



CURRENT AFFAIRS-JULY 1-31, 2023

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Foot Prints (Compilation of Current Events)

 TAMIL NADU	 STATES	 NATIONAL	 INDIA & THE WORLD	 INTERNATIONAL
 SCHEMES	 DEFENCE	 SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	 EVS	 ECONOMY
 COURT VERDICTS	 CONFERENCES & SUMMITS	 AWARDS	 PERSONALITIES	 BOOKS & AUTHORS
 SPORTS	 RANKS & REPORTS	 DAYS	 OBITUARY	 NEWS OF THE MONTH
 KNOWLEDGE	 APPOINTMENTS	 COMMITTEES	 APPS / PORTALS	 MISCELLANEOUS

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TAMIL NADU

➤ Tamil Nadu's Electronics Exports

- ✓ Tamil Nadu - emerged as the country's top electronics exporter in the financial year ended March 2023.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu's electronics exports stood at \$5.37 billion in FY23, up from \$1.86 billion in the previous year, as per the exports data released by the Centre.
- ✓ This helped the state to jump from fourth spot in FY22 to the top spot in FY 23.
- ✓ With this, Tamil Nadu has surpassed industrial majors like Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra to emerge on top for the first time after the shutting down of Nokia in 2014.

	TN	UP	Maharashtra	Karnataka
2022-23	5.3	4.9	2.6	4.5
2021-22	1.8	3.8	2.1	3.9
2020-21	1.6	2.8	1.6	2.3

Source: National Import-Export Records

- ✓ Skilled manpower, port connectivity and good infrastructure are the major advantage factors of Tamil Nadu.

➤ Arikandam

- ✓ Researchers - have identified a 1,000-year-old 'Arikandam' near Cholapuram in Sivaganga district.



- ✓ 'Arikandam' refers to a statue installed in the memory of a man who took his own life through decapitation to redeem a vow made to goddess Kali.
- ✓ The statue has been found in the Pidari Amman temple, which is situated between Cholapuram and Nalukottai village.

- ✓ 'Arikandam' was the act of a man making a vow to the deity to take his own life by chopping off his own head, if he won a war or overcame a disease.
- **StartupTN**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu's nodal agency for entrepreneurship StartupTN - launched an automotive, electric vehicle (EV) and smart mobility forum for the state's startups.
- ✓ The forum was launched by StartupTN along with investment promotion agency Guidance TN and other stakeholders on July 3.
- ✓ The multiagency forum will help startups connect with investors, seek mentorship, help in policy level support, among others.
- **Poomalai Vaniga Valagam (PVV)**
- ✓ Chief Minister M K Stalin - inaugurated Poomalai Vaniga Valagam (PVV) at Rs.5.16 crore for the development of women enterprises in 26 districts under the Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women (TNCDW) recently.



- ✓ He also launched Nano Enterprise Financing Fund (NEFF) under the Vazhndhu Kattuvom Project (VKP) at Rs.50 crore.
- ✓ Under the project, every district capital should have principal sale centres and additional sale centres to facilitate bank loans, and jobs and enable the sales of products of rural self-help groups at premium prices in urban areas.
- **Green Tamil Nadu Mission (GTM)**
- ✓ The Green Tamil Nadu Mission (GTM) under the Department of Environment - has signed a memorandum of understanding with Urbaser Sumeet to green garbage hotspots in seven GCC zones.
- ✓ As per the agreement, GTM will distribute native saplings for free to Urbaser Sumeet for plantations.
- ✓ The aim of the MoU signed on July 7 is to increase green cover in urban areas and battle the heat island effect.

- ✓ The goal of the initiative is to increase the green cover from 23% to 33% in Tamil Nadu.
- **Flying Training Organisation (FTO)**
- ✓ India gets its 36th and Tamil Nadu its first flying training school.
- ✓ India's aviation education landscape has witnessed a significant boost with the recent approval of the first Flying Training Organisation (FTO) in Tamil Nadu by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).
- ✓ EKVI Air Training Organization Pvt Ltd has been granted permission to operate from Salem Airport, marking a significant milestone for aspiring pilots in the region.
- **Authoor Betel Leaves from Tamil Nadu - GI certificate**
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu State Agriculture Marketing Board and NABARD Madurai Agribusiness Incubation Forum have awarded a Geographical Indication (GI) certificate to the Authoor betel leaves from Thoothukudi district in Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ The certificate is granted in the name of Authoor Vattara Vetrilai Vivasayigal Sangam. This GI recognition opens up new avenues for marketing the Authoor betel leaves, enabling their reach in both domestic and international markets, tapping into their marketing potential.
- **Kalaignar Centenary Library**
- ✓ On July 15, Chief Minister MK Stalin - inaugurated the 'Kalaignar Centenary Library' at New Natham Salai in Madurai, as part of former chief minister M Karunanidhi's birth centenary celebrations.



- ✓ The six-storeyed library, which features 3.5 lakh books, has been built on 2,13,338 square feet area at a cost of Rs.120.75 crore by the Public Works Department.
- ✓ One of the prideful facts is, after the London museum, Madurai Kalaignar centenary library only has the first edition of Sathuragarathi (Tamil dictionary) which was published in 1824.

➤ **Vasippu Iyakkam**

- ✓ On July 21, the government - launched Vasippu Iyakkam (reading movement) at a government middle school near Thuraiyur.



- ✓ The campaign seeks to nurture reading habit among school students
- ✓ The books have been divided into levels such as nulai (enter), nada (walk), oodu (run) and para (fly) under the title 'Oru Kadhai, Oru Puthagam and 16 Pakkam'.
- ✓ The objective of the scheme is to help students pick up reading habit by setting up libraries in the classroom.

➤ **Tide Turners Plastic Challenge**

- ✓ On July 27, the state government - launched 'Tide Turners Plastic Challenge', aimed at reducing plastic use among school and college students.



- ✓ The government has collaborated with the United Nations Environment Programme (UN EP) for the initiative.
 - ✓ The programme will be implemented in three levels - entry, leadership and championship - through eco clubs in private and government schools.
- **Voluntary Industrial Green Rating Mechanism**
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and the environment department - have launched a 'voluntary industrial green rating mechanism' for industries across the state.
 - ✓ The main objective of the initiative is to accelerate green growth and to help the state move towards economically viable and socially responsible businesses.
 - ✓ Energy security, conservation of water resources, clean air, greenhouse gas monitoring, sustainable waste management, and green initiatives by the industries are the various criteria employed for giving the green rating performance.
- **Thozhi**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu's Department of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment - has started eleven hostels for working women in various districts.
 - ✓ The hostels named 'Thozhi' will be operated under the aegis of the Tamil Nadu Working Women's Hostel Corporation Ltd.
 - ✓ Recently, Chief Minister M K Stalin inaugurated two new 'thozhi' hostels and seven renovated hostels across the state.



✓ According to the CM, 'thozhi' hostels will find a permanent place in the annals of Tamil Nadu history like 'Dravidar Illam,' the pre - independence hostel run by Dravidian ideologue C Natesa Mudaliar for non-Brahmin students.

➤ **Tamil Nadu International Kite Festival (TNIKF)**

✓ The second edition of the Tamil Nadu International Kite Festival (TNIKF) - will take place from August 12 to 15 at the TTDC Ocean View, Mahabalipuram.



- ✓ The festival is organised by Global Media Box in collaboration with the department of tourism, Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Last year, the event was a huge success attracting over 50,000 visitors.
- ✓ The theme for this year's event is 'Save Marine Life, Save Mother Earth'.

➤ **First 1000-Best Healthy Days' Scheme**

- ✓ The 'First 1000- Best Healthy Days' Programme that aims at monitoring the nutrition of pregnant women and newborns for the first 1,000 days.
- ✓ "The scheme aims to ensure normal weight for pregnant women and adequate nutrition for newborns up to two years".
- ✓ Funded under the State Balanced Growth Fund of the State Planning

Commission, the scheme was being executed by the Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine (DPH) at a cost of 38.20 crore for 2022-2024.



STATE

➤ Honour of Dead Body Bill-2023

- ✓ On July 20, the Rajasthan assembly - passed the Rajasthan Honour of Dead Body Bill-2023, aimed at ending the use of the dead body as a tool of protest.
- ✓ The bill prohibits people from holding a sit-in or protest with a family member's body.
- ✓ It proposes a jail term of up to two years and fine in case of violation, while the punishment in case of non-family members will be imprisonment ranging from five months to six years.
- ✓ A one-year sentence has been proposed if a deceased person's family refuses to accept the body.

➤ Atal Tinkering Lab in Kerala



- ✓ OPPO India set up first PPP (Public- Private Partnership) model Atal Tinkering Lab in Kerala in collaboration with NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission as its knowledge partner.
 - ✓ The primary objective of this initiative is to create an empowered future-ready workforce and nurture entrepreneurship and technological skills among the youth.
- ## ➤ Second Longest-serving Chief Minister
- ✓ On July 23, Odisha Chief Minister and Biju Janata Dal (BJD) supremo Naveen Patnaik - becomes the second longest-serving Chief Minister in India.



- ✓ He broke the record set by former West Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu after completing 23 years and 139 days as Chief Minister of Odisha.
- ✓ Jyoti Basu served as the Chief Minister of West Bengal from June 21, 1977 to November 5, 2000 for a period of 23 years and 138 days.
- ✓ Pawan Kumar Chamling, the former Chief Minister of Sikkim, is the longest-serving Chief Minister after independence.

➤ **Social Security to Gig Workers**

- ✓ On July 24, Rajasthan - became the first state in the country to pass a law to provide social security to gig workers.



- ✓ The Bill gives rights to platform-based gig workers to register themselves with the state government, have access to social security schemes and to solve any grievances among other things
- ✓ Gig workers are those who work temporary jobs, typically in the service sector as an independent contractor or freelancer like Swiggy or Zomato.

➤ **First-ever Transgender Birth Certificate**



- ✓ **Noor Shekhawat** became the first transgender person in **Rajasthan** to be issued a birth certificate with the gender recorded as transgender.
- ✓ In her old birth certificate, her gender was marked as male.
- ✓ Shekhawat was handed her new birth certificate by municipal and state government officials. She runs an NGO for the transgender community and also wants to complete her graduation.

➤ **1st Indian City to Join World Cities Culture Forum**



- ✓ **Bengaluru**, the capital of Karnataka became the first Indian city to be part of the **World Cities Culture Forum (WCCF)**, a global network of cities that share research and intelligence to explore the role of culture in future prosperity.
- ✓ Bengaluru became the 41st city to join the forum and the network currently includes 40 cities across six continents. **The forum includes cities like New York, London, Paris, Tokyo, and Dubai.**

NATIONAL

➤ Report Fish Disease

- ✓ Union Minister of Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Dairying Parshottam Rupala - recently launched an android-based mobile app 'Report Fish Disease' at Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi on June 28.



- ✓ This app is designed to help fish farmers and improve disease management in the aquaculture sector.
- ✓ It allows farmers to easily report fish diseases by connecting them directly with district fisheries officers and scientists.
- ✓ The 'Report Fish Disease' app simplifies and improves disease reporting for fish farmers, ensuring that experts can intervene promptly.

➤ National Sickle Cell Anemia Eradication Mission 2047

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi - launched the National Sickle Cell Anemia Eradication Mission 2047 in the Lalpur village, located in Shahdol district of Madhya Pradesh on July 1.



- ✓ Sickle cell anemia is a blood disorder that is inherited from generation to generation.

- ✓ The mission aims to eliminate sickle cell disease as a public health problem by 2047.

➤ **Time Bank**

- ✓ A social organisation, Nirogi Bharat Foundation - has started a 'time bank' in Dehradun for the first time in the country.
- ✓ The 'time bank' enables account holders to 'deposit their time' by volunteering to assist elderly people, and in return, receive help when needed.
- ✓ The initiative is "based on a concept first adopted in countries like Sweden and Denmark."
- ✓ Anyone interested in sharing their time with elderly people in need can become a member of the time bank after police verification.

➤ **Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2022**

- ✓ The Union Cabinet - approved the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2022 on July 5.
- ✓ The bill is likely to be introduced in the Monsoon Session of Parliament starting July 20.
- ✓ The scope of the draft Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2022, is limited to online personal data belonging to the user.

➤ **Akshar River Cruise**

- ✓ Union Minister for Home and Cooperation Amit Shah - virtually launched the 'Akshar River Cruise' on Sabarmati Riverfront on July 2.



- ✓ The cruise is the first passenger catamaran built in the country under 'Make in India' scheme at a cost of Rs 15 crore, in which 165 passengers can travel safely.
- ✓ The 30-meter-long luxury cruise, which has two engines and takes two hours to drive, will help boost tourism in Gujarat.

➤ **Scheme for Expansion and Modernization of Fire Services in the States**

- ✓ The Union Ministry of Home Affairs - launched the 'Scheme for expansion and modernization of Fire Services in the States' with a total outlay of Rs 5,000 crore.

- ✓ The new scheme was launched on July 5 for strengthening fire services in the States.
- ✓ According to the home ministry, the outlay of Rs.5,000 crore was earmarked for priority expansion and modernisation of fire services from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) corpus.

➤ **The Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill, 2023**



- ✓ A Parliamentary committee has given a go-ahead to the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill, 2023 without objections.
- ✓ The bill proposes amendments to the Forest Conservation Act 1980 and aims to exempt certain forest lands from legal protection. The bill is expected to be tabled during the monsoon session of the Parliament.

➤ **Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957**

On July 12, the government - cleared amendments to the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957.

- ✓ This will allow the commercial mining of six critical minerals – lithium, beryllium, niobium, tantalum, titanium and zirconium – and deep-seated minerals like gold, silver and copper by private companies
- ✓ Currently, commercial mining of these critical minerals by private companies is prohibited.
- ✓ Only government agencies were allowed in exploration and mining operations.

➤ **PBW RS1**

- ✓ The Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), located in Ludhiana - has developed a new wheat variety called PBW RS1.



- ✓ PBW RS1 has similar total starch content to other wheat varieties but has significantly higher resistant starch content (RS in the name refers to resistant starch) and amylose content.
- ✓ Resistant starch helps in reducing the prevalence of diet-related diseases like obesity and type-2 diabetes.

➤ **Bharat Dal**

- ✓ Piyush Goyal launches sale of subsidised chana dal under 'Bharat Dal'
- ✓ The Centre has announced the sale of subsidised chana dal under the brand name 'Bharat Dal' to provide relief to consumers from price rises.
- ✓ The dal will be available for Rs 60 per kg for a 1 kg pack and Rs 55 per kg for a 30 kg pack.
- ✓ The retail outlets of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) in Delhi-NCR are selling the chana dal.

➤ **Bharat Dal**

- ✓ The Centre recently announced the sale of subsidised chana dal under the brand name 'Bharat Dal' to provide relief to consumers from price rise.



- ✓ Union Food Minister Piyush Goyal launched the sale of 'subsidised' chana dal under the brand name 'Bharat Dal' on July 17.
- ✓ The dal will be available for Rs 60 per kg for a 1 kg pack and Rs 55 per kg for a 30 kg pack.
- ✓ The chana dal, under this arrangement, is also made available to state governments for supplies under their welfare schemes.

➤ **AI for India 2.0**

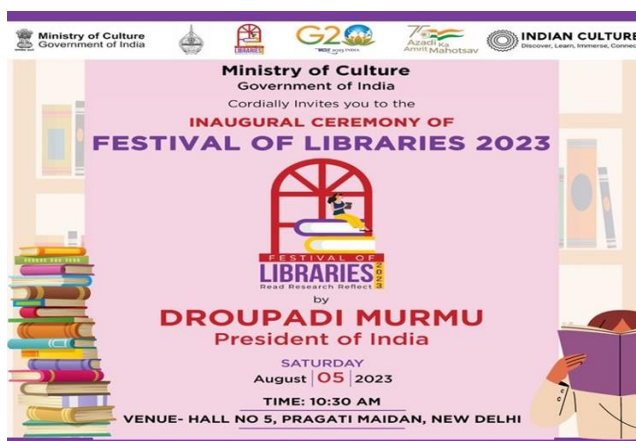
- ✓ The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship - has launched AI for India 2.0, a free online training program focused on Artificial Intelligence.



- ✓ The program was launched recently on World Youth Skills' Day (July 15).
- ✓ The online program holds accreditations from the National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET) and IIT Madras, aiming to equip young individuals with cutting-edge skills.

➤ **Festival of Libraries 2023**

- ✓ President Droupadi Murmu - will inaugurate the unique 'Festival of Libraries 2023', a two-day event to be held on August 5 and 6 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.



- ✓ The festival, which focus on the promotion of both physical and digital libraries, is being organised by the Union Ministry of Culture

- ✓ The festival will also highlight iconic libraries from across the world in order to focus on the modernization and digitization of libraries in India.
At the event, there will be four zones or “drawing rooms” – book-author sessions, digital displays, podcasts, and the Human Library Project.
- **Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF)**
 - ✓ The government – have launched the procurement of tomatoes through the Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF).
 - ✓ The move is aimed at tackling the current rise in tomato prices and to ensure affordability to the general public
 - ✓ The PSF was set up in the fiscal year 2014-15 to absorb and mitigate extreme price fluctuations in essential food commodities and selected goods.
 - ✓ Under the PSF scheme, the procurement of goods takes place directly from farmers or farmers’ organizations at the farm gate or marketplaces.
- **National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill, 2023**
 - ✓ On July 25, the Union cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi - cleared the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill, 2023.
 - ✓ The bill seeks to hand over control of the national capital’s bureaucratic machinery to the Centre.
 - ✓ The legislation will replace the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Ordinance, promulgated by the President on May 19.
 - ✓ The bill is expected to be tabled in the ongoing Monsoon session of Parliament to replace the ordinance.
- **Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Fifth Amendment) Bill, 2022**
 - ✓ On July 25, the Rajya Sabha - passed the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Fifth Amendment) Bill, 2022.
 - ✓ The Bill aims to include the Dhanuwar, Dhanuwar, Kisan, Saunra, Saonra and Binjhia communities of Chhattisgarh in the list of scheduled tribes.
 - ✓ It was passed in the Lok Sabha in December through a voice note.
- **The Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill 2022 and the Multi-State Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2022**
 - ✓ On July 25, Lok Sabha - passed two bills- The Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill 2022 and the Multi-State Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2022
 - ✓ The Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill 2021 seeks to promote commercialisation of Indian medicine systems and cultivation of wild medicinal plants and foreign investment in the sector.

➤ **ITC's 'Mission Millets' Initiative**

- ✓ On July 25, ITC Limited, one of India's leading multi-business enterprises - released a special postal stamp on millets, in collaboration with the Department of Post, Ministry of Communication, in New Delhi.



- ✓ The exclusive postal stamp was released as part of ITC's 'Mission Millets' initiative commemorating the International Year of Millets
- ✓ The launch celebrates the Shree Anna and the nationwide efforts to raise awareness on millets.

➤ **Ayushman Bhav**

The Union health ministry - is planning to launch 'Ayushman Bhav' programme to ensure optimum delivery of all state-run health schemes to every intended beneficiary.

- ✓ The next pillar of Ayushman Bhav programme -- Ayushman Mela -- will be held at the level of Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs).
- ✓ As part of it, medical camps will also be organised at medical colleges at community health centre level.

➤ **National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill, 2023 and the National Dental Commission Bill, 2023**

- ✓ On July 24, the government - introduced two health bills - the National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill, 2023 and the National Dental Commission Bill, 2023 in the Lok Sabha.
- ✓ The National Dental Commission Bill seeks to repeal the Dentists Act, 1948 and proposes to set up National Dental Commission (NMC) to regulate dental education and the profession in the country.
- ✓ The National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill, 2023 aims at setting up National Nursing and Midwifery Commission (NNMC) and to repeal the Indian Nursing Council Act, 1947.

➤ **Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 2023**

- ✓ The Bill seeks to include provisions for digital registration and electronic delivery of certificates of births and deaths for the benefit of the general public.
- ✓ The bill amends the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969 (18 of 1969), which could streamline the processes for registering births and deaths.
- ✓ One of the key aims of the bill is to establish national and state-level databases for registered births and deaths.

➤ **Forest Conservation (Amendment) Bill, 2023**

- ✓ The Bill introduces a number of important changes to the original Forest Conservation Act, 1980.
- ✓ It seeks to exempt land within 100 km of the country's borders from the purview of conservation laws and permit setting up of zoos, safaris and eco-tourism facilities in forest areas.
- ✓ Additionally, the amendment allows forest land to be used for non-forest activities such as wireless communications, fencing, bridges, culverts, and various other facilities.

➤ **Cinematograph (Amendment) Act**

- ✓ The Bill plans to tackle film piracy, modify age-based certification provided by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC), and provide consistency in categorising films and material across platforms.
- ✓ The Bill lays down a three-year jail term and a fine of up to 5% of a movie's production cost for those making its pirated copies.
- ✓ The revised Cinematograph (Amendment) Act, which seeks to amend the Cinematograph Act, 1952.

➤ **Meri Mati Mera Desh**

- ✓ The Prime Minister announced the 'Meri Mati Mera Desh' campaign to honour the brave soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the country, with special inscriptions to be installed in panchayats in their memory.
- ✓ Under the campaign "Amrit Kalash Yatra" will be organised and 7,500 pots carrying soil from different corners of the country will be brought to the national capital along with saplings.
- ✓ Later 'Amrit Vatika' will be made from the soil and plants being carried in these 'Kalash' near National War Memorial.

SCHEME

➤ New Swarnima Scheme For Women

- ✓ The Swarnima Scheme is a term loan scheme introduced by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment to provide financial assistance to women entrepreneurs from backward classes.
- ✓ The scheme aims to empower women by offering social and financial security through term loans.
- ✓ The scheme facilitates access to loans of up to 2,00,000/- at an interest rate of 5% per annum.

➤ Siruneeragam Kakkum Seermigu Maruthuva Thittam

- ✓ On July 10, the health department - launched a state-wide programme, 'Siruneeragam Kakkum Seermigu Maruthuva Thittam' for prevention of kidney ailments in the state.



- ✓ The scheme aims to carry out several tests for early diagnosis and treatment of kidney diseases.
- ✓ The aim of the programme is to prevent End Stage Renal Disease by screening high-risk individuals, including patients with diabetes, hypertension and a family history of renal disease.

➤ Amrit Bharat Station Scheme (ABSS)



- ✓ Southern Railway has taken a significant step towards enhancing the facilities at railway stations by identifying 90 stations for development under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme (ABSS).
- ✓ The scheme aims to prepare master plans for these stations and implement them in a phased manner.
- **“Credit Guarantee Scheme” for Livestock Sector**
- ✓ First ever “Credit Guarantee Scheme” for Livestock Sector launched for rebooting rural economy by leveraging MSMEs.



- ✓ The Indian government has introduced a pioneering **“Credit Guarantee Scheme”** for the **Livestock Sector** aimed at revitalizing the rural economy and empowering **Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)**.
- ✓ The **Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD)** has established a **Credit Guarantee Fund Trust of Rs 750 crore** to provide credit guarantee coverage to eligible lending institutions, enabling improved access to finance for the underserved livestock sector.

COURT VERDICT

- **Guidelines for Designation of Senior Advocates - Supreme Court of India**
- ✓ The Supreme Court - has issued new guidelines on designating lawyers as ‘Senior Advocates’ in the apex court.
- ✓ The new eligibility criteria and rules titled ‘Guidelines for Designation of Senior Advocates by the Supreme Court of India, 2023’, will replace the earlier guidelines issued in 2018.
- ✓ As per the new guidelines, the eligibility criteria and weightage of marks are to be given based on years of practice, contribution to judgments, legal publications and teaching assignments among other aspects.

INTERNATIONAL

➤ **First Country to Ban Plastic Produce Bags**

- ✓ New Zealand has taken a momentous step towards reducing plastic waste by becoming the first country to implement a complete ban on thin plastic bags commonly used in supermarkets for fruit and vegetable purchases.
- ✓ This significant move aligns with the government's on-going campaign against single-use plastics, which began in 2019 with the prohibition of thicker plastic shopping bags.

➤ **Global Crisis Response Group**

- ✓ India Joins Champions Group of Global Crisis Response Group



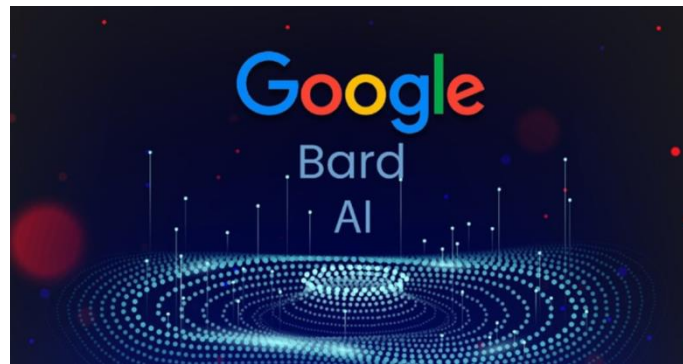
- ✓ India has joined the Champions Group of the Global Crisis Response Group (GCRG) at the invitation of the UN Secretary-General.
- ✓ The GCRG was established in March 2022 to address urgent global issues in food security, energy, and finance, and to coordinate a global response.

➤ **India wins 34th International Biology Olympiad**



- ✓ In a remarkable achievement, India has emerged as the overall winner at the 34th International Biology Olympiad (IBO) held in Al Ain, UAE from 2-11 July.

- ✓ The Indian student team clinched an unprecedented all-gold performance, securing the top position on the medals tally for the first time.
- **Bastille Day Military Parade**
- ✓ Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been invited as the guest of honour for France's Bastille Day celebrations, which will take place on July 14.
- ✓ The Bastille Day military parade will witness the participation of Indian forces, emphasizing the strengthening strategic alliance between France and India.
- **Chatbot 'Bard'**
- ✓ Google's artificial intelligence chatbot 'Bard' – has added support for over 40 languages including nine Indian languages along with several new features.



- ✓ Google is also expanding Bard to 59 new countries and territories including Brazil and across the European Union.
- ✓ With this expansion, the search giant said Bard is now available in most parts of the world, and in the most widely spoken languages.
- **Black Sea Grain Initiative**
- ✓ On July 17, Russia - halted participation in the UN-brokered deal that lets Ukraine export grain through the Black Sea.



- ✓ For several months, the agreement – also known as the Black Sea Grain Initiative – has been repeatedly extended, but now Russia wants the agreement to expire in July.
- ✓ The Black Sea is the only opportunity for Ukraine to export its grain to the world by sea.
- ✓ The grain deal was launched to prevent a global food emergency after brokered by the UN and Turkey last year on July 27.
- ✓ Ukraine is one of the world’s largest grain suppliers, feeding 400 million people worldwide, according to World Food Program.

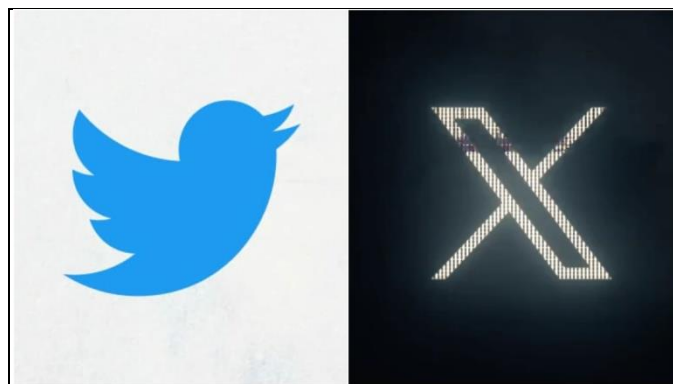
➤ **India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway Project**



- ✓ India-Myanmar-Thailand Highway is a significant regional connectivity project aims to establish a road link between India, Myanmar and Thailand.
- ✓ The total distance of this highway is approximately 1,360 km (845 miles) which starts from Moreh in Manipur, India and passes through Myanmar and ends at Mae Sot in Thailand.

➤ **Twitter - Logo**

- ✓ Twitter – has announced a major change by replacing its iconic blue bird logo with a new ‘X’ logo.



- ✓ Elon Musk, the CEO of Twitter, announced the logo change and shared a photo of the company’s headquarters with the new logo.

- ✓ The company is now merging into X Corp, which aligns with Musk's plan to create an all-in-one 'everything-app'.
- ✓ The "X" logo represents a fresh chapter for Twitter, signaling a new era of growth and possibilities.

➤ **India bans Export of Non-Basmati White Rice:**

- ✓ As per a notification issued by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade, India, world's top rice exporter, has implemented a ban on all exports of "non-basmati white rice" to stabilize domestic prices.



- ✓ However, the government will permit the export of white rice to other nations upon request, subject to the fulfillment of their food security requirements and their government's formal approval.
- ✓ The government stated that the reason for the export ban was "to guarantee sufficient availability of non-basmati white rice in the Indian market and to mitigate the increase in prices within the country."

➤ **India launched International Big Cat Alliance**



- ✓ **India** has recently launched the **International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)** with the aim of conserving seven major big cat species on Earth.
- ✓ Inspired by the success of Project Tiger, which has contributed to India being home to 70% of the world's tigers, the IBCA will focus on protecting and conserving key big cat species, including **Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Puma, Jaguar, and Cheetah.**

INDIA & OTHER COUNTRIES

➤ Bangladesh and India Launch Trade Transactions in Rupees



- ✓ Bangladesh and India have initiated trade transactions in rupees, aiming to reduce reliance on the US dollar and strengthen regional currency and trade.
- ✓ This bilateral trade agreement marks a significant milestone for Bangladesh, moving beyond the US dollar for trade settlement with a foreign country.
- ✓ The move signifies the growth and economic cooperation between India and Bangladesh, fostering mutual benefits.

➤ India-Tanzania Defence Cooperation

- ✓ During the recent visit of External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar to Tanzania, significant developments took place in the defence cooperation between India and Tanzania.
- ✓ These engagements highlight India's commitment to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's doctrine of SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region).
- ✓ As part of the visit, the guided missile frigate INS Trishul visited the ports of Zanzibar and Dar es Salaam in Tanzania.

➤ Semiconductor Ecosystem

- ✓ India and Japan - have signed a memorandum for semiconductor design, manufacturing, equipment research, talent development and to bring resilience in the semiconductor supply chain.
- ✓ With this, Japan has become the second Quad partner after the US to sign an agreement with India for the joint development of the semiconductor ecosystem.



- ✓ The nations will create an “implementation organisation” that will work on government-to-government and industry-to-industry cooperation.
- ✓ With around 100 semiconductor manufacturing plants, Japan is among the top five countries to have a semiconductor ecosystem.

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CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

➤ International Conference on Green Hydrogen, ICGH-2023

- ✓ The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy - will organise an International Conference on Green Hydrogen, ICGH-2023 from July 5 to 7 at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.



- ✓ The event will be the first such conference of this scale on green hydrogen in the country.
- ✓ The objective of the conference is to bring together the global scientific and industrial community to discuss recent advances and emerging technologies in the entire green hydrogen value chain.

➤ 17th Indian Cooperative Congress

- ✓ On July 1, Prime Minister Narendra Modi - addressed the 17th Indian Cooperative Congress at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.
- ✓ The National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) is organizing the 17th Indian Cooperative Congress on July 1 and 2.



- ✓ Its objective is to discuss various trends in cooperative movement, showcase best practices being adopted, deliberate challenges being faced and devise future policy direction for growth of India's cooperative movement.

There will be seven technical sessions on the main theme of "Amrit Kaal : Prosperity through Cooperation for a Vibrant India".

➤ **India-Arab Partnership Conference**

- ✓ The government - will host the 6th India-Arab Partnership Conference on July 11-12.



- ✓ The conference will seek to explore opportunities for economic cooperation between India and the Arab countries.
- ✓ The conference is also aimed at promoting a multi-directional flow of investment and facilitating investment in the areas of new opportunities.
- ✓ It's expected to deepen and redefine mutual economic relations considering a new perspective on Indo-Arab cooperation.

➤ **Startup20 Shikhar Summit**

- ✓ The Startup20 Shikhar summit under India's G20 presidency - was held in Gurugram, Haryana on July 3 and 4.



- ✓ The Startup20 Engagement Group hosted the two day Startup20 Shikhar summit.
- ✓ During the summit, startup 20 communique was released, which urged G20 leaders to raise the joint investment in the global startup ecosystem to \$1 trillion by 2030.

➤ **UAE-India Economic Summit**

- ✓ The UAE-India Economic Summit was held on 3 July at the ADGM Auditorium in Al Maryah Island, Abu Dhabi.
- ✓ It has been organized under the theme: "Fostering Synergies – Uniting the Falcon and Tiger Economies".
- ✓ The conference featured a series of panel discussions addressing key topics in the new economy.
- ✓ The UAE-India Economic Summit has not only strengthened ties between both countries but also open the way for investments and prosperity for both countries.

➤ **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Heads of State**

- ✓ The 23rd Summit of the SCO Council of Heads of State - was chaired by Prime Minister Modi on July 4.



- ✓ During his speech, PM Modi stressed the need for the member nations to work together to eliminate the menace of terrorism.
- ✓ The theme of the SCO summit 2023 is 'SECURE' which stands for security, economic development, connectivity, unity, respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, and environmental protection.
- ✓ The theme of India's Chairmanship of SCO in 2023 is 'SECURE-SCO'.

➤ **International Conference on Tamil Studies**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu Minister for Minorities Welfare and Non-Residents Tamils Welfare, Gingee KS Masthan - inaugurated the 11th International Conference on Tamil Studies in the campus of Institute of Asian Studies in Semmencheri, Chennai on July 7.



- ✓ The International Association of Tamil Research (IATR) is organizing the three-day World Tamil Research Conference from July 7 to 9 in Chennai.
- ✓ The conference's theme is 'the New Historicist Study to rewrite the history of the Tamils, Tamil Language, Literature, Culture and Civilization based on Tamil Classics and revaluations of early and recent excavations and finding in Keezhadi and other scientific evidences of the Sangam period'.

➤ **G20 Culture Group (CWG) Meeting**

- ✓ The 3rd G20 Culture Group (CWG) meeting - began in Hampi, Karnataka on July 9 in the presence of Union Parliamentary Affairs minister Prahlad Joshi.



- ✓ The meeting is being held under the theme 'Protection and Restitution of Cultural Property.'
- ✓ The meeting is being attended by delegates from G20 members, guest nations, and several international organizations.
- ✓ The two-day deliberations will evolve consensus on four themes proposed under the Indian Presidency.

➤ **Urban 20 Mayoral Summit**

- ✓ The two-day Urban 20 Mayoral Summit - was hosted by the chair city Ahmedabad in Gandhinagar on July 7 and 8.
- ✓ The summit concluded with the handover of the Communiqué from the Mayors to G20 leaders.



- ✓ The Communiqué was officially endorsed by 105 cities across the world, the highest ever number of endorsements received to date for any U20 Communiqué, and more than twice the number of endorsements for any previous communiqués.

➤ **Space Economy Leaders' Meeting (SELM)**

- ✓ The 4th edition of G20 Space Economy Leaders' Meeting (SELM) - was hosted in Bengaluru on July 6 and 7.
- ✓ This is the first face-to-face SELM under the G20 umbrella, with the previous meetings organised in virtual and hybrid formats.



- ✓ The meeting was held under the theme 'Towards a New Space ERA (Economy, Responsibility, Alliance)'.

➤ **G20 Conference on 'Crime and Security**

- ✓ On July 13, Union Home Minister Amit Shah - inaugurated the two-day G20 conference on 'Crime and Security in the Age of Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs), Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Metaverse' in Haryana's Gurugram.
 - ✓ During the two-day conference, participants will engage in extensive deliberations across six technical sessions.
- **Third Sherpas Meeting under India's G20 Presidency**
- ✓ The third Sherpas meeting under India's G20 Presidency - began in Hampi in Karnataka on July 13.



- ✓ The three-day meeting was chaired by India's G20 Sherpa, Amitabh Kant
 - ✓ The meeting discussed issues related to Green development, climate finance, lifestyle for environment, accelerated, inclusive and resilient growth, accelerating progress on sustainable development goals, technological transformation and digital public infrastructure, multilateral institutions for the 21st century and women-led development.
- **Conference for Rejuvenation of Vaigai river**
- ✓ On July 15, 'Water Man' of India, Rajendra Singh - launched a 10-year plan for rejuvenating the Vaigai river at the conference held for rejuvenation of Vaigai river at Gandhi Memorial Museum in Madurai.
 - ✓ As per the plan, in the first phase, a scientific and social study has to be conducted on the river.
 - ✓ In the second phase, river awareness volunteers should be trained and given the task of spreading awareness to more people.



- ✓ In the third phase, all stakeholders responsible for the development of the river including government, NGOs and residents should be brought together on a single platform.
 - ✓ In the fourth phase, a technical team including government officials has to be created.
 - ✓ In the fifth phase, an execution plan should be created and implemented within a time period.
- **Global Food Regulators Summit**
- ✓ India will inaugurate the Global Food Regulators Summit in New Delhi on July 20th and 21st.
 - ✓ The summit is expected to include participation from a wide range of stakeholders representing various countries, international organizations, and national entities.



- ✓ Additionally, an integrated digital dashboard will be introduced at the Global Food Regulators Summit, 2023, acting as a centralized platform for food-related regulations and standards.

➤ **Global Maritime India Summit, 2023**

- ✓ The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has launched the Curtain Raiser event of Global Maritime India Summit 2023 on 18th July 2023.
- ✓ According to the Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, the third edition of Global Maritime India Summit is going to be held in October 2023 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

➤ **Science20 (S20) Summit of G20**

- ✓ The Science20 (S20) Summit of G20 - will be held at Isha Yoga Center, Coimbatore from July 21-22.



- ✓ Over 100 delegates from 20 countries, including academicians, scientists, experts and policy makers will attend the meeting.
- ✓ During this summit meeting of the Science 20 Engagement Group, the deliberations of previous three meetings will be consolidated and presented.
- ✓ The group has discussed the themes of Green Energy, Connecting Science with Society and Holistic Health in the previous meetings and will be presenting a joint communique from 20 nations on the themes.

➤ **5th Helicopter & Small Aircraft Summit**

- ✓ The Union Ministry of Civil Aviation has taken the initiative to organize the 5th Helicopter and Small Aircraft Summit, bringing together industry stakeholders and policymakers under one roof. The event aims to foster collaboration and efficient decision-making to advance India's civil aviation sector.



- ✓ The summit will take place in the historical city of Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh, and has been announced by the Union Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- **Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG)**
- ✓ The 4th Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG) and Environment and Climate Ministers meeting - was held in Chennai from July 26-28, 2023.



- ✓ The three-day meeting witnessed the participation of around 300 delegates from G20 member countries, invitee countries, and several International Organisations.
- ✓ The meeting focused on land degradation, biodiversity and deforestation, blue economy and promoting circular economy.

DEFENCE

➤ Tarang Shakti

- ✓ The Indian Air Force (IAF) - is gearing up to host its first-ever multilateral air force exercise later this year.
- ✓ The exercise, named `Tarang Shakti`, will witness the participation of 12 nations, with six nations joining with their aircraft and the remaining six as observers.
- ✓ Set to take place in the Rajasthan sector in October or November, `Tarang Shakti` aims to enhance coordination, interoperability, and integration among the participating air forces.

➤ JIMEX23

- ✓ The bilateral Japan-India Maritime Exercise 2023 (JIMEX 23) has commenced in Visakhapatnam.
- ✓ The exercise aims to strengthen mutual cooperation and commitment toward maritime security in the region.
- ✓ JIMEX 23 marks the 11th anniversary of JIMEX since its inception in 2012.
- ✓ The exercise will be conducted over six days in two phases - a Harbour Phase and a Sea Phase.

➤ SALVEX Exercise

- ✓ The Indian Navy and the US Navy successfully concluded the seventh edition of the Indian Navy - US Navy (IN - USN) Salvage and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) exercise, SALVEX, held from June 26 to July 6, 2023, in Kochi.



- ✓ This joint exercise has been a regular feature since 2005, promoting collaboration and cooperation between the two navies in the fields of salvage and EOD operations.

➤ Broader Sword

- ✓ India and the United States recently joined forces in Operation Broader Sword, a multi-agency operation aimed at preventing the illegal shipment of pharmaceuticals, devices, and precursor chemicals through the International Mail System (IMS).
 - ✓ The operation, conducted in June 2023, resulted in the interception of over 500 shipments of illicit and unapproved prescription drugs bound for US consumers.
- **CMF EX 'OP SOUTHERN READINESS - 2023**
- ✓ INS Sunayna was at Seychelles from 10-12 Jul 23 to participate in Op Southern Readiness 2023 conducted by Combined Maritime Forces (CMF).



- ✓ The visit was aimed at strengthening multilateral ties and enhancing cooperation through CMF exercise which is a multinational initiative aimed at enhancing maritime security, countering piracy to ensure safety and freedom of navigation in the region.
- **Defence Acquisitions Council (DAC)**
- ✓ On July 13, the defence ministry - approved the acquisition of 26 Rafale-Marine fighter jets and three Scorpene diesel-electric submarines from France.
 - ✓ The Rajnath Singh-led Defence Acquisitions Council (DAC) accorded the 'acceptance of necessity (AoN)' to the twin procurements for the Navy, which together will cost upwards of Rs 80,000 crore (€9 billion).
- **Nomadic Elephant - 2023**
- ✓ A group of 43 Indian Army personnel departed for Mongolia today to take part in the 15th edition of the joint military exercise called "NOMADIC ELEPHANT-23."



- ✓ The exercise is set to occur in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia from July 17th to July 31st, 2023.
- ✓ NOMADIC ELEPHANT is an annual training event between India and Mongolia, held alternately in both countries.

➤ **MPX Joint Exercise**

- ✓ Indian, Indonesian naval ships to conduct MPX joint exercise.
- ✓ Two Indian naval ships, INS Sahyadri and INS Kolkata, arrived in Jakarta to participate in a Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) with the Indonesian Navy.
- ✓ The aim of the exercise is to strengthen mutual cooperation and understanding between the two navies.

➤ **India hands over INS Kirpan to Vietnam**



- ✓ Indian Naval Ship Kirpan, a corvette that served the Indian Navy for 32 years, has been decommissioned and handed over to the Vietnam People's Navy (VPN) in a ceremony held at Cam Ranh, Vietnam.
- ✓ The momentous occasion marked the first time India has transferred a fully operational corvette to a foreign country.
- ✓ The handover of INS Kirpan signifies the deepening defence ties between India and Vietnam.

AWARDS

➤ Elephant Family Environmental Award

- ✓ King Charles III and Queen Camilla of Britain - presented the prestigious Elephant Family environmental award to Indian conservationists at a ceremony.



- ✓ Elephant Family, an international NGO dedicated to protecting the Asian elephant, supports projects that promote harmonious living between humans and animals.
- ✓ The organization was founded by the late Mark Shand, brother of Queen Camilla, who had a deep passion for elephant conservation.

➤ Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has become the first Indian Prime Minister to have been conferred with the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour, France's highest civilian and military honour, by French President Emmanuel Macron.
- ✓ Mr. Modi received the honour at the Elysee Palace here on, July 13, 2023.

➤ Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (Order of Arts and Letters) Award

- ✓ The French government - has selected Indian classical vocalist Padma Shri Aruna Sairam and flutist Shashank Subramanyam for the prestigious Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (Order of Arts and Letters) award.



- ✓ The award is conferred for being instrumental in connecting France and India through their music.

➤ **Bhoomi Samman**

- ✓ President Droupadi Murmu - will present “Bhoomi Samman” 2023 in New Delhi on July 18.



- ✓ Bhoomi Samman will be given to nine State Secretaries and 68 District Collectors along with their teams.
- ✓ The award is conferred to the outstanding performance of individuals and teams in the implementation of the Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP).

➤ **Outstanding Man Award**

- ✓ Appreciating the successful hosting of the International Chess Olympiad in Chennai, the capital of Tamil Nadu, the Asian Chess Federation, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin was awarded the “Outstanding Man Award” on July 28, 2023.

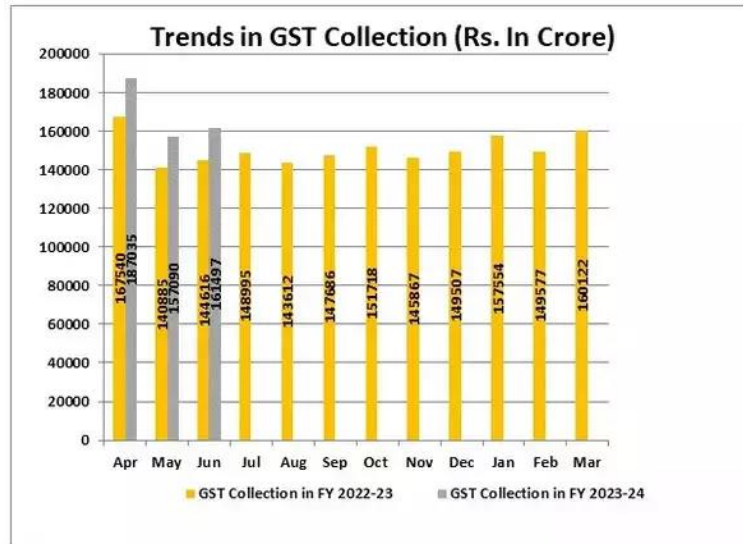
- ✓ The 44th International Chess Olympiad was held in India for the first time.
- ✓ It is significant that this tournament was hosted by Tamil Nadu.

- **Bose Lifetime Achievement Award**
- ✓ Orthopaedic surgeon gets Sir J.C. Bose Lifetime Achievement Award S. Rajasekaran, chairman of the Department of Orthopaedic and Spine Surgery, Ganga Hospital, Coimbatore, was presented with the Sir J.C. Bose Lifetime Achievement Award for his outstanding contributions to research in spinal diseases.
- ✓ The honour was given to Dr. Rajasekaran because Stanford University had ranked him among the top 1% of scientists in the world, and he has the highest number of research papers in orthopaedic surgery.

- **MSSRF releases book on Mangrove Forests**
- ✓ A book, Biodiversity and Importance of Mangrove Ecosystem, authored by scientists from the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) was released by Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav on Friday.

ECONOMY

- India's Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection - crossed Rs.1.60 lakh crore mark in June



- ✓ According to the finance ministry, it is for the fourth time since inception of GST that the gross collection has crossed the Rs.1.6 lakh crore mark.
- ✓ The collection has breached the Rs.1.50 lakh crore for the seventh time since inception.
- **Project WAVE**
- ✓ Public sector lender Indian Bank - has unveiled new services under its digital transformation initiative – Project WAVE.



- ✓ Accordingly, the Chennai-based bank has introduced an electronic bank guarantee (e-BG) service, in collaboration with the National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL).
- ✓ This move aims to support the financial needs of customers involved in GST filings.

PERSONALITIES

➤ **Shamina Singh**

- ✓ US President Joe Biden - has announced to appoint Shamina Singh, a prominent Indian-American business leader, to the president's export council.

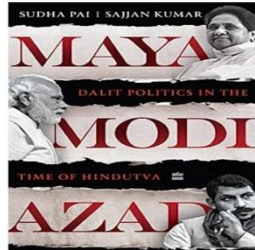


- ✓ The council serves as the principal national advisory committee on international trade.
- ✓ It advises the president of government policies and programmes that affect US trade performance, promotes export expansion and provides a forum for discussing and resolving trade-related problems among the business, industrial, agricultural, labour and government sectors.

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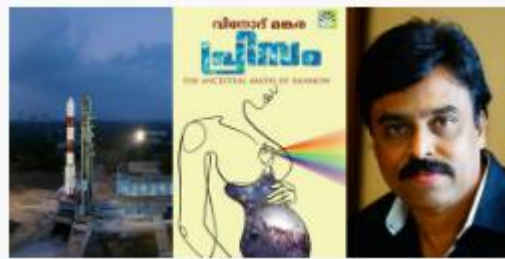
BOOKS & AUTHOR

➤ **Maya, Modi, Azad**



- ✓ Sudha Pai and Sajjan Kumar have authored a book called “Maya, Modi, Azad: Dalit Politics in the Time of Hindutva.”
- ✓ In this book, they provide a perceptive and thought-provoking examination of the interplay between Maya, Modi, and Azad in the realm of Dalit politics.
- ✓ Their analysis holds great importance in comprehending not only the dynamics of Dalit politics but also the broader democratic landscape of India, especially as we approach the highly contentious general election of 2024.

➤ **‘Prism: The Ancestral Abode of Rainbow’**

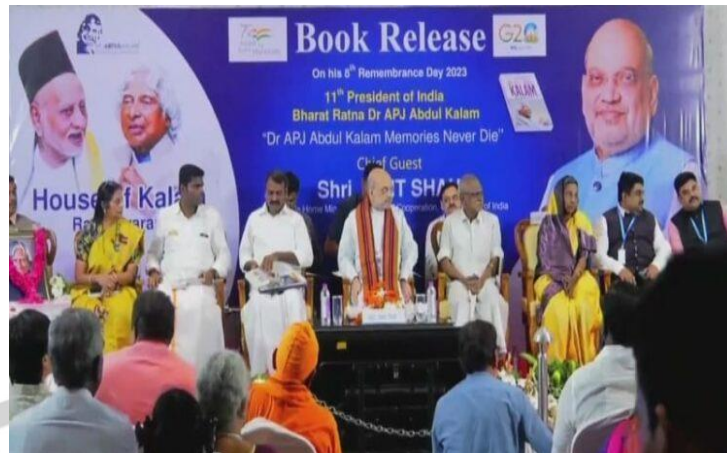


- ✓ National award-winning filmmaker-writer Vinod Mankara’s new book was released from the rocket launchpad at Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
 - ✓ The unique launch of ‘Prism: The Ancestral Abode of Rainbow’, a collection of science articles, was held at the SDSC-SHAR, as preparations were going on full swing there for the country’s much-awaited Moon mission Chandrayaan-3.
- **Through the Broken Glass: An Autobiography” authored by T.N. Seshan**

- ✓ "Through The Broken Glass: An Autobiography" authored by T.N. Seshan, the former Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India, who made a significant difference to Indian elections.
- ✓ It was published by Rupa Publications India. This autobiography also covers his term as the CEC from 1990 to 1995 with a page count of 368. It has been published 4 years after he passed away in 2019.

➤ **Memories Never Die**

- ✓ A book titled "Memories Never Die" has been released by Union Minister Amit Shah.



- ✓ This book is a tribute to the life and legacy of the late former President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.
- ✓ Dr. APJM Nasima Maraikayar and scientist Dr. Y. S. Rajan have co-authored this book.

SCIENCE, ENVIRONMENT & TECHNOLOGY

➤ **Euclid Space Satellite**

- ✓ Europe's Euclid space telescope was launched on 1 July 2023.
- ✓ The Euclid telescope, named after the Greek mathematician, will explore the dark universe using a wide-angle telescope to survey galaxies as far away as 10 billion light-years from Earth.
- ✓ The Euclid mission aims to explore the evolution of dark matter and dark energy, which scientists say account for 95% of the known universe.

➤ **Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP)**

- ✓ India's first indigenously developed 700 MW nuclear power reactor at the Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP) in Gujarat has successfully commenced commercial operations, marking a significant milestone in the country's nuclear energy sector.



- ✓ The reactor, known as KAPP-3, began operating at 90 percent of its total power capacity on June 30, 2023, as confirmed by a senior official from KAPP.
- ## ➤ **Elena Introduces India's First NavIC**
- ✓ In a significant stride towards achieving self-reliance in navigation applications and services, Elena Geo Systems, a Bengaluru-based firm, has unveiled the country's first hand-held navigation device based on the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (NavIC).
 - ✓ The device aims to provide precise directions for various infrastructure projects such as railways, land surveys, telecoms, and hydrocarbon exploration.

➤ **Threads**

- ✓ US-based tech giant, Meta Platforms - has officially released its new social media platform 'Threads' for sharing text updates and joining public conversations.



- ✓ In less than 24 hours since its debut, Threads has witnessed an amazing surge, surpassing 95 million posts and attracting over 50 million profiles.
- ✓ Threads, developed by Meta's Instagram team, was introduced to iOS and Android users in 100 countries on July 5, instantly soaring to the top of the App Store's free app rankings.
- ✓ Meta is the parent company of social media giants Facebook and Instagram.

➤ Chandrayaan-3

- ✓ On July 6, Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) - announced that the moon mission Chandrayaan-3 will be launched on July 14.



- ✓ Isro's new heavylift launch vehicle Mark-III (LVM-3) carrying an integrated module will lift off at 2:35 pm from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- ✓ According to Isro chairman S Somnath, Chandrayaan-3 will lift off on July 14 and if everything goes well, it will land on August 23.

➤ India welcomes its First Regional AI News Anchor, 'Lisa'



- ✓ In a significant milestone for the AI industry, **Odisha TV**, an Odia-based news station, has unveiled **"Lisa," India's first regional AI news anchor.**
 - ✓ Lisa's introduction marks a ground-breaking moment in TV broadcasting and journalism, with the potential to revolutionize the industry.
 - ✓ With Lisa's emergence as India's first regional AI news anchor, the boundaries of AI in the media industry continue to be pushed, opening up new possibilities for engaging and dynamic news presentations in different languages and regional contexts.
-
- **Chandrayaan-3**
 - ✓ Isro's LMV3 rocket carrying the lander – and the rover inside – of Chandrayaan-3 - will lift off from Sriharikota at 2. 35pm on July 14.

India's 3rd Moonshot

Chethan.Kumar@timesgroup.com

Isro, which is set to launch Chandrayaan-3 onboard LVM3 at 2.35pm on Friday from Sriharikota, is confident of a soft-landing on Moon some 40 days later. For this, the space agency has adopted a cautious approach and implemented several key changes, especially on lander Vikram. Isro's first voyage to Moon, Chandrayaan-1, was in 2008. India has since graduated from a sending to Moon a 'impact probe' to advanced lunar rovers.



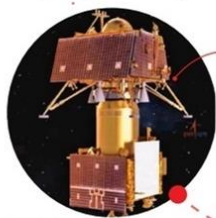
LAUNCH
OCT 22, 2008

Moon Impact Probe that discovered water molecules

CHANDRAYAAN - 1 ORBITER SPECS

Mass | 1,380kg
Mission life | 2 years
Power | 700 W

Payloads | 11 including 6 foreign



LAUNCH
JULY 22, 2019

FAILURE LESSONS

> Learning from Chandrayaan-2, Isro has made changes to its hardware, software, sensors and algorithms to prevent failure. Vikram, the lander, whose soft-landing is critical to achieve scientific objectives, has been improved

Unlike last time, propulsion module replaces the orbiter in Chandrayaan-3. It's primary job is to transport the landing module. It carries 1 payload compared to 8 by Chandrayaan-2

KEY IMPROVEMENTS ON VIKRAM

> Fifth engine removed for weight management > It's legs have been strengthened > Velocity threshold has increased from 2m/sec to 3/sec; > Additional sensor (laser doppler velocity metre) adds redundancy > It carries more fuel, additional solar panels and tracking, telemetry and command antennas > Has updated software to ensure near real-time correction of errors on account of thrust disruptions > Landing site has been enhanced to 4km x 2.5km from the 500m X 500m of Chandrayaan-2



Graphic: S Franklin

CHANDRAYAAN - 3 LANDER/ROVER SPECS

Mission life | 1 lunar day (14 Earth days); Mass | 1,749.86 kg including rover (26kg); Power | 738W; Payloads | 6 including rover (2)

PROPULSION MODULE SPECS

Mass | 2,145.01 kg
Power | 738 W
Payloads | 1

CHANDRAYAAN - 2 LANDER/ROVER SPECS

Mission life | 1 lunar day (14 Earth days); Mass | 1,471kg including rover (27 kg); Power | 650W; Payloads | 6 including rover (2)

ORBITER SPECS

Mass | 2,379kg
Power | 1,000W; Payloads | 8

10-PHASE JOURNEY TO EARTH'S SATELLITE

EARTH-CENTRIC PHASE [Phase 1]

> This has 3 stages: Pre-launch preparations, which are complete; launch and ascent phase, and the Earth-bound manoeuvre phase

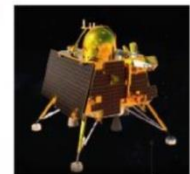
> What happens: Once the spacecraft is launched and placed in the intended orbit, Isro will perform major manoeuvres – No. 1, 3, 4 and 5 – to raise the apogee (farthest point from Earth). The 2nd manoeuvre will be to increase the perigee (closest point to Earth)

LUNAR TRANSFER PHASE [Phase 2]

This is the phase that'll propel the spacecraft towards Moon. If all goes as planned, trans-lunar insertion (TLI) will happen on July 31

LUNAR ORBIT INSERTION [Phase 3]

After TLI, Chandrayaan-3 will travel towards Moon for about five-and-a-half days. The lunar orbit insertion (LOI) is expected around August 5



MOON-BOUND MANOEUVRES & SEPARATION [Phases 4 & 5]

LOI will put spacecraft on a high apolune (farthest point from Moon) Isro will do multiple perilune (closest point) manoeuvres to reduce the altitude to a 100km x 100km circular orbit. A scientist said there could be five lunar-bound manoeuvres before the final descent phase.

After Chandrayaan-3 reaches the 100km x 100km orbit, lander module (Vikram & Pragyan) will separate from the propulsion module

DE-BOOST, PRE-LANDING & LANDING [Phases 6-9]

Following Separation, lander module will be brought to a 100km x 30km orbit. From the module will deboost and the final descent is expected on August 23. This will be the most challenging phase

MOON-CENTRIC NORMAL ORBIT PHASE [Phase 10]

Post landing, manoeuvres will be performed to normalise the propulsion module's orbit

- ✓ As per the plan, Chandrayaan-3 lander Vikram will touch down on the lunar surface at 5. 47pm on August 23, after a 40-day journey.
- ✓ Chandrayaan-3 also carries a payload to "look at Earth from Moon to study its habitable planet-like features and use this information to explore exoplanets in future".
- ✓ If Vikram manages to soft-land, India will be the fourth country – after the US, Russia and China – to achieve the scientific feat. Isro has selected the region near the south-pole for the landing.
- **Sagar Sampark**
- ✓ Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal - inaugurated an indigenous Differential Global Navigation Satellite System (DGNSS) called 'Sagar Sampark' recently on July 12.



- ✓ It is an enhancement system that “corrects the errors and inaccuracies in the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) and provides more accurate positioning information”.
- ✓ Sagar Sampark has been launched at six locations across the country
- ✓ It will assist the Director General of Lighthouses and Lightships (DGLL) to provide radio aids to ships for marine navigation.

➤ **Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV)**

- ✓ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) - will be launching seven Singaporean satellites using its Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) from the first launch pad at the Sriharikota spaceport in Andhra Pradesh on July 30.
- ✓ According to the space agency, the PSLV rocket named ‘PSLV-C56’ will carry the Singaporean DS-SAR satellite weighing about 360 kg as the main passenger.

➤ **Worldcoin**

- ✓ OpenAI CEO Sam Altman - launched an ambitious cryptocurrency project ‘Worldcoin’ on July 24.



- ✓ The Worldcoin project ecosystem involves three key elements - World ID, Worldcoin token (WLD) and World App.
- ✓ The Worldcoin digital currency can be used for transactions and payments through a World-ID compatible app called World App.
- ✓ Worldcoin’s flagship device Orb and its services will be rolled out in 35 cities across 20 countries in the coming months.

➤ **Frontier Model Forum**

- ✓ Four technology companies researching artificial intelligence - Anthropic, Google, Microsoft, and OpenAI - have announced a new industry body called the 'Frontier Model Forum'.
- ✓ The new body shall act as a watchdog to ensure safety and responsibility as AI models are being developed.
- ✓ The group will focus on technical evaluations and will set benchmarks to support best practices and standards in the industry.

➤ **Singaporean satellites**

- ✓ On July 30, ISRO - successfully launched its PSLV rocket carrying seven Singaporean satellites from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota and placed them into the near-equatorial orbit (NEO).
- ✓ This ISRO mission is being undertaken by its commercial arm NewSpace India Limited (NSIL).



- ✓ ISRO's PSLV-C56 was carrying Singapore's DS-SAR along with 6 co-passenger satellites as its payloads.
- ✓ The 360-kg DS-SAR satellite, upon deployment at an altitude of 535 km at 5 degrees inclination, would be used to support the satellite imagery requirements of various agencies within the Government of Singapore.

SPORTS

➤ Asian Championship - Kabaddi

- ✓ The Indian men's kabaddi team - defeated Iran in the final to defend its Asian Championships title at the Dong-Eui Institute of Technology Seokdang Cultural Center in Busan, Republic of Korea on June 30.



- ✓ Indian captain Pawan Sehrawat led from the front with a super 10 in the game.
- ✓ Earlier in the day, India had beaten Hong Kong to end the league stage of the tournament undefeated.
- ✓ It was India's eighth title in the continental championships.

➤ SAFF Championship 2023 Final:

- ✓ The Indian men's football team emerged victorious in a thrilling penalty shootout against Kuwait 5-4 in a thrilling penalty shootout, securing the SAFF Championship 2023 title at Bengaluru's Sree Kanteerava Stadium.
- ✓ Ranked 100th in the latest FIFA rankings, India triumphed in their ninth SAFF Championship out of 14 editions.

➤ Canada Open 2023

- ✓ Indian Badminton player Lakshya Sen - defeated China's All England champion Li Shi Feng in straight sets to clinch the men's singles title at the Canada Open 2023 in Calgary on July 9.



- ✓ The victory marks Lakshya's second BWF World Tour Super 500 title, having already won the India Open in January 2022.
- ✓ This is Sen's first title after the Birmingham Commonwealth Games gold in August last year.

➤ **Wimbledon - 2023**

- ✓ Unseeded Marketa Vondrousova of the Czech Republic - won the first Grand Slam title of her career in the 2023 Wimbledon final on July 15.



- ✓ Vondrousova, who is ranked 42nd in the world, defeated World No.6 Ons Jabeur of Tunisia to win the final, which lasted for 80 minutes on Centre Court.
- ✓ Her best ever result at Wimbledon was a second-round appearance in 2021, after three first-round exits between 2017 and 2019.

➤ **Wimbledon**

- ✓ World No. 1 Carlos Alcaraz - created history by defeating four-time defending champion Novak Djokovic in a five-set thriller to win his maiden Wimbledon title and second Grand Slam trophy overall on July 16.



- ✓ With the win, Carlos Alcaraz stops Novak Djokovic from winning an all-time record-equalling 24th Grand Slam, a record-tying eighth title, and fifth in a row, at Wimbledon.
- ✓ Alcaraz is the third Spanish man after Manuel Santana (1966) and Rafael Nadal (2008, 2010) to win Wimbledon grass court championships.
- **Asian Games - Hangzhou, China**
- ✓ India - will be sending its biggest-ever contingent for the upcoming Asian Games, scheduled to be held in the Chinese city of Hangzhou from September 20 to October 8.



- ✓ Around 800 athletes have been named as part of the country's contingent by the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) for the Asiad.
- ✓ For the Jakarta Asiad in 2018, the IOA had named a 524-member contingent in 36 sports disciplines.
- ✓ Following the final selection of athletes, the coaches and support staff personnel will be named – they will form 33% of the total contingent size.
- **Guinness World Record - Fastest Hit**
- ✓ Star India shuttler Satwiksairaj Rankireddy - has set the Guinness world record for the fastest hit by a male player in badminton, recording a mindboggling 565kmph with his smash.



- ✓ Satwik broke the record set in May 2013 by Malaysian Tan Boon Heong, who had produced a speed of 493kmph with his smash.
- ✓ The world record attempts were achieved on April 14, 2023, and were verified by judges from the Guinness world records based on the speed measurement results from that day.

➤ **Korea Open Badminton Title**

- ✓ Doubles specialists Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty - won the Korea Open badminton title on July 23 in Yeosu, South Korea.



- ✓ The third seeds bagged their fourth title of the year and their first in Korea as they defeated world No. 1 Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Rian Ardianto of Indonesia in three sets.
- ✓ This was the Indian duo's third straight victory against the Indonesians, who won silver at the Asian Games and are two-time bronze medallists at the World championships.

➤ **World Aquatics Championships 2023**



- ✓ The 2023 World Aquatics Championships take place in Fukuoka, Japan from 14 to 30 July.
- ✓ Five open water events will kick off the swimming competition at Fukuoka 2023 with eight competition days in the Marine Messe pool to follow.

OBITUARY

➤ Milan Kundera



- ✓ Kundera's rise to international fame came with the publication of his masterpiece "The Unbearable Lightness of Being" in 1984.
- ✓ The novel was later adapted into a successful movie, with Juliette Binoche and Daniel Day Lewis in the leading roles.
- ✓ In 2019, his Czech citizenship was restored, a significant symbolic gesture that marked his return to his homeland.
- ✓ In 1967, Kundera achieved a significant breakthrough with the publication of his first novel "The Joke."

AFI
STUDY CENTER

RANKING

➤ Four Indian-origin biz leaders in 'Forbes' 100 richest self-made women list



- ✓ The Forbes 2023 list of America's 100 most successful women is released. As many as four Indian-origin women Jayshree Ullal, Indra Nooyi, Neha Narkhede, and Neerja Sethi have made it to this coveted list of America's 100 richest self-made women.
- ✓ Four Indian-origin women, including Jayshree Ullal and Indra Nooyi, have made it to the Forbes list of America's 100 most successful self-made women, with a combined net worth of a whopping USD 4.06 billion.

➤ Export Preparedness Index for 2022

- ✓ Tamil Nadu - has been ranked the number one state on Niti Ayog's Export Preparedness Index for 2022, released in New Delhi on July 17.



- ✓ Tamil Nadu was placed fourth in 2021 and the third in 2020.
- ✓ The EPI 2022 report evaluated the performance of states on four parameters - policy, business ecosystem, export ecosystem and export performance.

- ✓ According to the Export Preparedness Index 2022, **Tamil Nadu topped** the ranking with an overall score of 80.89 while Maharashtra with a score of 78.20 was second and Karnataka was third with a score of 76.36.

➤ **Henley Passport Index 2023**



- ✓ According to the Henley Passport Index, Singapore now holds the title of the world's most powerful passport, granting visa-free access to 192 out of 227 global travel destinations.
- ✓ India has climbed seven places on Henley Passport Index 2023 to 80th rank from 87 last year.
- ✓ Three European countries, namely Germany, Italy, and Spain, have moved up one rank to share the second position, with visa-free access to 190 destinations.
- ✓ For the first time in five years, Japan has been dethroned from the top spot and now ranks third, with its passport providing visa-free access to 189 destinations.

REPORT

➤ **Economics and Peace (IEP) Report**

- ✓ Afghanistan is the least peaceful country in the world for the fifth consecutive year, according to the 'Global Peace Index 2023' report released by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP) on 2 July 2023.
- ✓ Afghanistan follows Yemen, Syria, Russia, and South Sudan.
- ✓ India stands at 126 ranks out of 163 countries in the Global Peace Index.

➤ **India - 2nd Largest Economy by 2075**



- ✓ Goldman Sachs analysts project India to become the world's second-largest economy by 2075.
- ✓ The report suggests India will surpass the US in terms of GDP, reaching \$52.5 trillion by 2075.
China is expected to overtake the US to become the largest economy by the 2030s.

➤ **Electric Vehicles in India**

Govt Schemes Sweeten Deal

It's not surprising then that automakers, right from the homegrown Tata Motors and Mahindra to foreign firms like Kia and MG, have been expanding their lineup of EVs. Some of these are now available in the affordable car segment. Meanwhile, in the electric two-wheeler market, buyers are spoilt for choice. Some of the credit for this goes to the incentives offered by the ministry of heavy industries to buyers and manufacturers through three schemes:

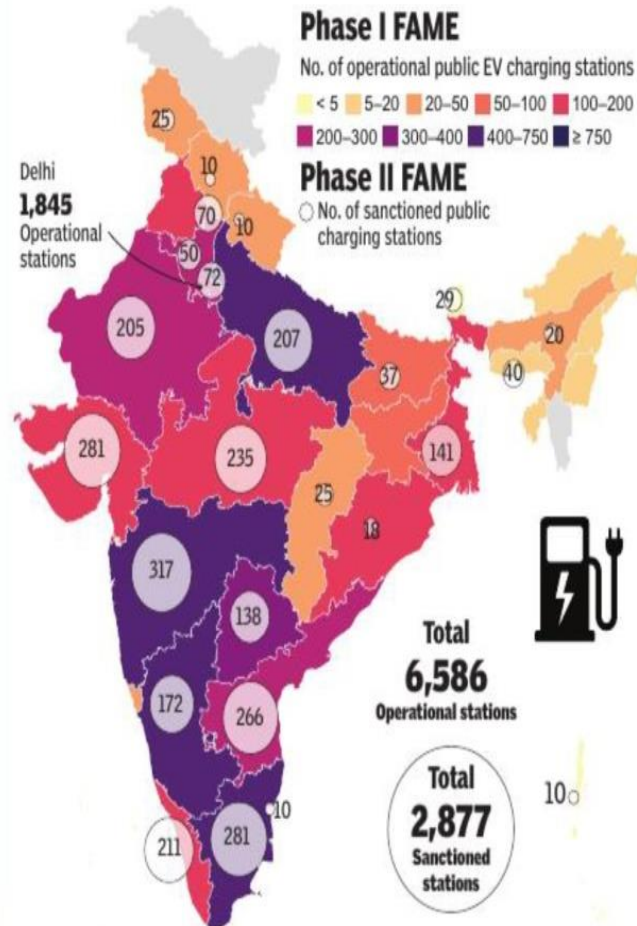
FAME: The second phase of the Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles in India (FAME India) scheme has been on since April 2019, and offers EV buyers a subsidy on the purchase price. The incentive is linked to battery capacity and is capped at 20% of the cost of the vehicle for three-wheelers and four-wheelers, and 40% for two-wheelers. There is a subsidy of ₹15,000 per KWh of battery capacity for electric two-wheelers, and ₹10,000 per KWh for three-wheelers and four-wheelers

PLI Scheme: The Centre's Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for the automotive sector is aimed at supporting domestic manufacturing of vehicles, including EVs

ACC Scheme: Since the heart of a modern EV is its battery, the government's PLI scheme for Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) is aimed at establishing 50 GWh of ACC battery manufacturing capacity in the country

State Of The States

Despite these incentives and the growth in EV sales, charging infrastructure has grown slowly. The Covid-19 pandemic slowed it down further as businesses struggled to generate revenues. Overall, more public charging stations were set up in the first phase of the FAME scheme than have been sanctioned in the second



➤ Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)

- ✓ Around 415 million people exited poverty within a span of just 15 years between 2005 to 2021 in India, according to the latest Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI).
- ✓ India is also one of the 25 countries that have successfully halved their global MPI values within 15 years.
- ✓ The global MPI monitors both poverty reduction and how people experience poverty in different aspects of their daily lives – from access to education and health, to living standards such as housing, drinking water, sanitation, and electricity.
- ✓ Notably, in India, the incidence of poverty fell from 55% (645 million) in 2005/2006 to 16% (230 million) in 2019/2021.

➤ Multi-Dimensional Poverty

- ✓ Nearly 13.5 crore people - moved out of multi-dimensional poverty between 2015-16 and 2019-21 in India.

BIHAR 2ND, MP NEXT

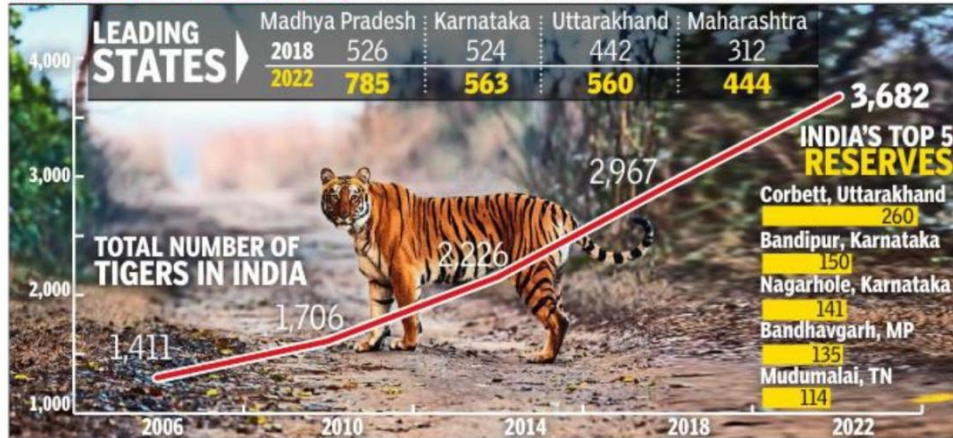
- 'Multi-dimensionally poor' in India dropped from 24.8% in 2015-16 to 14.9% in 2019-2021: Niti Aayog report
- **Poor down from 32.5% to 19.3% in villages.** In urban areas, the reduction is less sharp, from 8.7% to 5.3%
- **All 12 indicators show improvements.** Bihar, MP, Odisha & Raj record sharpest drop in no. of poor after UP

- ✓ This is based on a report released by government think tank Niti Aayog on July 17.
- ✓ The report provides multi-dimensional poverty estimates for the 36 states and Union territories and 707 districts.
- ✓ This sets India on the path of achieving the SDG target 1.2 (of reducing multi-dimensional poverty by at least half) much ahead of the stipulated deadline of 2030.
- ✓ The national multi-dimensional poverty index measures deprivations across health, education, and standard of living that are represented by 12 SDG-aligned indicators.

➤ Status of Tigers

- ✓ Union minister of state for environment, forest and climate change Ashwini Kumar Choubey - released the "Status of Tigers: Co-Predators & Prey in India-2022" report at Uttarakhand's Corbett Tiger Reserve on the occasion of International Tiger Day on July 29.

ROARING SUCCESS: TOTAL UP 161% SINCE 2006



- ✓ As per the report, there are 3,682 tigers now in India, up from 2,967 in 2018 – a rise of almost 24% in four years.
- ✓ With this, India is now home to approximately 75% of the world's tiger population.
- ✓ Among the states, Madhya Pradesh (785) has the highest number of tigers.
- ✓ The tiger population in Tamil Nadu has risen from 264 in 2018 to 306 in 2022, as per the census results.

IMPORTANT DAY

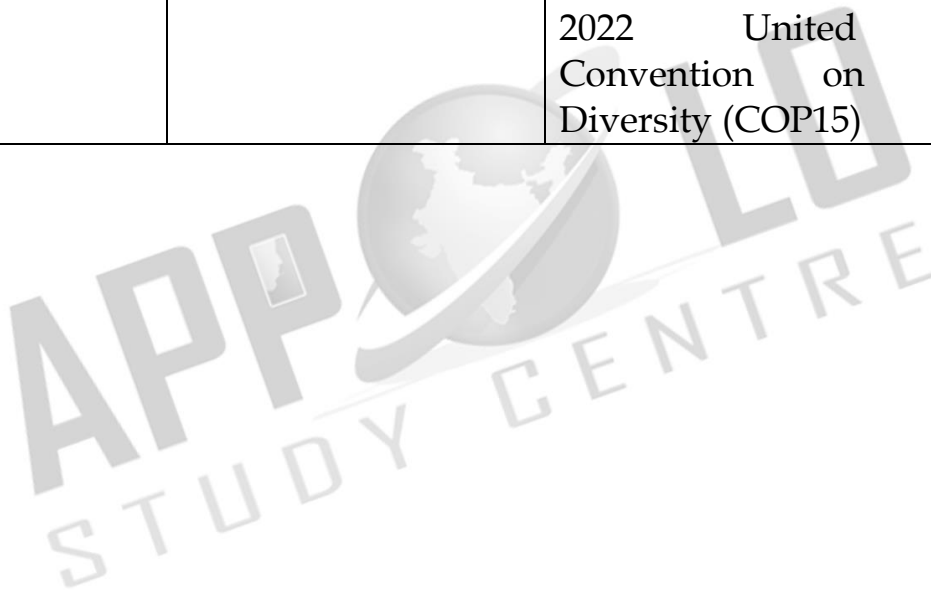
Date	Day	Theme
July 01	National Doctors Day	Theme 2023 - "Celebrating Resilience and Healing Hands".
July 01	National Postal Worker Day	National Postal Worker Day is observed as a way to show gratitude and recognize the tireless efforts of postal workers
July 01	Chartered Accountants Day	This significant day acknowledges the contributions made by the ICAI, India's oldest and most esteemed financial and accounting organization
July 01	National Postage Stamp Day	A day to celebrate the history and importance of postage stamps
July 01	International Day of Cooperatives	Theme for the International Day of Cooperatives 2023 is "Cooperatives for Sustainable Development."
July 02	World Sports Journalists Day	A day to celebrate the work of sports journalists and to raise awareness of the importance of sports reporting
July 02	World UFO Day	A day to celebrate the unexplained and to raise awareness of unidentified flying objects
July 02	World Sports Journalist Day	The day honours the accomplishments of sports media professionals
July 03	International Plastic Bag Free Day	This day acts as a reminder for individuals, communities, and businesses globally to minimize

		their usage of plastic bags and explore more sustainable alternatives
July 04	USA Independence Day	This day is considered to be a National Day of U.S
July 06	World Zoonosis Day	World Zoonoses Day serves as a platform to raise awareness about different zoonotic diseases
July 07	World Chocolate Day	On this day, chocolate enthusiasts of all ages come together to relish their favourite treats
July 10	National Fish Farmer's Day	To appreciate the vital role played by fish farmers, aquaculture industry professionals
July 11	World Population Day	Theme 2023 - "Unleashing the power of gender Equality: Uplifting the voices of women and girls to unlock our world's infinite possibilities."
July 12	International Malala Day	To honor the bravery and activism of Malala Yousafzai, a Pakistani advocate for girls' education and the youngest person to receive the Nobel Prize
July 12	International Day of Combating Sand and Dust Storms	The day is intended to raise awareness about the serious environmental, economic, and social impacts of SDS
July 12	World Paper Bag Day	It is celebrated annually to promote the significance of utilizing paper bags instead of plastic
July 12	NABARD Foundation Day	NABARD was established in 1982 to provide financial and

		developmental support to the agricultural and rural sectors
July 15	World Youth Skills Day	The theme for World Youth Skills Day 2023 is Skilling teachers, trainers and youth for a transformative future
July 17	World Day for International Justice	On this day, people worldwide come together to stand for justice, advocate for the rights of victims
July 18	Nelson Mandela International Day	To honour Nelson Mandela, a South African anti-apartheid activist who served as the first President from 1994 to 1999
July 18	Tamil Nadu Day	The resolution to rename Madras Presidency into Tamil Nadu was moved by former chief minister C N Annadurai, on July 18, 1967
July 18	International Nelson Mandela Day	The theme for the year 2023 is "The Legacy Lives on Through You: Climate, Food, and Solidarity."
July 20	World Chess Day	The 2023 year's theme of International Chess Day focuses on making the game universal and more accessible to everyone
July 20	International Moon Day	International Moon Day is an annual day dedicated to the Earth's one and only natural satellite, the Moon
July 22	Pi Approximation Day	Pi Approximation Day is observed on July 22 (22/7 in the day/month date format), since the fraction 22/7 is a common approximation of π
July 22	World Brain Day	Theme for World Brain Day is "Brain Health and Disability: Leave No One Behind."

July 22	National Mango Day	Mango, being an integral part of Indian history and culture is one of the most loved Indian fruits, and it is known as the 'king of fruits'
July 23	National Broadcasting Day	This significant day marks the inception of India's first-ever radio broadcast, known as "All India Radio (AIR)."
July - 23	Parents Day	Special occasion dedicated to acknowledging and appreciating parents for their selflessness
July - 24	Aaykar Diwas Or Income Tax Day	To commemorate the introduction of provision of income tax in the country
July - 25	World Drowning Prevention Day	Objective of increasing awareness about the devastating and enduring consequences of drowning on families and communities
July - 26	Kargil Vijay Diwas	The day commemorates the victory of Operation Vijay, which was a significant military victory over Pakistan during the Kargil War in 1999
July - 26	International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem	Its purpose is to increase global understanding of the significance of mangrove ecosystems as distinct, precious, and delicate environments
July - 28	World Hepatitis Day	The theme for the year 2023 is "One Life, One Liver".
July - 28	World Nature Conservation Day	The theme for World Nature Conservation Day 2023 is "Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet".
July - 29	International Tiger	The day is observed annually to

	Day	raise awareness about the importance of conservation of the tigers globally
July - 30	International Day of Friendship	This special day has been dedicated to expressing gratitude to our friends for their companionship and support
July - 30	World Day against Trafficking in Persons	This year's theme, "Reach every victim of trafficking, leave no one behind."
July - 31	World Ranger Day	The theme of World Ranger Day 2023 is "30 by 30," building on the momentum from the 2022 United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15)



MISCELLANEOUS

➤ India's first Cannabis Medicine Project



- ✓ The '**Cannabis Research Project**' of CSIR-IIIM Jammu, spearheaded by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, marks the first-ever initiative of its kind in India.
- ✓ This groundbreaking project is carried out in partnership with a Canadian firm '**IndusScan**' with the aim of harnessing the potential of cannabis, a substance known for its abuse potential, for the benefit of humanity, particularly for patients afflicted with neuropathies, cancer, and epilepsy.

APP
STUDY CENTRE

**CURRENT AFFAIRS - TNPSC ORIGINAL QUESTIONS & ANSWERS – EXAMS
CONDUCTED IN MAY & JULY 2023**

**ROAD INSPECTOR IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYAT RAJ
DEPARTMENT IN TAMIL NADU PANCHAYAT DEVELOPMENT
ENGINEERING SUBORDINATE SERVICE - 07/05/2023**

UNIT – II - CURRENT EVENTS

Public awareness and General administration

1. The first batch of Women Military Police was inducted into the Indian army in _____

a. April 2021

b. May 2021

c. June 2021

d. July 2021

e. Answer not known

இந்திய இராணுவத்தில் முதன்முதலாக பெண் இராணுவ போலீசார் எந்த ஆண்டு
_____ சேர்க்கப்பட்டனர்.

a. ஏப்ரல் 2021

b. மே 2021

c. ஜூன் 2021

d. ஜூலை 2021

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Profile of States

2. The Government of Tamil Nadu announced that 2713 Government _____
will get hi-tech computer labs.

a. Primary Schools

b. Middle Schools

c. Secondary
Schools

d. Higher Secondary Schools

e. Answer not known

2713 அரசு _____ களுக்கு உயர்தர கணினி ஆய்வகங்கள் வழங்கப்படும்
என தமிழ்நாடு அரசு அறிவித்துள்ளது.

a. ஆரம்பப் பள்ளி
பள்ளி

b. நடுநிலைப் பள்ளி

c. மேல்நிலைப்
பள்ளி

d. உயர்நிலைப் பள்ளி

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Eminent personalities and places in news

3. The British era bridge which collapsed in Morbi district is situated in which
State?

a. Haryana

b. Karnataka

c. Gujarat

d. Madhya Pradesh

e. Answer not known

மொர்பி மாவட்டத்தில் இடிந்து விழுந்த ஆங்கிலேயர் கால பாலம் எந்த மாநிலத்தில் அமைந்துள்ளது?

a. ஹரியானா

b. கர்நாடகா

c. குஜராத்

d. மத்திய பிரதேசம்

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Welfare oriented Government schemes and their utility

4. The erstwhile Mid-Day Meal Scheme is renamed as

a. UMANG

b. Bhavishya

c. POSCO

d. PM-POSHAN

e. Answer not known

முந்தைய மதிய உணவு திட்டத்தின் மறு பெயர் யாது?

a. உமாங்

b. பவிஷ்ய

c. போஸ்கோ

d. PM – போஷன்

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை



Awards and Honours

5. Which among the 2022 Nobel laureates of Physics demonstrated quantum teleportation?

- a. Alain Aspect b. John Clauser c. Anton Zeilinger
d. Didier Queloz e. Answer not known

2022 நோபல் பரிசினை இயற்பியலுக்காக வென்றவர்களின் 'குவாண்டம் தொலைத்தாங்கு நடைமுறையை' செய்து காட்டியவர் யார்?

- a. அலைன் ஆசுபெக்ட் b. சான் கிளவுசர் c. அன்டன் சைலிங்கர்
d. திதியே கேலோ e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

ASSISTANT JAILOR (MEN & WOMEN) (TAMIL NADU JAIL SUBORDINATE SERVICE) - 01/07/2023

UNIT - II - CURRENT EVENTS

Latest diary of events

1. India adds 11 more wetlands to the list of RAMSAR sites to make a total of _____ Ramsar sites covering an area of 13, 26,677 ha in the year 2022.

- a. 75 b. 79 c. 50 d. 56 e. Answer not known

2022 ஆம் ஆண்டில் நாட்டில் 13, 26, 677 ஹெக்டேர் பரப்பளவைக் கொண்ட _____ ராம்சார் தளங்களை உருவாக்க இந்தியா மேலும் 11 ஈரநிலங்களை ராம்சார் தளங்களில் பட்டியலில் சேர்த்தது.

- a. 75 b. 79 c. 50 d. 56 e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Awards & Honours

2. "Perarignar Anna Award" for the year 2021 was awarded to

- a. Nanjil Sampath b. Bharathi Krishna Kumar c. Dr. M.Rajendran

- d. Suki Sivam e. Answer not known

2021-ம் ஆண்டிற்காக 'பேரறிஞர் அண்ணா விருது' யாருக்கு வழங்கப்பட்டது?

- a. நாஞ்சில் சம்பத் b. பாரதி கிருஷ்ணன் குமார் c. டாக்டர். மு. ராஜேந்திரன்

- d. சுகி சிவம் e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Eminent personalities and places in news

3. “My sorrow and my wavering faith is not for myself alone, but for every woman who is struggling for justice in court”. Who said this?

- a. Nirbaya **b. Bilkis Bano** c. Shah Bano
d. Visaka e. Answer not known

“என்னுடைய துயரமும் மற்றும் நீதி கிடைக்கும் என்ற நிலையற்ற நம்பிக்கையும் என்னுடையது மட்டுமல்ல மாறாக நீதிமன்றங்கள் மூலம் நீதி கிடைக்க வேண்டி போராடும் எல்லா பெண்களுடையது” என யார் கூறியது?

- a. நிர்பயா **b. பில்கிஸ் பானு** c. ஷா பானு
d. விசாகா e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

4. When was Daman and Diu merged with Dadra and Nagar Haveli?

- a. January, 2019 b. December, 2019 **c. January, 2020**
d. December, 2020 e. Answer not known

டாமன் மற்றும் டையூ, எப்போது தாத்ரா மற்றும் நாகர் ஹவேலியுடன் இணைக்கப்பட்டது?

- a. 2019, ஜனவரி b. 2019, டிசம்பர் c. 2020, ஜனவரி
d. 2020, டிசம்பர் e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Latest inventions in Science and Technology

5. Name the product for which the Agnikul Cosmos has secured first patent for the design and manufacturing

- a. Rocket engine **b. 3D-Printed rocket engine**
c. Automated rocket engine d. Satellite
e. Answer not known

அக்னிகுல் காஸ்மோஸ் வடிவமைப்பு மற்றும் உற்பத்திக்கான முதல் காப்புரிமையைப் பெற்ற தயாரிப்பின் பெயரைக் குறிப்பிடவும்

- a. ராக்கெட் என்ஜின் b. 3D – அச்சிடப்பட்ட ராக்கெட் என்ஜின்
c. தானியங்கி ராக்கெட் இயந்திரம் d. செயற்கைக்கோள்
e. விடை தெரியவில்லை