2000 years ago.

✓ Kingdoms were spanning roughly 900 years until 100 CE. They controlled vital trade routes however, little is known about them.

> Yahoo

- ✓ Yahoo Inc., has pulled out of China on November 2, 2021 citing increasingly challenging business and legal environment.
- ✓ The company's withdrawal coincided with the implementation of China's Personal Information Protection Law.
- ✓ The new law restricts the information gathered by the companies and sets standards for their storage.
- ✓ China has also blocked most international social media sites and search engines, such as Facebook and Google.

Antiviral-COVID Pill

- ✓ The United Kingdom has become the first country in the world to approve a gamechanging COVID-19 antiviral pill.
- ✓ It has been jointly developed by the US-based- Merck and Ridgeback Biotherapeutics, in a fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ✓ The United Kingdom's Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) recommended the drug, molnupiravir, be used as soon as possible following a positive COVID-19 test and within five days of the onset of symptoms.

> Isomorphic Labs

- ✓ Alphabet launches Al-driven drug discovery start-up Isomorphic Labs.
- ✓ Google's parent company Alphabet has launched an Al-driven drug discovery start-up.
- ✓ The aim of this is to use artificial intelligence for drug discovery.
- ✓ The main objective of the company is to use AI (artificial intelligence) to
 accelerate drug discovery, and ultimately, find cures for some of humanity's most
 devastating diseases.

Commemorative £5 Coin - Mahatma Gandhi

- ✓ The Government of the United Kingdom (UK) has unveiled a £5 coin to commemorate the life and legacy of Mahatma Gandhi. It is the first time Mahatma Gandhi has been commemorated on an official UK coin.
- ✓ The coin is available in a range of standards, including gold and silver, The special collectors' coin was designed by Heena Glover.
- ✓ The coin features an image of a lotus, India's national flower, alongside one of Gandhi's most famous quotes 'My life is my message'.

> China has delivered its largest and most advanced warship to Pakistan

✓ The Type 054A/P frigate was named the PNS Tughril.

- ✓ It was designed and built by China State Shipbuilding Corporation Limited (CSSC)
- ✓ The frigate was delivered to the Pakistan navy in a commissioning ceremony in Shanghai.
- ✓ The PNS Tughril is the first hull of four Type 054 frigates being constructed for the Pakistan navy.
- ✓ The vessel is a technologically advanced and highly capable system with enormous surface-to-surface, surface-to-air and underwater firepower, besides extensive surveillance potentials.

NASA Science Mission

- ✓ Four astronauts returned from a record six-month NASA science mission aboard the International Space Station with their SpaceX Crew Dragon capsule named Endeavour.
- ✓ The return capped 199 full days in orbit, the longest ever for an entire USlaunched crew.
- ✓ It surpassed the previous 168-day record set by the predecessor SpaceX-Nasa mission earlier this year.
- ✓ The four astronauts were launched to orbit atop a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket that lifted off from Florida on April 23.

Historical Resolution Passed by China

- ✓ The Communist Party of China has given its approval to a rare resolution. It has uplifted and amplified the country's President Xi Jinping status in its history.
- ✓ The resolution approved by the country has put Xi Jinping on the same pedestal as Mao Zedong and Deng Xiaoping.
- ✓ The latest decision will help in the consolidation of Xi's authority and increase the chances of securing an unprecedented third leadership term in 2022.

"Crew 3" mission

- ✓ SpaceX launches Indian-origin astronaut Raja Chari-led Crew 3 mission.
- ✓ US Space agency NASA and the Elon Musk-owned private rocket company SpaceX have launched the "Crew 3" mission on November 10, 2021. The "Crew 3" mission consists of Indian-origin NASA astronaut Raja Chari as its mission commander.
- ✓ Under this mission, four astronauts have been sent to the International Space Station (ISS) for a six-month science mission until April 2022.

> \$1 trillion in 'climate finance'

✓ India has demanded a trillion dollars over the next decade from developed countries to adapt to, and mitigate, the challenges arising from global warming, and has kept this as a condition for delivering on climate commitments made by

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a senior official who is part of on-going climate agreement negotiations in Glasgow.
- ✓ India's five-fold plan aims at reducing the carbon intensity of its economy and eventually achieving net zero by 2070.

United Arab Emirates to host COP28 in 2023

- ✓ The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has announced that the UAE will host the 28th Conference of the Parties (COP28) in 2023.
- ✓ It will be the second time that the annual talks will be held in the Middle East, and the third time the talks are hosted by a member of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Fumio Kishida re-elected Japan's Prime Minister

- ✓ Fumio Kishida was re-elected as Japan's Prime Minister on 10 November 2021 after his governing party scored a major victory in key parliamentary elections.
- ✓ Elected just over a month ago by parliament, Kishida called a quick election in which his governing party secured 261 seats in the 465- member lower house.
- ✓ He was elected as PM of Japan on 4 October 2021.

India International Trade Fair 2021

- ✓ The India International Trade Fair 2021 was inaugurated by the Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal on 14 Nov 2021 in New Delhi.
- ✓ The Fair focuses on the theme "Aatmanirbhar Bharat".
- ✓ Bihar is the Partner State, while Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand are the Focus States.
 - Overseas participation is from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bahrain, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, UAE, Tunisia, and Turkey.

First Non Profit City in the World

- Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has announced the establishment of the first nonprofit city in the world on 14 November 2021.
- ✓ The city will be a model for the development of the nonprofit sector globally and an incubator for youth and volunteer groups, as well as local and international nonprofit institutions.
- ✓ It will be called Prince Mohammed bin Salman Nonprofit City.

SCHEMES

"Dairy Sahakar" Scheme

- ✓ Union Minister of Home Affairs, Amit Shah, launched the Dairy Sahakar Scheme on October 31, 2021. Scheme was launched at Anand, Gujarat with the objective of doubling farmer's income and making a Atmanirbhar Bharat.
- ✓ The scheme was launched with a total investment budget of Rs 5000 crore.
- ✓ It will be implemented by NCDC under Ministry of Cooperation to realize the vision, "from cooperation to prosperity".
- ✓ NCDC will extend the financial support to eligible cooperatives for activities like milk procurement, bovine development, quality assurance, branding, packaging, transportation, storage of milk & milk products, and to export dairy products.

Ayushman CAPF Health Card Scheme

- ✓ Union Home Minister Amit Shah on November 3, 2021, launched the Ayushman CAPF scheme health cards at the national level in New Delhi.
- ✓ The Ayushman CAPF scheme aims at offering coverage to serving personnel and their dependents across the seven Central Armed Police Forces.
- ✓ On January 23, 2021, Union Home Minister Amit Shah had launched the Ayushman CAPF scheme.
- ✓ The Ayushman CAPF scheme is a joint initiative of the Home Ministry, Health Ministry, and National Health Authority (NHA).

Krishi UDAN 2.0

- ✓ The Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) launched the 'Krishi UDAN 2.0' scheme
 to focus on transporting bio-degradable food products from the hilly areas,
 northeastern states and tribal areas.
- ✓ Under Krishi Udan 2.0, the Centre will facilitate the development of hub and spoke model in India and create cargo terminals at the airports in a phase-wise manner.
- ✓ The Krishi UDAN 2.0 scheme will be implemented at 53 airports across the country mainly focusing on Northeast and tribal regions and is likely to benefit farmers, freight forwarders and Airlines.
- ✓ Further, eight domestic and international trade routes will also be started under the scheme.

COMMITTES

- Economic Advisory Council (EAC)
- ✓ The Centre reconstituted the seven-member Economic Advisory Council (EAC) to the prime minister for a period of two years after its tenure ended in September 2021.
- ✓ President of the Indian Statistical Institute, former member of the NITI Aayog and Padma Shri awardee, Bibek Debroy has been retained as the chairman of the EAC-PM since 2017.
- ✓ He is among the four members who have been retained by the Government
- ✓ Former RBI deputy governor Rakesh Mohan, along with IIM Ahmedabad Professor T T Ram Mohan, and Director-General of the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) Poonam Gupta, are appointed as the three new part-time members.



CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

> CII Asia Health 2021 summit

- Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya addressed the inaugural session of CII Asia Health 2021 summit recently on October 28.
- ✓ The theme of the summit is 'Transforming Healthcare for a better tomorrow'.
- ✓ The Union Minister mentioned that the Government is committed to Access, Affordability, Accountability, Adoption and Awareness for a better future of Healthcare sector
- ✓ He added that the Government is focusing on the theme of 'From Token to Total Health'
- ✓ The Union Health Minister concluded by highlighting that the Government is focused on the objective of 'Health Society, Wealthy Nation'.

√ G-20 Summit adopts Rome Declaration

- ✓ Two-day G-20 Summit was concluded on October 31, 2021. During the summit, Rome Declaration was adopted.
- ✓ During the summit, leaders elaborated deliberations on issues of global importance like fighting covid-19 pandemic, improving health infrastructure, strengthening economic cooperation and furthering innovation.
- ✓ Countries agreed on the fact that, Covid-19 immunisation is a global public good.
- ✓ During the summit, countries also agreed that the World Health Organisation (WHO) will be strengthened to fast-track the process for emergency use authorisation of Covid-19 vaccines.
- ✓ Main focus of the session was on energy and climate.

> 6th 'Pune Dialogue on National Security 2021

- ✓ National Security Adviser Ajit Doval delivered the inaugural address at the 6th 'Pune Dialogue on National Security 2021' on October 28, 2021
- ✓ The two-day virtual conference had a keynote address by Dr Soumya Swaminathan, Chief Scientist of the World Health Organisation.
- ✓ The theme of this year's conference is 'National Security Preparedness in the Age of Disasters and Pandemics'.
- ✓ The participants discussed the impact of disasters and pandemics on India's national security and suggested strategies to deal with it.

Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS)

- ✓ On November 2, India and the United Kingdom jointly launched Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS) to help small island developing states (SIDS) build climate resilient infrastructure.
- ✓ The launch took place on the second day of the World Leaders' Summit.

- ✓ The IRIS will help SIDS mobilise finance and technology for developing their infrastructure.
- ✓ It will be implemented by the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), an intergovernmental body launched at India's initiative in 2019.
- ✓ The coalition will not create any new infrastructure, but will work towards making existing and upcoming infrastructure in member countries more robust and resilient against climate disasters such as floods, heat, cyclones, forest fires, and rain.

One Global Vietnam Summit

- ✓ France hosts One Global Vietnam Summit on 4-5 November 2021.
- ✓ One Global Vietnam Summit was held in Paris, France on 4-5 November 2021.
- ✓ It aimed to connect talent, creative ideas, and sustainable development policies for Vietnam and the wider world over the coming decades.
- ✓ The event was operated under the theme of "Talent. Innovation. Sustainability"
 (TIS) and was organized by the Association of Vietnamese Scientists and Experts
 (AVSE Global).

> Regional Security Dialogue On Afghanistan

- ✓ The Delhi Regional Security Dialogue on Afghanistan will be hosted by India in New Delhi on November 10, 2021.
- ✓ The meeting will discuss the overall security situation in Afghanistan following the Taliban's capture of power in the country.
- ✓ Central Asian countries as well as Russia and Iran have confirmed participation.
- ✓ This is the first time that all Central Asian countries, not just Afghanistan's immediate land neighbours, are participating in this format
- ✓ India has so far made contributions of around \$3 billion for Afghan redevelopment projects.

➤ Goa Maritime Conclave (GMC) - 2021

- ✓ The third edition of Goa Maritime Conclave (GMC) 2021 is being hosted by the Indian Navy from November 7 to 9, 2021 under the aegis of Naval War College, Goa.
- ✓ The theme for this year's edition of GMC is "Maritime Security and Emerging Non-Traditional Threats: A Case for Proactive Role for IOR Navies"
- ✓ The biennial GMC is Indian Navy's outreach initiative providing a multinational platform for maritime security leaders and the academia.
- ✓ As part of the Conclave, visitors would witness India's indigenous shipbuilding industry at the 'Make in India Exhibition'.

> cOcOn 2021

✓ Chief of Defence Staff, Bipin Rawat - will inaugurate cOcOn 2021, the annual cyber security and hacking conference, on November 12, 2021.

- ✓ The conference is being organised this year on the theme 'Improvise, Adapt and Overcome'.
- ✓ It will feature two days of pre-conference workshops on November 10 and 11, followed by the main conference on the next two days
- ✓ The conference will be organised under the theme "Improvise, Adapt and Overcome"as a part of International Information Security Day.

> The Delhi Declaration on Afghanistan

- ✓ On November 10, National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval chaired Delhi Regional Security Dialogue on Afghanistan.
- ✓ It was attended by NSA's and Security Council secretaries of Russia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan & Uzbekistan.
- ✓ A joint statement the Delhi Declaration on Afghanistan emphasized that the Afghan territory should not be used for sheltering, training, planning, or financing any terrorist acts.
- ✓ Further, the joint declaration also underscored the need to help Afghanistan contain Covid-19.

E-Amrit Portal launched by India at the ongoing COP26 Summit

- ✓ E-Amrit Portal has been launched by India at the ongoing COP26 Summit in Glasgow, UK.
- ✓ E-Amrit Portal is a web portal on electric vehicles (EVs).
- ✓ NITI Aayog has developed and hosted E-Amrit Portal under a collaborative knowledge exchange programme with the UK government.
- ✓ The purpose of E-Amrit Portal is to complement initiatives of the government on raising awareness on EVs. It also aims at sensitizing consumers on the benefits of switching to electric vehicles.

> 51st Conference of Governors and Lieutenant Governors

- ✓ President Ram Nath Kovind presided over the 51st conference of governors and lieutenant governors at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on November 10.
- ✓ The conference witnessed the participation of the governors and the lieutenant governors of all states and union territories
- ✓ During the speech, the President touched upon several topics concerning the national interest and spoke on India's development in these fields.
- ✓ The first conference of governors was held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in 1949 and was presided over by C Rajagopalachari, the last Governor-General of India.

United Nations Climate Change Conference

- ✓ Egypt was selected to officially host the 27th session of the 2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference in the Red Sea resort of Sharm El-Sheikh (COP27) in November 2022.
- ✓ This was decided at the COP26 conference held in Glasgow, United Kingdom

✓ In September, Egypt's President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi declared his country's interest in hosting the COP27 on behalf of the African continent. The Paris Climate Agreement — adopted at COP21 and signed by over 190 states — came into effect in 2016 with the aim of reducing the rate of global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Southern Zonal Council

- ✓ Union Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah chaired the 29th meeting of the Southern Zonal Council in Tirupati on November 14.
- ✓ The council comprises of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Telangana, and Union Territories of Puducherry, Lakshadweep and the Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

During the meeting, officials discussed a broad range of issues, including boundary disputes, security, and infrastructure-related matters like road, transport, industries, water and power.



SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

National Formulary of India (NFI)

- ✓ Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare, Mansukh Mandaviya launched the Sixth Edition of National Formulary of India (NFI) recently.
- ✓ NFI has been published by Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) to promote rational use of medicines in the country.
- ✓ The NFI is aligned with National Health Programmes and National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM).
- ✓ It contains important web links related to drugs banned in India, drugs banned in sports, Immunization schedule, "How to use NFI?" and salient features of NFI.
- ✓ Considering the prevalence of diabetes in the country, a separate Chapter on Management of Diabetes is included in this edition.

Global Methane Pledge

- ✓ On November 2, 2021, the ongoing UN COP26 climate conference in Glasgow Global Methane Pledge was launched.
- ✓ Methane is a greenhouse gas and a natural gas component. Its presence in the atmosphere raises the Earth's temperature. Methane is produced both by humans and by nature.
- ✓ This commitment was made with the goal of reducing methane emissions by 30% by 2030 when compared to 2020 levels.

 According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, methane is responsible for around half of the 1.0 degree Celsius increase in global average temperature since pre-industrial times.
- ✓ According to the United Nations, methane is responsible for 25% of global warming.

World's First Earth-Science Satellite

- ✓ China launches world's first Earth-science satellite.
- ✓ China on 5 November 2021, sent an Earth science satellite into space from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in the northern Shanxi Province.
- ✓ The satellite, called Guangmu, was launched by a Long March-6 carrier rocket.
- ✓ The satellite (SDGSAT-1) is the world's first space science satellite dedicated to serving the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Proba-1 Mini-Satellite

- ✓ European Space Agency's oldest serving Earth observing mission, Proba-1 minisatellite – has completed 20 years in orbit.
- ✓ Its two imaging instruments the Compact High Resolution Imaging Spectrometer (CHRIS) and the panchromatic High Resolution Camera (HRC) – have contributed more than 1000 images of more than 1000 sites.

- ✓ The images have been vital for monitoring several environmental concerns across the globe.
- ✓ The PROBA spacecraft was launched on October 22, 2001 on the PSLV-C3 launcher of ISRO from Sriharikota Range.

Shenzhou-13 mission

- ✓ Chinese astronaut Wang Yaping created history by becoming China's first woman to walk in space outside the Tianhe module, as part of a six-month Shenzhou-13 mission to the Tiangong space station.
- ✓ Wang Yaping, a crewmember, took part in the mission's first extravehicular activity with mission commander Zhai Zhigang.
- ✓ Mission commander Zhai is a former fighter pilot who performed China's first spacewalk in 2008.
- ✓ Shenzhou-13, meaning "Divine Vessel" in Chinese, is Zhai and Wang's second space mission.
- ✓ Wang is the second Chinese woman to have flown in space after joining the People's Liberation Army Air Force in August 1997.

> SpaceX

- ✓ SpaceX returns 4 astronauts to Earth, ending 200- day flight.
- ✓ Four astronauts aboard SpaceX's flagship Dragon capsule returned to Earth on 8 November 2021 after spending 200 days in space.
- ✓ NASA astronauts Shane Kimbrough and Megan McArthur, Japan's Akihiko Hoshide, and France's Thomas Pesquet were the 4 people.

Leonids Meteor Shower

- ✓ The annual Leonids Meteor Shower will remain active between November 6 and 30 this year, with peak activity expected on November 17.
- ✓ The Leonids appear to be originating from the constellation Leo and are best seen from a dark location in the night sky.
- ✓ The Leonids are believed to originate from a small comet called 55P/Tempel-Tuttle in the constellation Leo, which takes 33 years to complete one revolution around the sun.
- ✓ The last such storm took place in 2002.

DEFENCE

> 15B stealth guided-missile destroyer, Y 12704

- ✓ Indian Navy received its first Project 15B stealth guided-missile destroyer, Y 12704, on October 28
- ✓ The first of the four 7,400-tonne stealth destroyers was constructed at Mazagon Docks.
- ✓ The 163 metres long warship has a full load displacement of 7,400 tonnes and maximum speed of 30 knots.
- ✓ The ships are designed by the Directorate of Naval Design, Indian Navy's inhouse design organization.

New Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) 'Sarthak'

- ✓ A new Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) 'Sarthak' has been dedicated to the nation on October 28, 2021 by the Director General of Indian Coast Guard (ICG), K Natarajan in Goa.
- ✓ The indigenously built ICGS Sarthak will be based at Porbandar in Gujarat and operate on India's Western Seaboard under the Operational and Administrative Control of the commander of Coast Guard Region (Northwest)
- ✓ The 105-meter-long ship, displacing 2,450 tons, is propelled by two 9,100 kilowatt diesel engines that are designed to attain a maximum speed of 26 knots.

➤ 36th Raising Day

- ✓ Aviation Corps of Indian Army celebrate 36th Raising Day on November 1.
- ✓ The Aviation Corps of Indian Army celebrated its 36th Raising Day on November 1, 2021. Lieutenant General AK Suri, Director General and Colonel Commandant of Army Aviation Corps laid a wreath at National War Memorial to pay tributes.
- ✓ Raised on November 1, 1986 as a separate Corps, the Army Aviation Corps is one of the youngest Corps of the Army.

> Army and IAF - "airborne insertion and combat" exercise

- ✓ On November 1, the Army and IAF kicked off a major "airborne insertion and combat" exercise along the frontier of China in eastern Ladakh.
- ✓ The three-day exercise features hundreds of troops and heavy weapon systems
 at an altitude of over 14,000-feet and minus 20°Celsius temperatures
- ✓ The People's Liberation Army of China patrols along the 3,488-km LAC stretching from eastern Ladakh to Arunachal Pradesh
- ✓ The Indian exercise began with over 200 Para-Special Forces soldiers from the Agra-based Shatrujeet Brigade along the northern border in eastern Ladakh to validate its rapid response capabilities.

Blue Flag exercise

- ✓ Indian Air Force's Mirage 2000 aircraft squadron is taking part in the Blue Flag 2021 international exercise which was launched in Israel.
- ✓ Seven countries including Israel, Germany, Italy, Britain, France, India, Greece and the US are taking part in the war games.
- ✓ The Indian Mirages and the French Rafale are participating in the exercise for the first time.

> Indian Air Force

- ✓ IAF promotes Balakot air strike hero Abhinandan to Group Captain rank
- ✓ Indian Air Force on November 3, 2021, promoted the ace pilot Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman to the rank of Group Captain which is equivalent to a Colonel in the Indian Army.
- ✓ Balakot air strike hero Abhinandan was awarded a Shaurya Chakra for taking down an F-16 combat aircraft during a fight with Pakistani fighter aircraft.

➤ Long-Range (LR) Bomb

- ✓ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Air Force - jointly flight-tested an indigenously-developed long-range (LR) bomb from an aerial platform recently.
- ✓ The LR Bomb, after release from the IAF fighter aircraft, was guided to a land-based target at a long range with accuracy within specified limits

 The LR Bomb has been designed and developed by Research Centre Imarat (RCI), a DRDO laboratory located at Hyderabad in coordination with other DRDO laboratories.

> Scorpene Submarine - Vela

- ✓ The fourth submarine of the Project 75, Yard 11878 was delivered to the Indian Navy on 9 November 2021.
- ✓ Project 75 includes the construction of six submarines of Scorpene design.
- ✓ These submarines are being constructed at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) Mumbai, under collaboration with M/s Naval Group, France.

 'Vela' was launched on May 6, 2019, and has completed all major harbour and sea trials including weapon and sensor trials.

Indo-Thai CORPAT

- ✓ The 32nd edition of the India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (Indo-Thai CORPAT) between the Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy is being conducted from 12–14 November 2021.
- ✓ Indian Naval Ship (INS) Karmuk, Thailand Ship (HTMS) Tayanchon, a Khamrosin Class Anti-submarine Patrol Craft, along with Maritime Patrol Aircraft from both navies are participating in the CORPAT.

✓ CORPAT builds up understanding and interoperability between navies and facilitates the institution of measures to prevent and suppress unlawful activities like Illegal Unreported Unregulated (IUU) fishing, drug trafficking, maritime terrorism, armed robbery and piracy.

> SHAKTI 2021

- ✓ The 6th Edition of Indo France Joint Military Excercise- EX SHAKTI 2021 is being conducted from 15 to 26 November 2021 in Frejus, France.
- ✓ Exercise SHAKTI will focus on Counter-Terrorism operations under United Nations Mandate.
- ✓ The main objective of the exercise is to enhance military cooperation and interoperability between the two Armies.
- ✓ Troops of 21st Marine Infantry Regiment of 6th Light Armoured Brigade will represent French Military.

Dubai Air Show

- ✓ Indian Air Force contingent participates in Dubai Air Show.
- ✓ An aircraft contingent of the Indian Air Force (IAF), including its Sarang and Suryakiran aerobatics team, is participating in the Dubai Air Show.
- ✓ It is being held from November 14 to November 18, 2021. The IAF has been invited by the UAE government to perform along with some of the best aerobatics and display teams in the world, including the Russian Knights, and the UAE's Al Fursan.

S-400 Triumf Surface-To-Air Missile System

- ✓ Russia has started delivering the S-400 Triumf surface-to-air missile system to India.
- ✓ India has started receiving the air defence weapons from Russia despite threat of sanctions by the US.
- ✓ The S-400 is known as Russia's most advanced long-range surface-to-air missile defence system.
- ✓ India's first squadron of the S-400 Triumf surface-to-air missile systems will become operational by January-February, 2022.

> Institute for Defence Studies

- ✓ Institute for Defence Studies renamed after Manohar Parrikar.
- ✓ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh unveiled a plaque at the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses in New Delhi on November 15, 2021.
- ✓ It was launched to rename the institute after former Defence Minister late Manohar Parrikar.
 - It has been renamed as Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (MP-IDSA). Rajnath Singh is the President of the Institute.

ECONOMICS

Global Hackathon named HARBINGER 2021

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India has launched its first global hackathon named "HARBINGER 2021 Innovation for Transformation". The theme of HARBINGER 2021 is 'Smarter Digital Payments'.
- ✓ The Hackathon invites participants to identify and develop solutions that have the
 potential to make digital payments accessible to the under-served, enhance the
 ease of payments and user experience while strengthening the security of digital
 payments and promote customer protection.

> PM Modi launches two RBI schemes

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched two innovative, customer-centric initiatives of the Reserve Bank of India. They are RBI Retail Direct Scheme and the Reserve Bank - Integrated Ombudsman Scheme.
- ✓ The two latest schemes by the Central Bank will ease access to the government securities market for retail investors.

> ONGC

- ✓ On November 12, State-run ONGC reported a net profit of Rs 18,347 crore in the July-September period, marking the highest quarterly profit made by an Indian company.
- ✓ ONGC's profit zoomed 565% from Rs 2,758 crore in the previous corresponding period.
- ✓ This is attributed to the increasing oil prices and ONGC opting for a one-time gain of lower tax rate regime with effect from 2020-21.

RANKINGS

Governance Performance of States

- ✓ Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Telangana have taken the top three slots, emerging winners among the 18 large states in governance performance, based on a study conducted by Public Affairs Centre (PAC), a Bengaluru-based nonprofit think tank
- ✓ The study was based on scores secured by the states in governance performance across the pillars of equity, growth and sustainability.
- ✓ It has also assessed the states on the basis of their implementation of the centrally sponsored-programmes of rural employment guarantee scheme, national health mission, integrated child development service, Samagra Siksha Abhiyan and mid-day meal scheme
- ✓ In the overall rankings, Kerala continues to be at the top and Tamil Nadu has retained its second place.

> Edelgive Hurun India Philanthropy List

- ✓ The Edelgive Hurun India Philanthropy List 2021 was jointly released by Hurun India and EdelGive.
- ✓ Azim Premji, the founder and chairman of Wipro, topped the list with a donation of Rs 9,713 crore in fiscal 2020-21, or roughly Rs 27 crore each day.
- ✓ Shiv Nadar of HCL held second place on the list with a 59 percent increase in annual donations to Rs 1.263 crore.
- ✓ With an annual donation of Rs 577 crore, Mukesh Ambani, chairman of Reliance Industries, and his family came in third on the philanthropy list.

➤ India's Rank in Global Drug Policy Index

- ✓ The inaugural Global Drug Policy Index was released by the Harm Reduction Consortium, on November 7, 2021.
- ✓ In this index, Norway, New Zealand, Portugal, the UK and Australia are the five leading countries with respect to humane and health-driven drug policies.
- ✓ Five lowest-ranked countries are Brazil, Uganda, Indonesia, Kenya, and Mexico.
- ✓ India has been ranked at 18th position out of 30 countries.

Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI)

- ✓ India retains its spot in the top 10 best performing countries for the third year in a row in the latest global Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2022.
- ✓ The performance index of 2021 was released by Germanwaitch on the sidelines of the COP26 on November 9.
- ✓ India maintained its 10th position despite pandemic-hit difficulties.
- ✓ China, the biggest current polluter, stood at 37th position (down from 33rd last year) while the second most current emitter, the US, was at 55th spot.

✓ The CCPI is an independent monitoring tool for tracking climate protection performance of 60 countries and the European Union (27 nations) every year since 2005.

> National logistics index 2021

- ✓ The Logistics Ease Across Different States 2021 Index was recently published by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry. This is the third edition of the Index.
- ✓ In the index, Gujarat, Haryana and Punjab emerged as the best performing states with respect to mobility of goods and efficiency of the logistics chain.
- ✓ This index provides ranking to states on the basis of logistics infrastructure.



APPOINTMENT

> Paralympian Mariyappan Thangavelu

- ✓ The State appointed him as an officer in Tamil Nadu group-I services.
- ✓ Considering the achievements of Mariyappan Thangavelu in the international arena, the State government honours the athlete by appointing him as deputy manager (Marketing) in Tamil Nadu Paper Ltd (TNPL).
- ✓ Mariyappan shot to fame in 2016 when he won the gold medal in Paralympics in Rio. He also won the silver medal in the recently held Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games held in 2021.

National Research Development Corporation

- ✓ Retired Commodore Amit Rastogi has been appointed as the new Chairman & Managing Director of the National Research Development Corporation
- ✓ Commodore Amit Rastogi is a distinguished alumnus of Defence Services Staff College Wellington and College of Defence Management, Secunderabad.
- > Madurai Kamaraj University Vice-Chancellor Search Committee
- ✓ Former vice-chancellor of Anna University, E Balagurusamy has been appointed as convenor of Madurai Kamaraj University vice-chancellor search committee.
- ✓ Former vice-chancellor of Madurai Kamaraj University, P Maruthamuthu and former vice-chancellor of Tamil University, M Rajendran were nominated as the other members of the search committee.

✓ New Chief of Naval Staff

- ✓ Vice Admiral R Hari Kumar has been named as the new Chief of the Indian Navy. The current Chief, Admiral Karambir Singh is all set to retire on November 30.
- ✓ Currently, Kumar has been serving as the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Western Naval Command.
- ✓ Vice Admiral Kumar was commissioned into the executive branch of the Indian Navy in 1983.

New NDRF Director-General

- ✓ IPS Atul Rawal will be a new Director General (DG) of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).
- ✓ Presently, Rawal has been working as the Director of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy in Hyderabad.
- ✓ He is a 1988 batch IPS Officer from Gujarat cadre.
- ✓ Rawal has also served as the Superintendent of Police in many districts.

Working Group on Cooperatives

✓ Nandini Azad, President and Representative of Indian Cooperative Network for Women (ICNW), has been formally nominated by the global board of the World Farmers' Organisation to the prestigious 'Working Group on Cooperatives' as its global facilitator for a term of two years.

- ✓ She is the first Indian as well as first woman to be appointed to the assignment.
- ✓ The Working Group on Cooperatives is responsible for evolving a global policy on cooperatives in Agriculture and other allied sectors, and will engage with leading cooperatives from across the world.

> 'Fire and Fury' Corps Commander

- ✓ Lt Gen Anindya Sengupta to be next 'Fire and Fury' Corps Commander of the Indian Army in Ladakh.
- ✓ Lt General Anindya Sengupta will be the new Commander of the Leh-based Fire and Fury Corps by the end of November 2021.
- ✓ Sengupta will succeed Lt Gen PGK Menon.
- ✓ Sengupta will now head the talks from the Indian side amid the military standoff with China.

International Gymnastics Federation (FIG)

STUD

- ✓ Morinari Watanabe has been re-elected to a new three-year term as President of the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG).
- ✓ Watanabe was first elected FIG President in 2016 for a four-year term.
- ✓ That was extended by one year when the coronavirus pandemic caused the Tokyo Olympics to be postponed.
- ✓ His new term is three years so the next elections coincide with the 2024 Olympics in Paris.

PERSONALITIES

Earthshot Prize finalist, Vinisha Umashankar

- ✓ Earthshot Prize finalist, Vinisha Umashankar addressed the World Leaders' Summit on the session "Accelerating Clean Technology Innovation and Deployment", at the COP26 Summit, in Glasgow, Scotland on November 2.
- ✓ Vinisha was the youngest finalist for the inaugural Earthshot Prize launched by Britain's Prince William in October last year.
- ✓ A 15-year-old girl from Tiruvannamalai, Vinisha told world leaders to own up at COP26, the United Nations Climate Change Conference, at Glasgow.
- ✓ Vinisha designed 'Iron-Max', a mobile ironing cart that uses solar energy instead of charcoal.

CV Raman's 133rd birth anniversary

- √ 7 November 2021 marked the 133rd birth anniversary of Sir Chandrashekhara Venkata Raman also called C. V. Raman.
- ✓ He was the first Indian to win the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1930.
- ✓ He was also awarded a Bharat Ratna in 1954.
- ✓ He was born on November 7, 1888 in Trichy.
- ✓ He discovered the Raman scattering and the process, the Raman Effect.
- ✓ He passed away on November 21, 1970.

> Devasahayam Pillai

- ✓ An 18th Century Roman Catholic convert, Devasahayam Pillai is set to become the first Indian layman to be declared a saint by the Catholic church.
- ✓ A Hindu man from Kanyakumari district, Pillai was beatified as a martyr by the Catholic church for the torture he had to endure after he converted to Christianity in the 18th century, ultimately resulting in his killing in 1752.
- ✓ The Vatican had announced the decision to posthumously confer sainthood on Pillai, who took the name 'Lazarus' in 1745, on February 21, 2020.

Nykaa CEO Falguni Nayar

- ✓ Falguni Nayar, the CEO and founder of beauty and fashion eCommerce platform Nykaa, has become the richest self-made woman in India.
- ✓ She founded Nykaa in the year 2012. She holds 53.5% stake in Nykaa and has a net worth of USD 7.48 billion.
- ✓ This comes after the IPO of FSN E-Commerce Ventures which is Nykaa's parent entity. This is also the first woman-led unicorn to list on the stock exchange.
- ✓ The issue size of IPO of FSN E-Commerce Ventures (Nykaa) was Rs 5,351.92 crore with face value of Rs 1 per share.

Malayil Lukose Varghese Muthalaly

- ✓ Reverend Malayil Lukose Varghese Muthalaly, who will be consecrated a bishop in January 2022 - will be the youngest bishop of the Church of England.
- ✓ Rev Muthalaly, 42, is currently the vicar of St Mark's, Gillingham in the diocese of Rochester in England.
- ✓ Queen Elizabeth II has approved his appointment as the next bishop of Loughborough in the UK.



BOOKS & AUTHORS

> 2021 Booker Prize

- ✓ Damon Galgut wins 2021 Booker Prize for his novel 'The Promise'.
- ✓ South African author Damon Galgut has won the 2021 Booker Prize for Fiction for his novel The Promise.

Modern India

- ✓ M L Khattar, Haryana CM, has released the book 'Modern India', authored by Poonam Dalal Dahiya, Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP), Gurugram for Civil Services and Other Competitive Examinations.
- ✓ The book provides comprehensive information on the history of modern India.

Operation X

- ✓ Bangla edition of book on naval commando operation during liberation war of 1971 launched in Dhaka.
- ✓ The Bangla version of the book 'Operation X' about the naval commando operation jointly launched by the Indian Navy and the Mukti Bahini of Bangladesh was launched in Dhaka.
- ✓ The book is written by Capt MNR Samant and Sandeep Unnithan.
- ✓ It was co-written by noted author and journalist Sandeep Unnithan.

> Finding A Straight Line Between Twists and Turns

- ✓ A new book 'Finding A Straight Line Between Twists and Turns' authored by Aseem Chawla.
- ✓ Aseem Chawla, one of India's leading tax lawyers and well-known international tax and policy expert released his new book "Finding A Straight Line Between Twists and Turns – An Imperfect, Yet Honest Reflections on the Indian Tax Landscape" published by Matrix Publishers.
- ✓ The book provides an in-depth analysis of both national and international of the Indian tax landscape over a decade.

Nehru: The Debates that Defined India

- ✓ A book titled "Nehru: The Debates that Defined India" is co-authored by Tripurdaman Singh and Adeel Hussain.
- ✓ A new book serves as a revisionist exploration of India's first and longest-serving prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru and investigates the overlooked role of his contemporaries and opponents in shaping his political vision.

Sunrise over Ayodhya – Nationhood in our Times

- ✓ A new book "Sunrise over Ayodhya Nationhood in our Times" launched by former union minister and Congress leader Salman Khurshid.
- ✓ Khurshid said, "People used to think that it will take 100 years for the verdict to come. After the verdict, people started giving opinions perhaps without reading it or understanding that what, why or how did Supreme Court gave the judgement."

Book on Satyajit Ray

- ✓ Author Bhaskar Chattopadhyay comes up with new book on Satyajit Ray.
- ✓ Author Bhaskar Chattopadhyay has come up with a new book titled "The Cinema of Satyajit Ray", published by Westland.
- ✓ A new book on the works of legendary filmmaker Satyajit Ray revisits each one of his 39 feature films, shorts and documentaries to investigate their cinematic and social context.
- ✓ It claims to be an encyclopaedic coverage of Ray's cinema.



REPORT

Global Carbon Project - Findings

- ✓ The findings of the Global Carbon Project, a widely recognised international research project - was released on the side-lines of the UN Climate Conference (COP26) on November 3.
- ✓ Among the top four major emitters, China is projected as the worst emitter followed by the US, the EU (27 nations) and India.
- ✓ The percentage growth is projected to be the highest in India this year, even though the country will still be in fourth position in absolute terms.
- ✓ Reaching 'net zero' CO2 emissions by 2050 involves cutting global CO2 emissions by about 1.4 billion tonnes each year on average, as per the study.

> The FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization) - Food Price Index

- ✓ World food prices reach highest level as per the FAO Food Price Index.
- ✓ The FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization) Food Price Index, which tracks the international prices of a basket of food commodities, is up 3.9 per cent from September 2021, rising for a third consecutive month.
- ✓ Cereal prices overall increased by 3.2 per cent, with wheat rising five per cent.
- ✓ The vegetable oil index went up 9.6 per cent, hitting an all-time high and dairy rose by 2.6 points.

> WEF Report: Mission 2070- A Green New Deal for a Net Zero India

- ✓ World Economic Forum (WEP) published its report titled "Mission 2070: A Green New Deal for a Net-Zero India" to provide a roadmap for India's energy transition.
- ✓ India's transition towards a green economy could contribute about \$1 trillion in economic impact by 2030. It will create more than 50 million jobs.
- ✓ The economic impact would increase to \$15 trillion by 2070.
- ✓ Report notes that India's commitments are a critical foundation for achieving 1.5degree Celsius global warming target.
- ✓ India is on the frontline of climate change.

Ministry of Women and Child Development

- ✓ India has more than 33 lakh malnourished children with over half of them being in the severe category, as per the data provided by Ministry of Women and Child Development
- ✓ This figure was reported from Poshan tracker, on which numbers are directly entered by anganwadis and are accessed by the Central government.
- ✓ The Poshan tracker app developed in 2020 by the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development is used as a governance tool for real-time monitoring of nutritional outcomes.

- ✓ As on October 2021, there are 17.76 lakh severely acute malnourished children (SAM) and 15.46 lakh moderately acute malnourished (MAM) children across 34 states and union territories in the country
- ✓ To tackle high persistence of malnutrition in the country, the Centre launched the Poshan Abhiyan programme in 2018 to reduce low birth weight, stunting and undernutrition and anaemia among children, adolescent girls and women.

United Nations Children's Fund - UNICEF

- ✓ An estimated 240 million children globally are suffering from various disabilities, according to a UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) report released on 10 November 2021.
- ✓ The report includes comparable data from 42 countries and covers more than 60 indicators of child well-being.
- Children with disabilities are 24% less likely to receive early stimulation and responsive care.

UN Food and Agriculture Organization

- ✓ The global food trade should hit an all-time record high in both volume and value terms, according to a new report released by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).
- ✓ By the end of 2021, the global food import bill should extend beyond \$1.75 trillion, marking a 14 per cent increase from 2020.
- ✓ Even faster growth is expected for Low Income Food Deficit Countries (LIFDCs).
- ➤ United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- ✓ Number of forcibly displaced person has exceeded 84 million: UNHCR.
- ✓ The number of forcibly displaced persons has exceeded 84 million globally in 2021.
- ✓ This was stated United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, UNHCR in a report.

Convention on Climate Change

- ✓ The 26th session of the Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention
 on Climate Change (COP26) concluded on November 13 with the adoption of
 an agreement called the Glasgow Climate Pact by all 197 countries.
- ✓ The annual climate change summit called upon the countries to further strengthen their 2030 emission reduction targets or NDCs (nationally-determined contributions) by next year, rather than every five years, as previously required.
- ✓ Further, India announced a Panchamitra (a mixture of five elements) of climate actions and also promised to turn net-zero by the year 2070.

IMPORTANT DAY

World Vegan Day – 1 November

- ✓ World Vegan Day Is Celebrated On 1 November.
- √ Vegan Day is a chance to raise awareness about the advantages of a vegan diet and veganism in general.
- ✓ Louise Wallis, then-Chair of The Vegan Society in the United Kingdom, launched the day in 1994 to honor the 50th anniversary of the organization's inception and the coining of the terms "vegan" and "veganism."
- ✓ The Vegan Society's President chose November 1st as the date for the event.

 Vegan Day is now commemorated on this date, which is also the date on which
 the Vegan Society was founded.

Foundation Day – 1 November

- ✓ Seven Indian States, Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Chhattisgarh, Kerala, Karnataka, Punjab & Madhya Pradesh and two union territories Lakshadweep & Puducherry observed their Foundation Day on November 1, 2021.
- ✓ Earlier, Tamil Nadu also used to celebrate its foundation day on November 1.
- ✓ On October 30, the state government announced that Tamil Nadu Formation Day will be celebrated on July 18 from this year.
- ✓ Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala came into existence from the then Madras state on November 1, 1956, after the Linguistic Reorganisation of states.

International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists – 2 November

- ✓ The International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists is observed annually on 2 November.
- ✓ Purpose: to prevent all attacks and violence against journalists and media workers; to ensure accountability, bring to justice perpetrators of crimes against journalists and media workers, and ensure that victims have access to appropriate remedies.
- ✓ The day was recognized by the UN General Assembly in December 2013.
- ✓ The date chosen by the UN marks the death of Ghislaine Dupont and Claude Verlon, two French journalists killed while reporting in Mali on November 2, 2013.

National Ayurveda Day - November 2

- ✓ National Ayurveda Day was celebrated on November 2, 2021 by the Ministry of AYUSH, across the country.
- ✓ Ayurveda is an integral aspect of healthcare system of India. It holds recognition as traditional medicine system by World Health Organization (WHO).
- ✓ Union Ministry of AYUSH started observing Dhanvantari Jayanti (also called as Dhanteras) as Ayurveda day in 2016.

✓ The day was started being celebrated with the objective of nationalising the ayurvedic system of medicine and make it global.

World Tsunami Awareness Day: 5th November

- ✓ World Tsunami Awareness Day was observed across the world on 5 November.
- ✓ The day is celebrated to spread awareness among people across the world in matters related to the dangers of tsunami.
- ✓ World Tsunami Awareness Day in 2021 promotes the "Sendai Seven Campaign."
- ✓ It aims to "significantly expand international cooperation to developing nations through suitable and sustainable support to complement their national measures for the implementation of the current Framework by 2030."
- ✓ World Tsunami Day was first formally marked on November 5, 2016.

➤ International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict – November 6.

- ✓ Every year, The International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict is observed on November 6.
- ✓ This day is an international day and it aims to prevent The Exploitation Of The Environment In War And Armed Conflict.
- ✓ The United Nations General Assembly designated the day of 6th November as the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict on November 5, 2001.

Vigilance Awareness Week 2021

- ✓ The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has observed the "Vigilance Awareness Week 2021" from October 26 to November 1, 2021.
- ✓ The awareness campaign is observed every year as a mark of respect to Iron Man of India, Sardar Vallabhai Patel, whose birth anniversary falls on October 31.
- √ Theme 2021 Independent India @ 75: Self Reliance with Integrity
- ✓ The purpose of Vigilance Awareness Week is to raise awareness among the public about the ill effects of corruption.
- ✓ It was established in 1964 and given statutory status in 2003, by an act of Parliament.

National Cancer Awareness Day 2021

- ✓ Every year, **National Cancer Awareness Day** is observed on **7th November** to create awareness about the second leading cause of death globally, Cancer.
- ✓ This day also marks the Birth anniversary of Madame Curie who was a
 prominent scientist remembered for her efforts and contribution in the battle
 against cancer.
- ✓ Scientist Marie Curie is known for her discovery of radium and polonium.

➤ Infant Protection Day: 7 November

- ✓ Every year on November 7, Infant Protection day is celebrated to spread awareness among the people about the protection and safety of infants.
- ✓ Between the years 1990 and 2019, India had a high infant mortality rate.
- ✓ The current infant mortality rate in 2020 is 29.848 deaths per 1000 live births, a
 3.48 percent decrease from 2019.

International Day of Radiology: 08 November

- ✓ International Day of Radiology is observed globally on 8th November every year. The day is celebrated to promote the awareness of the value that radiology contributes to safe patient care, and improve public understanding of the vital role radiologists and radiographers play in the healthcare continuum.
- ✓ The theme for 2021 is 'Interventional Radiology Active care for the patient'.
- ✓ The day also marks the anniversary of the discovery of x-rays by Wilhelm Roentgen in 1895. World Radiology Day was first celebrated in the year 2012.

World Urbanism Day: 08 November

- ✓ World Urbanism Day, also known as "World Town Planning Day", is celebrated on 8 November globally, to recognise and promote the role of planning in creating livable communities.
- ✓ World Urbanism Day provides an opportunity to look at planning from a global perspective, in order to draw attention to the environmental impact resulting from the development of cities and territories.

Uttarakhand Foundation Day – November 9

- ✓ Uttarakhand, the 27th state of India, was formed on this day in the year 2000 after joining several districts from the Northwestern part of Uttar Pradesh and a portion of the Himalayan Mountain range.
- ✓ It was earlier known as Uttaranchal and renamed Uttarakhand on January 1, 2007, known as the 'Land of Gods', the state has very rich natural resources.
- ✓ The name Uttarakhand has been derived from the Sanskrit language, which literally means 'northern city'.

National Legal Services Day: 09 November

- ✓ In India, 09 November is celebrated as "National Legal Services Day" every year by all Legal Services Authorities, to commemorate the enactment of the Legal Services Authorities Act 1987.
- ✓ The Day is celebrated to make people aware of the various provisions under the Legal Services Authorities Act and the right of the litigants.
- ✓ On 11 October 1987, the Legal Services Authorities Act 1987 was enacted, while the act took effect on 9 November 1995.

International Week of Science and Peace: 9-14 November

- ✓ International Week of Science and Peace (IWOSP) is a global observance celebrated every year from November 9 to 14.
- ✓ It is celebrated to encourage people to develop better technology and cultivate peace in their countries.
- ✓ It was first observed in the year 1986.
- ✓ It was proclaimed as an International Week of Science and Peace by the UN General Assembly in the month of December 1988.

➤ World Science Day for Peace and Development: 10 November

- ✓ World Science Day for Peace and Development is celebrated on the 10th of November every year.
- ✓ This day is celebrated to highlight the important role that science play in society and the need to engage the wider public in debates on emerging scientific issues.
- ✓ The year 2021 marks the 20th edition of World Science Day for Peace and Development.
- ✓ With climate change becoming a serious threat to the lives of billions of people and the planet, this year's celebration will highlight the importance of "Building Climate-Ready Communities".

International Pathology Day: 10 November

- ✓ International Pathology Day (IPD) is observed on the second Wednesday of November.
- ✓ For 2021, the day will be observed on 10 November 2021.
- ✓ It is dedicated to highlighting the fundamental role of pathology in the healthcare community and in the lives of everyone.
- Pathology is a branch of medicine that is concerned with the cause and nature of the disease.

National Education Day: 11 November

- ✓ In India, the National Education Day is celebrated on 11 November every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the first education minister of independent India.
- ✓ The day was announced by the Ministry of Human Resource Development on 11 September 2008.
- ✓ Maulana Abul Kalam Azad served as the education minister from 15 August 1947 to 2 February 1958.

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas to be observed on November 15

✓ The Union Cabinet has approved the declaration of November 15 as Janjatiya Gaurav Divas.

✓ The declaration aims to commemorate brave tribal freedom fighters, as the date marks the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda, who had spearheaded the tribal movement in India during India's struggle for Independence.

> Armistice Day (Remembrance Day): 11 November

- ✓ Remembrance Day or Armistice Day is marked every year on 11 November.
- ✓ The day marks the anniversary of the signing of the Armistice that marked the end
 of the First World War in 1918.
- ✓ Traditionally, a two-minute silence is held at 11am, recognising the precise time
 that the hostilities ceased in 1918 the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th
 month.
- The day was first observed in 1919.

'Onake Obavva Jayanti' celebrated on November 11

- ✓ From 2021, the Karnataka government has decided to celebrate 'Onake Obavva Jayanti' on November 11 throughout the state.
- ✓ Onake Obavva was a woman warrior who fought the forces of Hyder Ali singlehandedly with a pestle ('onake' in Kannada) in Chitradurga in the 18th century.
- ✓ Obbava was killed by Hyder Ali's soldiers on the same day.

World Quality Day: 11 November 2021

- ✓ World Quality Day is observed every second Thursday in November.
- ✓ In 2021, November 11 marks the day.
- ✓ The goal of the day is to raise quality awareness across the globe, as well as to support economic prosperity for individuals.
- ✓ World Quality Week is being observed from 8- 12 November 2021.
- ✓ Its theme is "Sustainability: Improving Our Products, People, and Planet".

World Usability Day: 11 November 2021

- ✓ World Usability Day is celebrated on the second Thursday of November every year.
- ✓ For 2021, it was observed on 11 November.
- ✓ The day was first celebrated in 2005 by an organisation called the Usability Professionals Association, which is now known as User Experience Professionals Association.
- ✓ The theme for 2021 is "Design of our Online World: Trust, Ethics, and Integrity."

Public Service Broadcasting Day: 12 November

- ✓ Public Service Broadcasting Day is celebrated on 12 November every year.
- ✓ The day is celebrated to commemorate the first and only visit of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, to the studio of All India Radio, Delhi in 1947.

- ✓ On 12 November 1947, Mahatma Gandhi addressed the displaced people (refugees from Pakistan), who had temporarily settled at Kurukshetra in Haryana after partition.
- ✓ The day was declared as Public Service Broadcasting Day or (Jan Prasaran Diwas) in 2000, after it was conceptualised by Suhas Borker, Convenor, Jan Prasar.

➤ World Pneumonia Day observed on 12 November

- ✓ World Pneumonia Day is observed across the world on November 12 every year
 to raise awareness, promote prevention and treatment and produce action to
 combat the disease.
- ✓ World Pneumonia Day 2021 is an annual event that was first celebrated in the year 2009.
- ✓ The day was first celebrated on November 12, 2009, by the Global Coalition against Child Pneumonia.

➤ World Kindness Day: 13 November

- ✓ World Kindness Day is celebrated worldwide on November 13.
- ✓ The history of the day dates back to 1997 when World Kindness Movement hosted the first conference in Tokyo, Japan to bring together like-minded organizations from across the world.
- ✓ It was in 1998, that the day became an annual observance.
- ✓ World Kindness Movement was finally recognized as an official NGO in Switzerland.

World Diabetes Day – November 14

- ✓ World Diabetes Day is celebrated every year to raise awareness on diabetes mellitus, which is a chronic illness that is a result of malfunctioning of insulin production in the body.
- ✓ The Day commemorates the birthday of Sir Frederick Banting, who discovered the insulin hormone along with Charles Herbert Best in 1922.
- ✓ Leonard Thompson was the first person to receive the insulin injection.
- ✓ Insulin is a hormone produced by the pancreas which facilitates the absorption of glucose energy by the cells.
- ✓ Theme 2021-2023 "Access to Diabetes Care If Not Now, When?"

> Children's Day: 14 November

- ✓ Children's Day is celebrated across the country on November 14.
- ✓ The day marks the birth anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India.
- √ 14 November 2021 marked his 132nd birth anniversary.
- ✓ Prior to his death, India celebrated Children's Day on November 20, the day observed as World Children's Day by the United Nations.

> 146th Birth Anniversary of Tribal Leader Birsa Munda: 15 November 2021

- √ 15 November 2021 marked the 146th anniversary of Birsa Munda.
- ✓ He was an Indian tribal freedom fighter, religious leader, and folk hero who belonged to the Munda tribe.
- ✓ He was born on 15 November 1875 in Ranchi.
- ✓ The government has decided to observe his birth anniversary as Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas from 2021 onwards.

Jharkhand Foundation Day: 15 November

- ✓ Jharkhand celebrates its foundation day on November 15 every year.
- ✓ After the Indian Parliament passed the Bihar Reorganization Act, 2000, Jharkhand was carved out of Bihar on November 15, 2000.
- ✓ Jharkhand's state animal is the Indian elephant while state bird is Koel.
- ✓ The state's capital is Ranchi.



AWARDS

Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award 2020

- ✓ The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has awarded the prestigious Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award 2020 to the two Indian Army officers Lieutenant Colonel Servesh Dhadwal and Colonel Amit Bisht.
- ✓ It is the highest adventure sports honour in India that is awarded annually by the Ministry.

> Highest Civilian Awards

- ✓ On November 8, President Ram Nath Kovind conferred the highest civilian awards in the country, the Padma Awards, to 119 distinguished personalities at Rashtrapati Bhawan in New Delhi.
- ✓ The Padma Awards are one of the highest civilian honours of India announced annually on the eve of Republic Day.
- ✓ The Awards are given in three categories Padma Vibhushan (for exceptional and distinguished service), Padma Bhushan (distinguished service of higher order) and Padma Shri (distinguished service).
- ✓ The Padma Awards are given in various disciplines/ fields of activities, which
 include art, social work, public affairs, science and engineering, trade and
 industry, medicine, literature and education, sports, civil service, etc.

KidsRights International Children's Peace Prize

- ✓ Indian brothers Vihaan and Nav Agarwal won a prestigious children's prize for their project that aims to reduce waste and pollution and plant trees in their home city of New Delhi.
- ✓ The teenage boys were handed the 2021 KidsRights International Children's Peace Prize by Indian Nobel Peace Prize laureate Kailash Satyarthi at a ceremony in The Hague, Netherlands.
- ✓ The brothers got the idea to begin their garbage separation and recycling project, One Step Greener, in 2017 after the collapse of the Ghazipur landfill site in 2017.
- ✓ Previous winners of the prize include include Pakistani education advocate Malala Yousafzai and Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg.

OBITUARY

Former PM of Afghanistan Ahmad Shah Ahmadzai passes away

- ✓ Ahmad Shah Ahmadzai, the former Prime Minister (PM) of Afghanistan and a renowned jihadi leader passed away at the age of 77 in Kabul, Afghanistan.
- ✓ Ahmad Shah Ahmadzai has served as the acting PM of Afghanistan under President Burhanuddin Rabbani during 1995-1996 prior to the 1996 Taliban Takeover.

> Tarak Sinha

- ✓ Renowned cricket coach Tarak Sinha passed away due to lung cancer in New Delhi on November 6.
- ✓ Tarak Sinha produced 12 international cricketers besides several first-class cricketers since starting the Delhi's famous Sonnet Cricket Club in 1969.
- ✓ He coached three generations of cricketers and earned the lifetime Dronacharya award in 2018.

> Philosopher Koneru Ramakrishna Rao

- ✓ Well-known educationist, teacher, and philosopher, Koneru Ramakrishna Rao passed away.
- ✓ He was an internationally recognized psychologist and served as president of the US-based Parapsychological Association and the Indian Academy of Applied Psychology.
- ✓ He was awarded Padma Shri in 2011. Ramakrishna Rao was instrumental in bringing in numerous curricular reforms to link classrooms with the community during his tenure as the Vice-Chancellor of Andhra University and Chairman of the APSCHE.

Nobel Laureate and former South African President FW de Klerk passes away

- ✓ FW (Frederik Willem) de Klerk, the former president of South Africa and the last white person to head the country, has passed away due to cancer.
- ✓ He was head of state between September 1989 and May 1994.
- ✓ In 1993, De Klerk and Nelson Mandela jointly received the Nobel Peace Prize for their work towards ending apartheid.

Babasaheb Purandare

- ✓ Babasaheb Purandare, notable author, historian, and Padma Vibhushan awardee has passed away at the age of 99. In 2019, the Indian writer and theatre personality was honoured with Padma Vibhushan.
- ✓ Babasaheb Purandare was a celebrated author and historian and was known for his work on Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

SPORTS

National Sports Awards

- ✓ The National Sports Awards for the year 2021 were announced by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports on November 02, 2021.
- ✓ President of India Shri Ramnath Kovind will felicitate the awardees on November 13, 2021.
- ✓ The National Sports Awards are given every year to recognize and reward excellence in sports.

Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award

✓ The National Sports Award will be conferred to the awardees in New Delhi on November 13, 2021. Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award will be conferred to 12 sportspersons including Neeraj Chopra (Athletics), Sreejesh PR (Hockey), Manpreet Singh (Hockey), Ravi Kumar (Wrestling), Lovlina Borgohain (Boxing), Sunil Chhetri (Football), Mithali Raj (Cricketer) and Paralympians Sumit Antil, Avani Lekhara, Manish Narwal, Pramod Bhagat and Krishna Nagar.

Rujna Zora Chess Tournament

- ✓ Indian GM P Inivan won Rujna Zora chess tournament.
- ✓ Indian Grandmaster (GM) P Iniyan has won the 5th Rujna Zora chess tournament held at Serbia.
- ✓ P Iniyan is the 16th Indian Grand Master from Erode, Tamil Nadu. His current International Chess Federation (FIDE) ratings is 2556.

Rahul Dravid

- ✓ Former India captain Rahul Dravid has been officially appointed as the next head coach for the senior Indian men's team.
- ✓ The Indian cricket board (BCCI) made the announcement on November 3,Dravid will take over from Ravi Shastri from the home series against New Zealand, which starts on November 17.
- ✓ Dravid reached the peak of his coaching career in 2018, when under him, India, led by Prithvi Shaw lifted the Under-19 World Cup in New Zealand.

Men's Boxing World Championships

- ✓ Akash Kumar wins bronze in Men's Boxing World Championships.
- ✓ Akash Kumar won a bronze medal in the Men's Boxing World Championships on 4, November 2021.
- ✓ Akash became only the seventh Indian male boxer to secure a medal.

Inaugural ISSF President's Cup

- ✓ India's woman pistol ace Manu Bhaker and Iran's reigning Olympic champion Javad Foroughi won the 10m air pistol mixed team gold at the inaugural ISSF President's Cup at Wroclaw, Poland
- ✓ The Indo-Iranian pair prevailed over French-Russian duo of Mathilde Lamolle and Artem Chernousov 16-8 in the gold medal match on November 5.
- ✓ The inaugural ISSF President's Cup is a rechristened version of the World Cup Finals.

India's quickest and 71st Grandmaster (GM)

- ✓ On November 7, Sankalp Gupta created history by becoming India's quickest and 71st Grandmaster (GM).
- ✓ The 18-year-old achieved the title in mere 24 days and in three successive tournaments.
- ✓ Of the 70 GMs in the country no other Indian master has ever become a title holder in such a short time.
- ✓ Sankalp Gupta is now Maharashtra's 10th GM.
- ✓ To achieve the GM title, a player is required to achieve three norms and cross the live rating of 2500 Elo points.

World Table Tennis Contender Event

- ✓ India's Manika Batra and Archana Girish Kamath bagged the women's doubles title at the World Table Tennis Contender event in Lasko, Slovenia.
- ✓ On November 8, the Indian pair defeated Puerto Rico's Diaz sisters, Adriana and Melanie, in three games in the final.
- ✓ Manika and Archana, ranked 33rd, claimed their first title in the WTT Contender series by defeating the Diaz sisters 3-0 in the final.

> ISSF Presidents Cup

- ✓ India's Saurabh Chaudhary and Abhishek Verma won silver and bronze respectively in the men's 10m air pistol final of the ongoing ISSF Presidents Cup Rifle/Pistol in Wroclaw, Poland on November 6
- ✓ The Indian duo finished ahead of reigning Olympic champion, Javad Foroughi of Iran in the four-man final, but lost to 2016 Rio Olympic champion Christian Reitz of Germany, who won gold.

Akshay Karnewar

- ✓ On November 8, Vidarbha's left-arm spinner Akshay Karnewar became the first ever bowler in cricket history not to concede any runs from his quota of four overs in the T20 format.
- √ Vidarbha's 29-year-old left-arm spinner Akshay Karnewar ended his quota of four overs with figures of 4-4-0-2 against Manipur in the ongoing Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy at the ACA Stadium in Vijayawada.

- ✓ This feat has never been achieved in a T20 International, including domestic and franchise T20 cricket.
- ✓ Akshay Karnewar is an ambidextrous bowler, which means he can bowl both right-arm off-spin and left-arm orthodox spin.

India's 72nd Grand Master

- ✓ Bengal's Mitrabha Guha became India's 72nd GM on November 9 by earning his third and final norm in the GM Third Saturday Mix 220 at Novi Sad, Serbia.
- ✓ The 20-year-old earned his second GM norm just 13 days ago at the Sheikh Russel International GM in Bangladesh.
- ✓ Guha earned his first norm in 2018 at the 20th Sant Marti International Chess Open in Spain.
- ✓ To achieve the GM title, a player has to secure three GM norms and cross the live rating of 2,500 Elo points.

Latest Rankings of the World Chess Federation (FIDE)

- ✓ Maharashtra's youngest Grandmaster (GM) Raunak Sadhwani is now world's No 1 chess master in the U-16 age group.
- ✓ As per the latest rankings of the World Chess Federation (Fide), Raunak was third behind Indian GMs Gukesh D and Praggnanandhaa R before the start of Grand Swiss international rating tournament.
- ✓ Raunak, 15, a wildcard entry in the tournament, put up an excellent show in the 11-round tournament to jump two places and take the No. 1 position.

> Asian 49er Sailing Championships

- ✓ Indian duo of Varun Thakkar and K.C. Ganapathy clinched the gold medal in the Asian 49er Sailing Championships in Al Mussannah Sports City, Oman on November 9
- ✓ The Indian duo was the top Asian team in a fleet of 30, which also had teams from outside Asia.
- ✓ The Asian champions will now represent India at the 49er World Championships, starting from November 16 at the same venue.

Novak Djokovic won 37th Masters Tennis Title at Paris 2021

- ✓ Novak Djokovic (Serbia) has defeated Danill Medvedev (Russia) in the finals to win his 6th Paris Title & the record 37th Masters Title at Paris, France. In the finals, Djokovic, with an impressive 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 defeating Danill Medvedev.
- ✓ With this win, Djokovic will remain at the ATP World Number 1 rank, for the record
 7th consecutive year.

> ISSF President's Cup

✓ India finished the inaugural ISSF President's Cup with five medals, including two Gold, two Silver and one Bronze.

- ✓ The invitation-only tournament was held at the Wroclaw in Poland, featuring the top-12 shooters in each of the shotgun, pistol and rifle categories.
- ✓ India's Manu Bhaker bagged two gold medals.

India's first National Yogasana Sports Championships

- ✓ India's first Physical National Yogasana Championships has been organised in Bhubaneswar, Odisha from November 11-13, 2021.
- ✓ The National Yogasana Sports Championships 2021-22 has been organised by the National Yogasana Sports Federation (NYSF) in association with the Odisha state.
- ✓ Around 560 young Yogasana Sports athletes from across 30 states would are taking part in the event.
- ✓ The event aims to promote yoga and create a global brand around it, portraying it as a competitive sport with high standards and benchmarks.

Gran Canaria Sailing Championships

- ✓ Nethra Kumanan wins gold in Gran Canaria Sailing Championships.
- ✓ India's Nethra Kumanan won gold in the laser radial section of the Gran Canaria sailing championships, one of the European regional open events, held in Gran Canaria (Spain), in November 2021.
 - She finished first in three of the six races while garnering a total of 10 Nett points.

➤ Men's T20 World Cup

- ✓ Australia have beaten New Zealand by 8 wickets to win their first ever ICC Men's T20 World Cup title at the Dubai International Stadium on November 14.
- ✓ Australia chased down the target of 173 in 18.5 overs with Mitchell Marsh scoring an unbeaten 77 while David Warner making 53.
 - This is the sixth World title for Australia after bagging five ODI World Cup titles the most in the history.

