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CURRENT AFFAIRS—JUNE 1-30, 2023

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 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

Sl.No	TOPICS	Pg.No
1	Tamil Nadu	3
2	State	8
3	National	9
4	Schemes	12
5	International	14
6	India and other countries	15
7	Conferences & Summits	19
8	Defence	24
9	Awards	29
10	Economy	33
11	Appointment	34
12	Personalities	35
13	Science, Technology & Environment	37
14	Sports	40
15	Report	44
16	Ranking	46
17	Important Days	48
18	Miscellaneous	52
19	Current Affairs - Tnpsc Original Questions & Answers - Exams Conducted In May 2023	53

TAMIL NADU

➤ **Kalaingar 100**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin - unveiled a logo - 'Kalaingar 100' from 1924 to 2023 - on the occasion of the centenary birth celebration of former Tamil Nadu CM M Karunanidhi on June 2.



- ✓ The logo was received by the former Governor of West Bengal Gopalkrishna Gandhi at a function held at Kalaivanar Arangam in Chennai.
- ✓ During the event, CM Stalin announced that a convention centre with 5,000 seating capacity spread over an area of 25 acres will be set up in Chennai and the centre will be named after Kalaingar.

➤ **Cordelia Empress**

- ✓ On June 5, Union minister for port, shipping, water ways Sarbananda Sonowal - inaugurated India's first cruise ship to Sri Lanka at the Chennai port.



- ✓ The luxury cruise ship named Cordelia Empress, operated by Cordelia Cruises, will sail for Sri Lanka's Hambantota and reach the port on June 7.
- ✓ The MV Empress will visit three ports in Sri Lanka before returning to Chennai - Hambantota, Trincomalee, and Kankesanturei.

- ✓ The cruise has been launched following an agreement signed between Chennai Port and Waterways Leisure Tourism Private Limited during the first Incredible India International Cruise Conference in 2022.

➤ **Industry 4.0 Technology Centers**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin - inaugurated the Industry 4.0 technology centers in 22 government-run ITIs at an event held at Oragadam in Kancheepuram district on June 8.



- ✓ The inaugural function was attended by Tata Sons Group chairman N Chandrasekaran and other senior Tata group officials.
- ✓ According to the CM, the initiative will enable the poor and rural students besides youth in the state to get training at low cost and become capable of meeting the expectations of the industries.

➤ **Kalaingar Centenary Super Speciality Hospital**

- ✓ On June 15, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin - inaugurated the Kalaingar Centenary Super Speciality Hospital in Guindy.



- ✓ The six-storey building will deal with advanced surgeries related to various specialties like Cardiology, Oncology, Neurology, Gastrointestinal, Renal Vascular, Brain Vascular Radiology etc.
- ✓ The hospital, spreading over about 4.89 acres of land, will be the second Multi-Super Specialty Hospital in Chennai after Tamil Nadu Government Omandurar Multi Super Speciality Hospital.

➤ **Fintech City and Fintech Tower**

- ✓ On June 17, Chief minister M K Stalin - laid the foundation stone for the development of Fintech City and Fintech Tower in Nandambakkam at a cost of at Rs.116 crore and Rs.254 crore respectively.



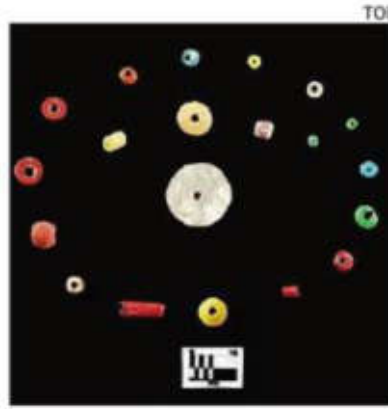
- ✓ The Fintech city is expected to attract investments to the tune of Rs.12,000 crore and create job opportunities to 80,000 people.
- ✓ The Fintech tower will come up in a built-up area of 5.6 lakh sq ft and seeks to attract Rs.1,000 crore investments and employment for 7,000 people.
- ✓ The state's fintech policy 2021 envisions making Tamil Nadu a global hub for fintech and offers special incentives to firms for investments above Rs 50 crore.

➤ **Kalaignar Kottam**

- ✓ Chief Minister M K Stalin – has announced that Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar will inaugurate the 'Kalaignar Kottam', a memorial for late DMK patriarch M Karunanidhi, in Tiruvarur on June 20.
- ✓ Bihar deputy chief minister Tejaswi Yadav would inaugurate the 'Muthuvelar library', while CM Stalin would unveil a statue of Dr. M. Karunanidhi at the event, coinciding with the former Chief Minister's centenary celebrations.

➤ **Vadakkupattu Excavation**

- ✓ The second phase of the Vadakkupattu excavation – is under progress near Oragadam in Kancheepuram district.



- ✓ Nearly 400 artefacts, including a Chola-era coin belonging to the period of King Raja Raja Chola, have been found during the excavation.
- ✓ Vadakkupattu was turning out to be an important archaeological site, which had been continuously inhabited over several thousands of years.
- ✓ Besides the Teri sites at Tirunelveli and Tuticorin districts, Vadakkupattu is the only place in Tamil Nadu where evidence of tools of the Mesolithic period has been found.
- **Pengal Pathukaaptu Thittam**
- ✓ A New Scheme launched by Tamil Nadu Police for Women Travelling Alone at Night. Chennai city women, who return from work between 10 pm and 7 am, can use a police patrol vehicle to reach their residence safely.
- ✓ This new scheme named 'Pengal Pathukaaptu Thittam' (Women Safety Scheme), has been launched by the Tamil Nadu police. Women who feel unsafe at night and need a vehicle can dial the helpline number.
- ✓ This scheme has been started because more women are working in different shifts and sometimes, they are dropped by the office vehicle at such places from where they have to walk alone to their homes.
- **FaMe Tamil Nadu**
- ✓ FaMe Tamil Nadu, an autonomous agency of the Tamil Nadu government - has entered into MoUs with 100 MSME companies to attract investments up to Rs.1,510 crore.
- ✓ These units are to be established in multiple sectors including automobile, aerospace, defence, electric vehicles (EV), pharma and textile across the state
- ✓ They are expected to generate employment opportunities for around 7,400 people.
- **Annal Ambedkar Business Champions Scheme**
- ✓ During the event, CM Stalin launched a new initiative named 'Annal Ambedkar Business Champions Scheme for SC/STs'.



- ✓ According to the CM, 'Annal Ambedkar Business Champions Scheme' offers 35% capital subsidy on the project cost including land, plant, machinery, testing equipment and computing devices for small business owners from Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities.
- ✓ Besides, the beneficiaries can also get 6% interest subvention for loans offered for a period of 10 years under the scheme.
- ✓ The scheme was introduced by the state government, which has set aside Rs 100 crore for it in the budget for 2023–24.

➤ **Maaligaimedu Archaeological Site**

- ✓ The state archaeology department – has unearthed major discoveries in the third phase of archaeological excavation underway at the Maaligaimedu archaeological site near Gangaikonda Cholapuram in Ariyalur district.
- ✓ A terracotta seal, a coin mould and fragments of Chinese are three notable archaeological findings made by the state archaeology department.
- ✓ The discoveries reveal the trade links between the Cholas and China.
- ✓ The terracotta seal found at the site is particularly noteworthy as it is the first-of-its-kind discovered there.



- ✓ This site is known for its Chola-era palaces, including that of emperor Rajendra Chola.

STATE

➤ **Lavender Festival**

- ✓ Union Minister Jitendra Singh - inaugurated the two-day “Lavender Festival” in Jammu and Kashmir’s Baderwah Valley recently on June 4.



- ✓ The festival, organized by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (CSIR-IIIM), is part of their ‘One Week One Lab Campaign’.
- ✓ It showcases the progress made in lavender cultivation and its impact on the local community in the region.

➤ **Kerala Fibre Optic Network (K-FON)**

- ✓ The first phase of the Kerala Fibre Optic Network (K-FON) - was commissioned by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan recently on June 5.



- ✓ With this, Kerala has become the first state in the country to launch its own internet service with an optical fibre cable network of 30,000 kms.
- ✓ With the new scheme, the Kerala government is set to provide free internet to poor and affordable internet service to all who reside in the state.

NATIONAL

➤ **City Investments to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain' (CITIIS 2.0)**

- ✓ On May 31, the Union Cabinet - approved the second phase of 'City Investments to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain' (CITIIS 2.0) to promote circular economy in 18 smart cities, which will be selected through a competition.
- ✓ The major focus of the programme will be on integrated waste management while it also aims at climate action.
- ✓ Different projects under this programme would include collection and transportation of waste, including transfer stations; automated recovery facilities; bio-methanation plants; and sanitary landfills.

➤ **Horrific Train Crash**

- ✓ Hundreds were killed and more than 500 were injured - when a passenger train hit the derailed coaches of another train in Odisha's Balasore on June 3.



- ✓ The horrific train crash involved the Bengaluru-Howrah Superfast Express, the Shalimar-Chennai Central Coromandel Express and a goods train.
- ✓ The accident happened near the Bahanaga Bazaar station in Balasore district, about 250 km south of Kolkata and 170 km north of Bhubaneswar.
- ✓ Odisha and Tamil Nadu will observe a one-day state mourning today to mourn the lives lost in this tragic accident.

➤ **Mission on Advanced and High-Impact Research (MAHIR)**

- ✓ The Ministry of Power and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy - have jointly launched a National Mission titled "Mission on Advanced and High-Impact Research (MAHIR)".
- ✓ The mission aims to quickly identify emerging technologies in the power sector and develop them indigenously, at scale, for deployment within and outside India.
- ✓ It seeks to facilitate indigenous research, development and demonstration of the latest and emerging technologies in the power sector.

➤ **Amrit Generation Campaign**

- ✓ Union Minister for the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Smriti Zubin Irani - launched a new initiative titled 'Amrit Generation campaign' on June 8.
- ✓ The campaign is an initiative to empower and engage the youth by encouraging them to express their aspirations and dreams for the future.
- ✓ The Amrit Generation campaign invites children in the age group of 16-18 from across the country to showcase their creativity and share their aspirations by creating Reels on Instagram and Facebook.

➤ **National Centre for Earthquake Safety of Dams**

- ✓ Jaipur-based Malviya National Institute of Technology - has been chosen as the National Centre for Earthquake Safety of Dams, the first centre of its kind in the country.
- ✓ The centre will develop indigenous capabilities in handling technology issues related to structural and earthquake safety of dams by working intensively with dam engineers, regulators and policy makers.

➤ **Vaishvik Bhartiya Vaigyanik (Vaibhav)**

- ✓ The government - has launched a new fellowship program called Vaishvik Bhartiya Vaigyanik (Vaibhav).
- ✓ The new program aims to strengthen knowledge-sharing and collaboration between the Indian STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Medicine) scientists and academic and research institutions in India.
- ✓ Under the program, 75 scholars in 18 knowledge verticals will be awarded fellowships for collaborative research work in major areas of science and technology.

➤ **Centre Introduces 'Y-Break – Yoga at Office Chair' for Employee Stress Relief**

- ✓ The central government of India has recently taken a proactive step towards improving the well-being of its employees by introducing the "Y-Break – Yoga at Office Chair" protocol.
- ✓ This initiative, spearheaded by the Ministry of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and Homoeopathy), aims to help professionals relieve stress, rejuvenate their energy levels, and enhance concentration.

➤ **Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission**

- ✓ The government - is all set to implement the 'Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission'.
- ✓ PM Narendra Modi is expected to launch the new mission on June 27 from Madhya Pradesh.

- ✓ As announced in the budget, the Mission will focus on awareness creation, universal screening of seven crore people in the age group of 0-40 years in affected tribal areas.
- ✓ Sickle Cell Disease (SCD), a genetic condition, is widespread among the tribal population in India. The disease affects haemoglobin in red blood cells.

- **India's First Hydrogen-Powered Train**
- ✓ In a significant step towards embracing sustainable transportation, India is poised to launch its first-ever hydrogen-powered train.
- ✓ Hydrogen trains, which rely on fuel cells to convert hydrogen and oxygen into electricity, offer a clean and environmentally friendly alternative to traditional diesel trains.
- ✓ This ground-breaking initiative marks a promising stride in India's efforts to reduce carbon emissions and combat pollution.

- **National Research Foundation**
- ✓ On June 28, the Union Cabinet - approved a bill to set up a National Research Foundation.
- ✓ The Foundation will "seed, grow and promote research and development (R&D) and foster a culture of innovation throughout Indian universities, colleges, institutions and R&D laboratories".
- ✓ The National Research Foundation Bill, 2023, will be brought in the upcoming session of Parliament and will replace the Science and Engineering Research Board Act, 2008.

SCHEMES

➤ Amrit Dharohar Yojana and Mishti Yojana

- ✓ On June 5, Environment minister Bhupender Yadav - on World Environment Day - launched two new schemes, Amrit Dharohar Yojana and Mishti Yojana.



- ✓ The two schemes aim to conserve India's wetlands of international importance (Ramsar sites) and revive as well as protect the mangrove ecosystem of the country respectively.
- ✓ A compendium of LiFE (lifestyle for environment) practices around the world — Mindful Living — carrying do's and don'ts for sustainable living, was also released on the occasion.

➤ Exploration of Coal and Lignite Scheme

- ✓ On June 7, the government - approved the continuation of the central sector plan 'Exploration of Coal and Lignite scheme' with an estimated expenditure of Rs 2,980 crore.
- ✓ The time period for the extension is from 2021-22 to 2025-26 co-terminus with the 15th Finance Commission cycle.
- ✓ Under this scheme, exploration for coal and lignite is conducted in two broad stages - (i) Promotional (Regional) Exploration and (ii) Detailed Exploration in non-Coal India Limited blocks.

➤ Price Support Scheme: An Effective Tool for Market Stability



- ✓ The **Indian government** has eliminated restrictions on the maximum amount of certain pulses that can be procured, as a measure to control inflation and increase the supply.
- ✓ The limits on the procurement of **tur, urad, and masoor** under the **Price Support Scheme operations** for the 2023-24 period have been lifted.
- ✓ This decision ensures that these pulses can be purchased from farmers at the **minimum support price** without any restrictions.

- **India's 'Green Credit' Scheme**
- ✓ The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has recently notified the draft 'Green Credit Programme (GCP)' implementation rules for 2023.
- ✓ The proposed scheme aims to encourage individuals, industries, farmers producers organisations (FPOs), urban local bodies (ULB), gram panchayats, and private sectors, among others, to undertake environment-friendly actions such as planting trees, conserving water, waste management, and reducing air pollution.
- ✓ By participating in these activities, entities can earn tradable "green credits" that will be incentivized through a market-based mechanism.

- **PM-PRANAM and Urea Gold Schemes**
- ✓ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has recently approved several schemes aimed at promoting sustainable agriculture and ensuring the well-being of farmers.
- ✓ These initiatives include the PM-PRANAM scheme and the introduction of sulphur-coated urea (Urea Gold) to address soil deficiencies. Additionally, the Cabinet has allocated a substantial subsidy for organic manure.

INTERNATIONAL

➤ **World Meteorological Organisation (WMO)**

- ✓ The United Arab Emirates – took over the presidency of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) at the 77th executive council session held in Geneva from June 5 to 6.
- ✓ Dr Abdulla Al Mandous, Director-General of the National Centre of Meteorology (NCM) in the UAE, has been elected as the new president of WMO for a four-year term from 2023 to 2027.
- ✓ The United Arab Emirates will host the UN Climate Change Conference (COP28) in December this year.

➤ **Soulful Yoga, Serene Oman**

- ✓ The Sultanate of Oman - creates history after becoming the first foreign government to promote their country through yoga.



- ✓ In a pioneering initiative, the Indian Embassy in Oman has prepared an innovative video called 'Soulful Yoga, Serene Oman' on the eve of the International Day of Yoga 2023.
- ✓ The Indian Embassy has partnered with 'Visit Oman,' a subsidiary of Oman's Ministry of Tourism, to produce the video.
- ✓ This marks the first instance of a foreign government using yoga to promote its own country.

INDIA & OTHER COUNTRIES

➤ **Centralized Laboratory Network (CLN)**

- ✓ India - has recently become a member of the Centralized Laboratory Network (CLN), which comprises 15 partner facilities across 13 countries.
- ✓ The CLN focuses on testing vaccines for potential use during pandemics and epidemic disease outbreaks.
- ✓ It undertakes various initiatives to enhance the evaluation process of infectious disease vaccines.
- ✓ Indian Council of Medical Research-National Institute of Virology (ICMR-NIV) has become one of the new members of the CLN for testing vaccines.

➤ **Phukot Karnali Hydro-Electric Project**

- ✓ India and Nepal - have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to develop the Phukot Karnali Hydro-Electric Project in Nepal.



- ✓ Both countries signed the deal in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his counterpart Pushpa Kamal Dahal at the Hyderabad House in New Delhi on June 1.
- ✓ The signing of this MOU is a landmark step towards India-Nepal Joint Vision on Power Sector Cooperation.

➤ **India-US Strategic Trade Dialogue (IUSSTD)**

- ✓ India and the United States - held the inaugural meeting of the India-US Strategic Trade Dialogue (IUSSTD) in Washington DC ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the US from June 21.



- ✓ The talks focused on ways to facilitate development and trade in critical technologies like semiconductors, space, telecom, quantum, Artificial Intelligence, defence and biotech.
- ✓ India-US Strategic Trade Dialogue (IUSSTD) is a key mechanism that seeks to take forward the strategic technology and trade collaborations envisaged under the India-US initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET).
- **India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway Project**
- ✓ The India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway project, an ambitious endeavor aimed at connecting Kolkata to Bangkok via Myanmar, is set to significantly boost regional connectivity and cooperation.
- ✓ Established under the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), this highway project holds immense potential for economic development, cultural exchange, and people-to-people contact among member nations.
- **Mineral Security Partnership (MSP)**
- ✓ India – has become the newest partner in the US-led Mineral Security Partnership (MSP).
- ✓ This was announced in a joint statement issued after PM Narendra Modi's meeting with President Joe Biden in Washington on June 23.
- ✓ MSP was created in 2021 to reduce dependency on China and to weaken China's grip on supplies of critical minerals worldwide.
- ✓ It seeks to ensure that critical minerals are produced, processed and recycled in a way that helps countries secure a stable supply of critical minerals for their economies.



- ✓ The focus of the initiative is primarily on the supply chains of critical minerals such as cobalt, nickel, lithium and the 17 "rare earth" minerals.

➤ **India-US hi-tech Handshake Event**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Biden - participated in the India-US hi-tech handshake event at the White House in Washington on June 24.



- ✓ The event was moderated by US Secretary of Commerce H.E. Ms. Gina Raimondo and saw participation from leading Indian and US CEOs of tech companies and startups.
- ✓ The thematic focus of the Forum was on 'AI for All' and 'Manufacturing for Mankind'.

➤ **Separate Tamil Studies Chair**

- ✓ The PM wrapped up his four-day visit to the US by announcing a separate Tamil Studies Chair at the University of Houston with the Indian government's help
- ✓ The PM said this will help propagate the influence of Tamil culture and the world's oldest language.
- ✓ In his nearly 35-minute address to members of the Indian community, PM Modi said Tamil language is a national glory, and the fact that India is home to the world's oldest language should be celebrated by every Indian, a remark seen as part of continued outreach to the community.

➤ **Strategic Partnership Agreement**

- ✓ On June 25, PM Narendra Modi and Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi - signed a landmark 'strategic partnership' agreement.

- ✓ With their focus on intensifying political, defence and counter-terrorism cooperation, both the leaders had decided to elevate bilateral ties to the level of strategic partnership during the latter's visit to India in January for the Republic Day celebrations.
 - ✓ Three MoUs were also signed after the meeting between the two leaders in areas like agriculture, archaeology and competition law.
- **Order of the Nile**
- ✓ Egypt's highest civilian honour, Order of the Nile, was conferred on PM Modi by Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, making him the first Indian to receive the award.
 - ✓ The honour is conferred upon heads of states, crown princes, and vice-presidents who offer Egypt or humanity invaluable services.



- ✓ This is the 13th international award conferred upon the prime minister since he took over in 2014.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

➤ **Global Wealth Conference (GWC)**

- ✓ The Sovereign Wealth Fund Institute (SWFI) – has launched its Global Wealth Conference (GWC) on May 31 in London.
- ✓ During this two-day Conference, major investment decisions may take place for the Indian market.
- ✓ According to SWFI, a whopping \$10 billion India-focused fund is to be launched at the conference.

➤ **BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa)**

- ✓ External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar – represented the country and addressed at a meeting of the foreign ministers of BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) nations in Cape Town on June 1 and 2.
- ✓ South Africa, which currently chairs the bloc, is hosting the BRICS foreign ministers' meeting.



- ✓ The BRICS ministers were joined by counterparts from countries including Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Kazakhstan.
- ### ➤ **India-Vietnam Maritime Security Dialogue**
- ✓ The 3rd India-Vietnam Maritime Security Dialogue - was held in New Delhi recently on May 31.



- ✓ During the dialogue, the two sides discussed ways to sustain a secure maritime environment conducive for inclusive growth.
- ✓ They also reviewed maritime cooperation initiatives and ways of reinforcing international and regional mechanisms for comprehensive maritime security.

➤ **National Training Conclave**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi – inaugurated the first ‘National Training Conclave’ at Delhi’s Pragati Maidan on June 11.



- ✓ The conclave hosted eight panel discussions, each focusing on key concerns pertinent to civil services training institutes such as faculty development, training impact assessment and content digitisation, among others.
- ✓ The National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB) — ‘Mission Karmayogi’ — was launched to prepare a future-ready civil service with the right attitude, skills and knowledge.

➤ **17th Indian Cooperative Congress**

- ✓ PM Narendra Modi - will address the 17th Indian Cooperative Congress in Delhi on July 1.



- ✓ The two-day event will be organised by the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI).
- ✓ It will be held with the theme 'Amrit Kaal — Prosperity through Cooperation for a Vibrant India'.
- ✓ The NCUI is an apex organisation of the cooperative movement.
- ✓ The Congress is organized at regular intervals to discuss the challenges/ issues faced by the movement so as to formulate effective action plans.

➤ **SAI20 Summit**

- ✓ The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) - hosted a three-day SAI20 Summit under India's G20 Presidency in Goa from June 12 to 14.



- ✓ SAIs of Australia, Brazil, Indonesia, South Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, Bangladesh, Egypt, Mauritius, Nigeria, Oman, Spain, UAE, Morocco and Poland participated in the Summit.
- ✓ Blue Economy is the sustainable use of oceanic resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods, and jobs while preserving the health of the ecosystem.

➤ **The Women's G-20 Summit**

- ✓ The Women's G-20 summit - will be held in Mamallapuram on June 15 and 16.
- ✓ The theme of this year's summit is 'Women-Led Development- Transform, Thrive and Transcend'.

- ✓ The primary objective of W20 is women's empowerment and advocating for women's rights, raising women's voices in society.
- **First Hindu-American Summit**
 - ✓ The inaugural Hindu-American Summit for political engagement, organised by a group of Indian Americans, was scheduled to take place at the US Capitol Hill on June 14.
 - ✓ The summit's primary objective is to bring attention and support for the concerns and issues faced by the Hindu community, which has been underrepresented in politics.
- **International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS)**
 - ✓ India - is set to host the International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS) Annual Conference 2025 in February in Kochi, Kerala.



- ✓ The annual conference will be attended by 30 countries, 18 national sections, and over 50 IIAS universities/ institutes of public administration.
- ✓ The conference will be held under the theme "Next Generation Administrative Reforms - Empowering The Citizens And Reaching The Last Mile".
- ✓ It is a federation of member states and academic research centres which elaborates on public administration solutions to policy challenges.
- **4th Education Working Group (EDWG)**
 - ✓ The Ministry of Education – will host the G20 4th Education Working Group (EDWG) meeting in Pune on June 20 and 21.
 - ✓ The meeting will witness the participation of 85 delegates from G-20 member countries, guest countries, and international organisations such as OECD, UNESCO, and UNICEF.
 - ✓ A seminar, themed "Ensuring Foundational Literacy and Numeracy, especially in the Context of Blended Learning" will be held at Savitribai Phule Pune University on June 19.

➤ **India - Iraq Joint Commission Meeting**

- ✓ India hosted the 18th Session of the India - Iraq Joint Commission Meeting in New Delhi on 21 June 2023.
- ✓ The Confederation of Indian Industry also organized a Business Roundtable on 19th June 2023, between the Business Leaders of both countries.
- ✓ During the meeting, both countries agreed to move from a buyer-seller relation to an energy partnership covering investments, trade, and services.

➤ **G-20 Labour Engagement Summit**

- ✓ Bihar - has hosted the two day G-20 Labour Engagement summit on June 22 and 23 in Patna.
- ✓ The summit witnessed participation of around 180 delegates from various G20 member countries.



- ✓ During the event, representatives from trade unions and officials of G-20 countries discussed about the issues of labour and skill in the sectors of agriculture, energy, employment, environment and allied areas.

DEFENCE

➤ **Maiden INDIA-FRANCE-UAE Maritime Partnership Exercise**

- ✓ The first edition of India, France and UAE Maritime Partnership Exercise commenced on 07 Jun 23 in the Gulf of Oman.
- ✓ The exercise scheduled over two days will witness a wide spectrum of naval operations such as Surface Warfare, involving tactical firing and Drills for Missile engagements on surface targets, Helicopter Cross Deck Landing Operations, Advanced Air Defence Exercise and Boarding operations.

➤ **'Ekatha' Exercise**

- ✓ India-Maldives navies participating in the sixth edition of 'Ekatha' Exercise. Indian Navy divers and Marine Commandos with Maldives National Defence Force participating in the sixth edition of the 'Ekatha' Exercise.
- ✓ This exercise will be conducted from 4th June to 3rd July in Maldives.
- ✓ Its main aim is to enhance interoperability between both navies.

➤ **Agni Prime**

- ✓ In a significant achievement for India's defense capabilities, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully conducted the maiden pre-induction night launch of the new-generation ballistic missile 'Agni Prime.'



- ✓ The test, held at the Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha, showcased the missile's exceptional accuracy and reliability, meeting all objectives set for the trial.

➤ **Military Exercise "Ekuverin"**

- ✓ The 12th edition of the joint military exercise "Ex Ekuverin" between the Indian Army and the Maldives National Defence Force has commenced at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand.



✓ This bilateral annual exercise, which bears the meaning of “Friends” in the Maldivian language, aims to enhance interoperability in Counter Insurgency/Counter Terrorism Operations under the UN mandate.

➤ **Sanshodhak**

✓ The fourth ship of the Survey Vessels (Large) (SVL) Project, named ‘Sanshodhak’ meaning ‘Researcher’, was launched at Kattupalli, Chennai by L and T/ GRSE for the Indian Navy.

✓ The Ship was launched to the chanting of invocation from Atharva Veda and the chief guest of the Launch Ceremony was VAdm Adhir Arora, Chief Hydrographer to Government of India.

➤ **MQ-9B Sea Guardian Drones**

✓ On June 15, the defence ministry - approved the major acquisition of 31 weaponised Predator or MQ-9B Sea Guardian drones from the US.

✓ The Defence Acquisitions Council (DAC), chaired by defence minister Rajnath Singh, accorded the initial ‘acceptance of necessity (AoN)’ to the estimated \$3.5 billion (almost Rs.29,000 crore) procurement of the ‘hunterkiller’ drones.



✓ The fighter-sized Predators are armed with air-to-ground missiles and smart bombs as well as capable of flying for 35 hours at a stretch.

➤ **Julley Ladak**

- ✓ The Indian Navy - has launched a new outreach programme called "Julley Ladakh" (Hello Ladakh) on June 15.



- ✓ The programme seeks to create awareness among public about the naval service in the Himalayan region, including the Agnipath Scheme and motivate youngsters and civil society members to join the Indian Navy.
- ✓ Vice Admiral Sanjay Jasjit Singh, Vice Chief of Navy Staff, launched the programme by flagging off a 5,000-km motorcycle expedition from the National War Memorial.

➤ **TAPAS**

- ✓ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Navy - successfully demonstrated the transfer of command and control capabilities of TAPAS unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV).



- ✓ The TAPAS UAV took off from Chitradurga's Aeronautical Test Range (ATR) and flew 285 km and landed successfully on INS Subhadra, a warship situated 148km away from the Karwar naval base.
- ✓ The UAV took off from the ATR and soared to a height of 20,000 feet and flew for three-and-a-half hours non-stop to land on INS Subhadra.
- ✓ TAPAS is a Medium Altitude Long Endurance (MALE) drone, which has a flight endurance of 24 to 48 hours and can operate at altitudes of up to 28,000 feet.

➤ **Ex Khaan Quest**

- ✓ Indian Army contingent participates in multinational joint exercise "Ex Khaan Quest 2023" in Mongolia.



- ✓ Multinational Peacekeeping Joint Exercise "Ex Khaan Quest 2023" featuring participation from military contingents and observers from over 20 countries has commenced in Mongolia today.
- ✓ Mr Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh, the Hon'ble President of Mongolia inaugurated the Exercise in a ceremony organised at the exercise location in Mongolia.
- ✓ The exercise is co-sponsored by Mongolian Armed Forces (MAF) and United States Army Pacific Command (USARPAC).

➤ **Dhruv**

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh - inaugurated the Integrated Simulator Complex "Dhruv" at the Southern Naval Command in Kochi recently on June 21.



- ✓ The Integrated Simulator Complex hosts state-of-the-art indigenously-built simulators which will significantly enhance practical training in the Indian Navy.
- ✓ These simulators are designed to give real-time experience on navigation, fleet operations and Naval tactics and will also be utilised for training personnel from friendly nations.

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AWARDS

➤ **Michel Batisse Award**

- ✓ On June 6, Chief minister M K Stalin - appreciated Ramanathapuram district forest officer (DFO) Jagdish S Bakan for bagging the 2023 Michel Batisse Award for Biosphere Reserve Management from UNESCO.



- ✓ A day earlier, UNESCO announced the award for Bakan, who is also the director of Gulf of Mannar biosphere reserve.
- ✓ Bakan will receive the award in Paris on June 14, and will present a report on the measures taken to preserve the natural resources in the biosphere reserve.

➤ **Grand Order of the Chain of Yellow Star**

- ✓ President Droupadi Murmu – was recently conferred with the Grand Order of the Chain of Yellow Star, Suriname's highest civilian honor.



- ✓ The award was presented to Murmu by Chandrikapersad Santokhi, the President of the Republic of Suriname on June 5.
- ✓ Murmu becomes the first Indian to receive this award, which is conferred to individuals who have made meritorious contributions to the Surinamese people or nation.

➤ **When Climate Change Turns Violent**

- ✓ Indian film 'When Climate Change Turns Violent' wins WHO award.



- ✓ A documentary titled 'When Climate Change Turns Violent' has won a special prize in the 'Health for All' category at the 4th Annual Health for All Film Festival held at the World Health Organization headquarters in Geneva.
- ✓ The documentary has been directed by Vandita Saharia of Rajasthan. She was the only Indian among the winners.

➤ **National Water Awards**

- ✓ Vice President presented the National Water Awards 2022 in New Delhi, June 17, 2023.
- ✓ Madhya Pradesh topped the Best State category, followed by Haryana & Karnataka.
- ✓ Awards were instituted by the Ministry of Jal Shakti in 2017 to recognize and encourage excellence in water management.

➤ **Gandhi Peace Prize for 2021**

- ✓ The Gandhi Peace Prize for 2021 - will be conferred on The Gita Press, Gorakhpur.



- ✓ The prize recognises The Gita Press's "outstanding contribution towards social, economic and political transformation through non-violent and other Gandhian methods".

- ✓ Established in 1923, Gita Press is the world's largest publisher of Hindu religious texts, with 41.7 crore books —16.21 crore of them copies of the Bhagvad Gita — published in 14 languages, to its credit.

➤ **National Water Award 2022**

- ✓ A water conservation project taken up at Kadavur village in the Karur district - has won the second prize in the National Water Award 2022 under the best village panchayat category.



- ✓ Collector T Prabhushankar received the award from Union Jal Shakti minister Ganedra Singh Shekhawat in New Delhi on June 17.
- ✓ Kadavur, surrounded by hillocks on three sides, had faced severe scarcity of water till now.
- ✓ The innovative science-based water conservation model made immediate impact, as the water table went up three times and soil erosion has also been checked.

➤ **National Florence Nightingale Awards**

- ✓ President Droupadi Murmu - conferred the National Florence Nightingale Awards for 2022 and 2023 to 30 dedicated nursing professionals from across the country on June 22.



- ✓ Out of the total awardees, there were 10 Auxiliary Nurses and Midwives (ANM), 4 lady health visitors and 16 nurses.

- ✓ The awardees for 2022 include two nurses - Ganapathy Santhi and Suganthi K - from Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ The National Florence Nightingale Award was instituted by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in the year 1973 as a mark of recognition for the meritorious services rendered by the nurses and nursing professionals to the society.

- **Sahitya Akademi's Bal Puraskar and Yuva Puraskar Awards**
- ✓ Two writers from southern Tamil Nadu, Udayasankar and Ram Thangam - have bagged the Sahitya Akademi's Bal Puraskar and Yuva Puraskar awards for the year 2023.
- ✓ Udayasankar from Tuticorin district has won the Bal Puraskar for his novel 'Aadhanin Bommai'.
- ✓ Ram Thangam from Nagercoil in neighbouring Kanyakumari district has been selected for the Yuva Puraskar for his short story 'Thirukarthiyal'.



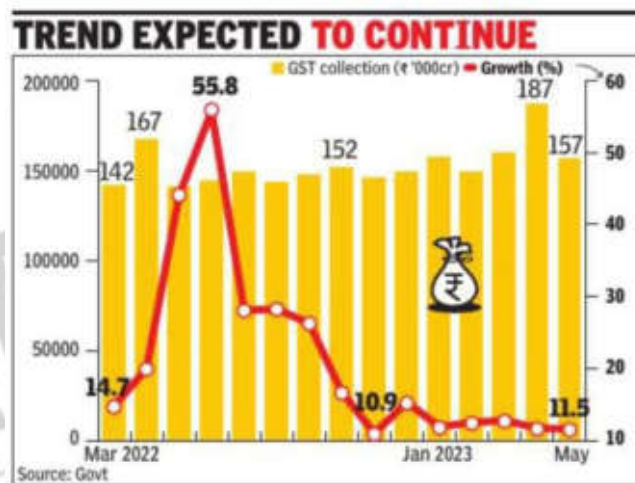
ECONOMY

➤ GDP Growth Accelerates to 6.1%

- ✓ India's GDP Growth Accelerates to 6.1% in Q4 2022-23, Propelling Economy to \$3.3 Trillion.
- ✓ India's economy showcased significant growth in the January-March quarter of 2022-23, with a GDP growth rate of 6.1%.
- ✓ This surge, primarily driven by improved performance in agriculture, manufacturing, mining, and construction sectors, contributed to an annual growth rate of 7.2%.

➤ GST collections - May 2023

- ✓ The goods and services tax (GST) collections for the month of May 2023 - stood at Rs 1.57 lakh crore, a growth of 12% over the collections during May 2022.



- ✓ Of the total GST collections, CGST stood at Rs 28,411 crore, SGST at Rs 35,828 crore, IGST is Rs 81,363 crore and cess is Rs 11,489 crore.
- ✓ With this, the monthly GST revenue stands at over Rs 1.4 lakh crore for the 14th consecutive month and Rs 1.5 lakh crore crossed for the fifth time.
- ✓ In the previous month of April 2023, GST collections had hit its highest-ever level of Rs 1,87,035 crore.

➤ Business-to-Business (B2B)

- ✓ The government-backed open network for digital commerce (ONDC) - has launched business-to-business (B2B) transactions.
- ✓ The move is expected to benefit scores of small and medium establishments by giving them access to a wider market for their products.
- ✓ The B2B transactions on ONDC are being powered by tech startups SignCatch and Rapidor.

APPOINTMENT

➤ Ravi Sinha

- ✓ Ravi Sinha, a 1988-batch IPS officer - will be the next chief of the research & analysis wing (R&AW), the country's external intelligence agency.
- ✓ The Appointment Committee of the Cabinet, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved Sinha's appointment for a tenure of two years on June 19.



- ✓ Sinha is currently serving as the special secretary at the cabinet secretariat and was the second-in-command at the agency.

➤ Shiv Das Meena

- ✓ On June 29, the state government - posted senior bureaucrat Shiv Das Meena as the next chief secretary.



- ✓ He will be succeeding V Irai Anbu, who retires on June 30.
- ✓ Meena is serving at present as the secretary, municipal administration and water supply department.
- ✓ Meena was handpicked by late chief minister J Jayalalithaa and chief minister M K Stalin for important positions.
- ✓ He ranks 12th in TN cadre, and will be the 49th chief secretary of the state.

PERSONALITIES

➤ Dev Shah

- ✓ Fourteen-year-old, an Indian-American prodigy - claimed the prestigious title of the 2023 Scripps National Spelling Bee champion.



- ✓ The eighth-grader from Florida scripted history as the 85th national Spelling Bee champion by correctly spelling the challenging 11-letter word, 'psammophile'.
- ✓ The winning word, 'psammophile', refers to a plant or animal that thrives in sandy areas.
- ✓ The eighth-grader defeated 228 other competitors (including 10 other finalists) from around the US to win the competition.

➤ Prabhanjan J

- ✓ Prabhanjan J from Villupuram district – created history by becoming the first candidate from Tamil Nadu to top the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) by scoring 720 out of 720 marks with a 99.99 percentile.



TOP 10 RANK HOLDERS	
Candidate (Gender)	State
Prabhanjan J (M)	TN
Bora Varun Chakravarthi (M)	AP
Kaustav Bauri (M)	TN
Pranjal Aggarwal (F)	Punjab
Dhruv Advani (M)	K'taka
Surya Siddharth N (M)	TN
Shriniketh Ravi (M)	Maha
Swayam Shakti Tripathy (M)	Odisha
Varun S (M)	TN
Parth Khandelwal (M)	Raj

- ✓ This is the first time that candidates from Tamil Nadu have secured the first and third positions in the test.
- ✓ Prabhanjan shares the first position with Bora Varun Chakravarthi from Andhra Pradesh.
- ✓ The National Testing Agency (NTA) announced the results of the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) UG 2023 on June 13.

➤ **Prisha Lokesh Nikajoo**

- ✓ Prisha Lokesh Nikajoo, a five-year-old girl from Betul district in Madhya Pradesh - has become the youngest to reach the base camp of Mount Everest, the world's highest mountain peak.



- ✓ Prisha reached the base camp at an altitude of 5,364 metres (17,598 feet) along with her father Lokesh Nikajoo, a mountaineer.
- ✓ Prisha presently stays and studies in Thane, Mumbai.
- ✓ She started trekking when she was 2.5 years old and climbed many forts of Maharashtra.

➤ **Rutu Parekh and Kumar Venkataramani**

- ✓ Four Indian scientists, including two from Gujarat, Rutu Parekh and Kumar Venkataramani - have been bestowed with a rare honour of asteroids being named after them.



- ✓ Aswin Sekhar and Ashok Verma are the two other Indians, honoured for their mammoth contributions to the field of astrophysics.
- ✓ The asteroid 2000HD73 has been renamed 'Rutuparekh'.
- ✓ The asteroid 2000SM362 rechristened as 'Kumar'.

SCIENCE, ENVIRONMENT & TECHNOLOGY

➤ Daam

- ✓ The Indian cyber agency, Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) - has warned people about a dangerous Android virus called “Daam”.
- ✓ This malware takes private information, gets around antivirus software, and the malware even puts ransomware on the systems it targets.
- ✓ The virus typically transfers through third-party websites or applications downloaded from untrusted or unknown sources.

➤ Agni-1 Missile

- ✓ India - conducted a “successful launch” of the medium-range Agni-1 missile from the APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the Odisha coast on June 1.



- ✓ The “training launch” of the Agni-1 was conducted by the tri-service Strategic Forces Command (SFC), responsible for the management and administration of the country's tactical and nuclear assets.
- ✓ The user training launch successfully validated all operational and technical parameters of the missile.

➤ KAVACH

WHAT IS KAVACH?		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Kavach (armour) is a train collision avoidance system➤ Announced in March 2022, the system was developed by Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO)➤ The system consists of electronic and high radio frequency instruments installed in trains, tracks, and signaling systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ These instruments are programmed to communicate with each other➤ These digital systems can spot if a train jumps signal or if another train is on the same track➤ It then takes control of the brakes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ and applies it automatically bringing the train to a halt➤ RFID tags are placed on tracks every 1km and at station yard, and signals for train identification and train location and direction➤ Government had planned to install Kavach on a 2000km rail network during 2022-23

- ✓ Kavach consists of electronic and radio frequency identification instruments such as radio antennas, RFID reader, loco train collision avoidance system (TCAS) and loco speedometers installed in locomotives, signalling systems and tracks.
- ✓ Kavach was announced in March 2022 and was developed by Research Designs and Standards Organisation, a unit of railways.
- ✓ Kavach was developed to prevent train accidents by automatically applying the brakes when the digital system spots another train on the same track within a specific distance and in situations of over speeding or likely collision.

➤ **Cyclone Biparjoy**

- ✓ The cyclone was named 'Biparjoy' (means 'disaster' or 'calamity') by Bangladesh.
- ✓ Cyclone 'Biparjoy' – became the second longest cyclone over the North Indian Ocean in the last 50 years, according to the India Meteorological Department's final report on the event.
- ✓ With a life period of 13 days and three hours, cyclone 'Biparjoy' that hit the Gujarat coast this month was the second longest cyclone over the North Indian Ocean, including the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea.

➤ **Project 'Akash'**

- ✓ India - recently conducted Asia's first demonstration of performance-based navigation for helicopters using GAGAN satellite technology for a flight from Juhu to Pune, as part of Project 'Akash'.
- ✓ GAGAN (GPS Aided GEO Augmented Navigation) is an Indian Satellite-Based Augmentation System (SBAS) jointly developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Airports Authority of India (AAI).



- ✓ Performance-Based Navigation (PBN) is a modern navigation concept that enables precise and efficient aircraft operations.

➤ **Gemcovac-OM**

- ✓ On June 24, Union minister Jitendra Singh - launched Gemcovac-OM, the Omicron-specific mRNA-based booster vaccine for Covid-19.



- ✓ It was recently accorded emergency use authorisation by the Drug Controller General of India.
- ✓ Gemcovac-OM has been developed by Pune-based Gennova Biopharmaceuticals and will be priced at Rs. 2,292 per dose. Gemcovac-OM has been developed in a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) in which the funding support came from Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC).

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SPORTS

➤ **Junior Asia Cup Hockey**

- ✓ India – defeated Pakistan to retain the Junior Asia Cup hockey title in Salalah, Oman, on June 1.



- ✓ With this victory, India has created a new record of winning the maximum titles at the Men's Junior Asia Cup.
 - ✓ This is the fourth time India has bagged the Junior Asia hockey title, while Pakistan has won it three times.
- ## ➤ **Special Olympics World Summer Games**
- ✓ India - will be represented by a strong 255-member contingent at the Special Olympics World Summer Games to be held in Berlin, Germany from June 17 to 25.
 - ✓ The contingent includes 198 athletes, who will participate in 16 disciplines, and unified partners and 57 coaches.
 - ✓ The Special Olympics World Games are the world's largest inclusive sporting event for people with intellectual disabilities.
- ## ➤ **French Open**
- ✓ Polish World No. 1 Iga Swiatek - won her third French Open title at Roland Garros on June 10.



- ✓ In the final, Swiatek defeated unseeded Czech Karolina Muchova in three sets to win her fourth Grand Slam title.
- ✓ Swiatek became the first woman player to defend her French Open title since Justine Henin, who won three-in-a-row between 2005-07.

➤ **French Open**

- ✓ On June 11, Novak Djokovic - beat Casper Ruud to clinch his record 23rd Grand Slam singles title at the French Open in Roland Garros, Paris.



- ✓ Djokovic, a 36-year-old from Serbia, broke a tie with rival Rafael Nadal for the most major singles trophies (22 each) in the history of men's tennis.
- ✓ Since collecting his very first Slam trophy at the 2008 Australian Open, Djokovic has won 10 Australian Open, 3 US Open, 3 French Open and 7 Wimbledon titles.

➤ **Squash World Cup**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu Minister of Youth Welfare and Sports Development, Udayanidhi Stalin, inaugurated the Squash World Cup in Chennai.
- ✓ The Squash World Cup is being held from June 13 to June 17, at Express Avenue, Royapettah in Chennai.
- ✓ Eight countries are participating in the championship including India, China, Japan, Malaysia and Australia, South Africa, Egypt.

➤ **Junior Asian Track Cycling Championship**

- ✓ Seventeen-year-old Coimbatore girl Dhanyadha JP - became the first Indian to win a 2 km individual pursuit silver medal in the junior Asian track cycling championship in Nilai, Malaysia on June 17.



- ✓ With a timing of 2 min 28 sec, she created a new national record in the 2 km category, breaking the earlier record of 2 min 31 second.
- ✓ The silver medal also helped her clinch a spot in the Indian team for the youth Commonwealth Games in Trinbago, Port of Spain, from August 4.

➤ **37th National Games**

- ✓ Chief Minister of Goa Dr Pramod Sawant - launched the mascot, named 'Moga', for the upcoming 37th National Games on June 18.
- ✓ The launch ceremony was held at Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Stadium in Taleigao, Goa.
- ✓ It was organized by the Directorate of Sports and Youth Affairs and the Sports Authority of Goa and held on the occasion of the Goa Revolution Day.



- ✓ Goa will be hosting the upcoming National Games for the first time since 2008.
- **Asian Fencing Championships**
- ✓ On June 19, Indian fencing's torchbearer CA Bhavani Devi - made history by bagging the country's first ever medal at the Asian Fencing Championships.



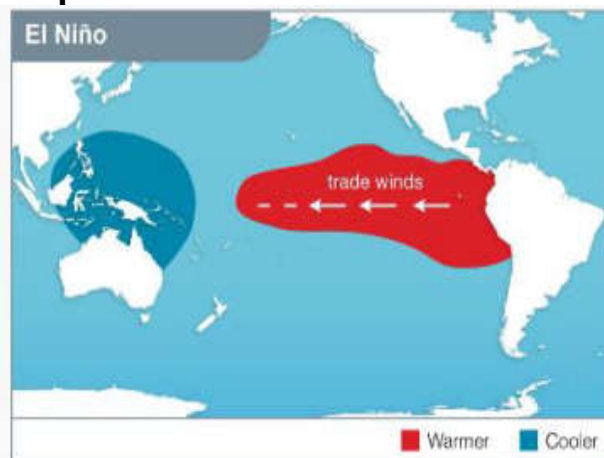
- ✓ The Chennai Olympian won a bronze at the prestigious tournament in Wuxi, China.
- ✓ Bhavani stunned World No. 1 Misaki Emura of Japan in the women's sabre quarterfinals to guarantee India's maiden medal at the event.

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STUDY CENTRE

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REPORT

➤ El Niño's Potential Impact - 2023-2024



- ✓ As the world enters an El Niño phase—a natural climate phenomenon characterized by warmer waters in the Pacific—countries are bracing themselves for extreme weather events.
 - ✓ The El Niño pattern fuels tropical cyclones in the Pacific, increases rainfall and flood risks in parts of the Americas and other regions, and can have far-reaching implications.
 - ✓ This year's El Niño is of particular concern due to its potential interaction with climate change, which could result in record-high temperatures and intensified extreme weather events.
- **India's Internet Economy - \$1 Trillion Growth by 2030**
- ✓ India's internet economy is projected to reach \$1 trillion by 2030, showing substantial growth from \$175 billion in 2022, as per a joint report by Google, Temasek, and Bain & Company.
 - ✓ The report highlights that the expansion of the digital sphere is propelled by increased digital consumption in sectors like e-commerce, online travel, food delivery, and ride-hailing.
 - ✓ By 2030, the Internet economy is expected to contribute 62% to India's technology sector, a notable increase from 48% in 2022.
- **Global Gender Gap Report**
- ✓ India - ranked 127 out of 146 countries in the Global Gender Gap Report 2023 released by the World Economic Forum on June 21
 - ✓ The report showed improvement of 1.4 percentage points and eight positions from 135 in 2022.
 - ✓ India has closed 64.3% of the overall gender gap, as the country marches towards India's 2020 (66.8%) parity level.

- ✓ The index ranked India's neighbours Bangladesh at 59, Bhutan at 103, China at 107, Sri Lanka at 115, Nepal at 116 and Pakistan at 142.
- ✓ Iceland is the most gender-equal country in the world for the 14th consecutive year and the only one to have closed more than 90 per cent of its gender gap.



RANKING

➤ **National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)**

- ✓ The Ministry of Education - announced the ranking of educational institutes by National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) for the year 2023.
- ✓ The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras was awarded the best educational institute under the overall category for the fifth consecutive year (2019 to 2023).
- ✓ IIT Madras was also ranked at second place in 'Innovations' category (previously known as the Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements).
- ✓ IIT Madras has also been recognised as an 'Institution of Eminence' (IoE) in September 2019 by the Government of India.

➤ **State Food Safety Index (SFSI)**

- ✓ Kerala - has emerged as the top state, among the large ones, in maintaining high food safety standards.
- ✓ This is based on the latest State Food Safety Index (SFSI) that was released by health minister Mansukh Mandaviya on June 7.
- ✓ Among the larger states, Punjab and Tamil Nadu stood second and third, while Goa emerged as the leader among the smaller states.

➤ **Global Liveability Index 2023**

- ✓ This year, the index covered 172 cities and for the second year in a row, Vienna, Austria, has been named the best city to live in the world.
- ✓ The Global Liveability Index 2023 attributed Vienna's success to its "unsurpassed combination of stability, good infrastructure, strong education and healthcare services, and plenty of culture and entertainment."
- ✓ Denmark's capital Copenhagen also retained its second-place position in the list. Following it are two Australian cities, Melbourne and Sydney, respectively.
- ✓ Three Canadian cities – Vancouver, Calgary and Toronto — also made it to the top ten list. From Asia, Japan's Osaka was ranked number 10 in the rankings.

➤ **World Competitiveness Ranking**

- ✓ India - has ranked 40th on the latest world competitiveness ranking released by the International Institute for Management Development (IMD).
- ✓ The country has slipped three spots from last year, but is still positioned better than the 43rd rank in 2019-21.
- ✓ Out of the 64 economies ranked in the annual report, Denmark, Ireland and Switzerland claimed the top three spots, while the Netherlands, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Sweden, the US and the UAE completed the top 10.

➤ **Energy Transition Index**

- ✓ The World Economic Forum ranked India at the 67th place globally on its Energy Transition Index and said it is the only major economy with energy transition momentum accelerating across all dimensions.
- ✓ Sweden topped the list and was followed by Denmark, Norway, Finland and Switzerland in the top five on the list of 120 countries.
- ✓ Releasing the report published in collaboration with Accenture, the WEF said the global energy transition has plateaued amid the global energy crisis and geopolitical volatilities, but India is among the countries that have made significant improvements.



IMPORTANT DAY

Date	Day	Theme
June 01	World Milk Day	The theme of World Milk Day 2023 is "Showcasing how dairy is reducing its environmental footprint, while also providing nutritious foods and livelihoods."
June 01	Global Parents Day	The day is celebrated to honor all parents around the world for the selfless commitment and lifelong sacrifice they make for their children
June 03	World Bicycle Day	The theme for this year's World Bicycle Day is "Riding Together for a Sustainable Future."
June 05	World Environment Day	Theme 2023 - "Beat Plastic Pollution".
June 05	International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing	To raise awareness of the problem of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.
June 07	World Food Safety Day	The theme of this year's World Food Safety Day 2023 is "Food standards save lives."
June 08	World Oceans Day	This year, the theme of World Oceans day 2023 is "Planet Ocean: The Tides are Changing."
June 08	World Brain Tumour Day	It is celebrated to raise awareness about brain tumor and educate people about it.
June 09	World Accreditation Day	The theme for WAD 2023 is "Accreditation: Supporting the Future of Global Trade".
June 12	World Day Against Child Labour	"Social Justice for All. End Child Labour!"
June 13	International Albinism Awareness Day	This year's theme, "Inclusion is Strength," builds on last year's theme of "United in making our

		voice heard.”
June 14	World Blood Donor Day	The slogan or theme of the World Blood Donor Day 2023 is “Give blood, give plasma, share life, share often.”
June 15	World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD)	Theme 2023 - "Closing the Circle: Addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Older Age Policy, Law and Evidence-based Responses”.
June 15	Global Wind Day	The event took place on June 15, 2023, in New Delhi and had the central theme of “Wind Energy: Powering the Future of India.”
June 16	International Day of Family Remittances	The theme of International Day of Family Remittances 2023 is “ Digital remittances towards financial inclusion and cost reduction. ”
June 17	World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought	The theme for the year 2023 is 'Her Land. Her Rights.
June 18	International Father’s Day	The day is a time to honour fathers, grandfathers, and other male role models who have made a significant impact in the lives of their children.
June 18	Sustainable Gastronomy Day	The theme for this year’s celebrations is ‘Local Flavours, Preserving Global Heritage.’
June 19	International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict	The theme of this year is “Bridging the gender digital divide to prevent, address and respond to conflict-related sexual violence”.
June 19	National Reading Day	The National Reading day commemorates the death anniversary of PN Panicker, widely recognized as the ‘Father of the Library Movement’ in the state of Kerala.

June 20	World Refugee Day	The theme of World Refugee Day is “Hope away from home.”
June 21	International Yoga Day	The theme for the International Day of Yoga 2023 is 'Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' or 'Yoga for the Welfare of All as One World-One Family.
June 21	World Music Day	The theme for 2023 is " Music on the Intersections ".
June 21	World Hydrography Day	The theme for 2023 is 'Hydrography - Underpinning the Digital Twin of the Ocean' which is in keeping with the development of virtual representation."
June 23	UN Public Service Day	This special day is all about appreciating the importance of public services and the people who work in them.
June 23	International Widows Day	For the year 2023, the reported theme for International Widows Day is “ Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality. ”
June 23	International Olympic Day	The theme of 2023 year's Olympic Day is 'Let's Move' which aims to inspire people around the world to make time for daily physical activity.
June 24	International Day of Women in Diplomacy	The theme for this year's International Day of Women in Diplomacy (IDWID) Inaugural Forum, organized by the Royal Academy of Science International Trust (RASIT), is “ Breaking Barriers, Shaping the Future: Women in Diplomacy for Sustainable Development. ”

June 25	Day of the Seafarer	This year's Day of the Seafarer reflects the 2023 World Maritime theme: "MARPOL at 50 – Our commitment goes on".
June 26	World Drug Day	This year World Drug Day's theme is "People first: Stop stigma and discrimination, strengthen prevention".
June 26	United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture	This convention is a crucial instrument in the global fight against torture.
June 27	International MSME Day	Theme 2023 - "Empowering MSMEs for a Sustainable Future."
June 28	National Insurance Awareness Day	To raise awareness about Insurance which offers a layer of protection to guard in various situations and about the benefits of investing in an insurance plan
June 29	International Day of the Tropics	Its purpose is to acknowledge the extraordinary variety of the tropics while shedding more light on the distinctive challenges and opportunities that are faced by tropical areas
June 29	National Statistics Day	Theme: Alignment of State Indicator Framework with National Indicator Framework for Monitoring Sustainable Development Goals.
June 30	International Day of Parliamentarism	The IPU was established with the objective of promoting democratic governance, accountability, and encouraging collaboration among national parliaments
June 30	World Asteroid Day	World Asteroid Day is observed every year to raise awareness about the potential dangers the asteroids can inflict upon impact with our planet.

MISCELLANEOUS

➤ Know about Homo Naledi



- ✓ New research indicates that Homo Naledi, an ancient human species with brains about one-third the size of modern humans, engaged in burial practices and created engravings deep within a cave system in southern Africa around 300,000 years ago.
- ✓ These findings challenge the assumption that larger brains are directly linked to higher intelligence. The discoveries, presented in a series of papers accepted for publication in the journal eLife, have the potential to significantly change our understanding of human beliefs, culture, and symbolism.

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

COMBINED LIBRARY EXAMINATION IN TAMIL NADU STATE AND SUBORDINATE SERVICES - 13/05/2023 & 14/05/2023

UNIT - II - CURRENT EVENTS

Awards & Honours

1. The Avvaiyar Award of Government of Tamil Nadu for the year 2022 was given to

- a. Tmt. B. Lakshmi Devi b. Tmt. Girija Kumarbabu c. Tmt. Pechiammal
d. Tmt. Ezhilarasi e. Answer not known

2022 ஆண்டிற்கான தமிழக அரசின் அவ்வையார் விருது _____ அவர்களுக்கு வழங்கப்பட்டது

- a. திருமதி பி. லக்ஷ்மி b. திருமதி கிரிஜா குமாரபாபு
c. திருமதி பேச்சியம்மாள் d. திருமதி எழிலரசி
e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

AGRICULTURAL OFFICER (EXTENSION), ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE (EXTENSION) & HORTICULTURAL OFFICER IN TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE & TAMIL NADU HORTICULTURAL SERVICE - 20/05/2023 & 21/05/2023

UNIT - II - CURRENT EVENTS

Economics

1. The vision of \$5 trillion dollar economy of India has fixed the target in the year of

- a. 2021-22 b. 2024-25 c. 2026-27
d. 2030-31 e. Answer not known

‘5 டிரில்லியன் டாலர் இந்திய பொருளாதாரம்’ என்ற குறிக்கோள் வைத்திருக்கும் ஆண்டு.

- a. 2021-22 b. 2024-25 c. 2026-27

d. 2030-31

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Eminent personalities and places in news

2. Prime Minister of India on 17.09.202 released eight Cheetahs brought from Namibia, Africa; which went extinct in 1952 in India; was released in the

a. Kuno National Park

b. Madav National Park

c. Van Vihar National Park

d. Satpura National Park

e. Answer not known

இந்தியாவில் 1952களில் அழிந்துபோன, ஆப்பிரிக்க நாடான நமீபியாவில் இருந்து கொண்டுவரப்பட்ட எட்டு சிறுத்தைகளைப் பாரதப் பிரதமர் 17.09.2022 அன்று _____ ல் விடுத்தார்.

a. குனோ தேசியப் பூங்காவில்

b. மாதவ் தேசியப் பூங்காவில்

c. வான் விகார் தேசியப் பூங்கா

d. சத்புரா தேசியப் பூங்காவில்

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Other & COVID

3. A viral vector vaccine produced by serum Institute of India, to fight against Covid - 19 infection is

a. Covaxin

b. Covishield

c. Corbevax

d. Sputnik - v

e. Answer not known

இந்திய சீரம் நிறுவனத்தால் தயாரிக்கப்பட்ட கோவிட் - 19 தொற்றுக்கு எதிராகச் செயல்படும் ஒரு வைரஸ் தடுப்பூசி எது.

a. கோவாக்சின்

b. கோவிஷீல்டு

c. கோர்ப்வேக்ஸ்

d. ஸ்புட்நிக் - v

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

4. The Bot project designed by the researchers at the IIT, Ropar, to deliver medicine and food to Covid - 19 patients in isolation ward is

a. Covid Bot

b. Ward Bot

c. Food Bot

d. Medico Bot

e. Answer not known

தனிமைப்படுத்தப்பட்ட வார்டுகளில் உள்ள கோவிட் - 19 நோயாளிகளுக்கு மருந்து மற்றும் உணவை வழங்குவதற்காக ரோபரில் உள்ள இந்திய தொழில்நுட்ப கழகத்தின் (ஐஐடி) ஆராய்ச்சியாளர்களால் வடிவமைக்கப்பட்ட பாட் திட்டத்தின் பெயர் என்ன?

a. கோவிட் பாட்

b. வார்டுபாட்

c. புட்பாட்

d. மெடிகோபாட்

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

**COMBINED ENGINEERING SUBORDINATE SERVICES IN
EXAMINATION - 27/05/2023**

UNIT - II - CURRENT EVENTS

1. Choose the correct pairs:

Jaynagar - Kurtha railway line were signed between which two sides

I. India - China

II. India - Srilanka

III. India - Nepal

a. I only b. II only **c. III only** d. I and II e. Answer not known

சரியான பதிலை தேர்வு செய்யவும்:

ஜெய்நகர் - கர்தா ரயில் பாதை எந்த இரு நாடுகளுக்கு இடையே கையெழுத்தானது

I. இந்தியா - சீனா

II. இந்தியா - இலங்கை

III. இந்தியா - நேபாள்

a. I மட்டும்

c. II மட்டும்

c. III மற்றும்

d. I மற்றும் II

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Welfare oriented Government schemes and their utility

1. Choose the correct statement on National Deworming day

I. National Deworming day was implemented in 2015

II. Applicable to children (1 - 19) age

III. Gujarat and Rajasthan it is implemented annually

a. I only

b. II only

c. I and II only

d. III only

e. Answer not known

தேசிய குடற்புழு நீக்க நாள் பற்றிய சரியானவற்றை தேர்ந்தெடுக்கவும்

I. தேசிய குடற்புழு நீக்க தினம் 2015-இல் அமல்படுத்தப்பட்டது.

II. (1-19) வயதுக்கு உட்பட்ட குழந்தைகளுக்கு பொருந்தும்

III. இது குஜராத் மற்றும் ராஜஸ்தானில் ஆண்டுக்கு ஒரு முறை செயல்படுத்தப்படுகிறது.

a. I மட்டும்

b. II மட்டும்

c. I மற்றும் II மட்டும்

d. III மட்டும்

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

2. When was Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) launched?

a. September 2021

b. September 2022

c. August 2021

d. August 2022 e. Answer not known

ஆயுஷ்மான் பாரத் டிஜிட்டல் மிஷன் (ABDM) எப்போது தொடங்கப்பட்டது?

- a. செப்டம்பர் 2021 b. செப்டம்பர் 2022 c. ஆகஸ்ட் 2021
d. ஆகஸ்ட் 2022 e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Latest inventions in Science and Technology

3. ISRO executed this mission in October 2022. The vehicle launched in the mission was

- a. LVM - 1 b. LVM - 2 c. LVM - 3
d. GSLV - 12 e. Answer not known

2022 ஆம் ஆண்டு அக்டோபர் மாதம் ஐரோசுமூ இத்திட்டத்தை செயல்படுத்தியது. ஏவப்பட்ட கலத்தின் பெயர்,

- a. LVM - 1 b. LVM - 2 c. LVM - 3
d. GSLV - 12 e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Awards & Honours

4. World green city Award 2022 was received by

- a. Bangalore b. Cochin c. Hyderabad
d. Kodaikkanal e. Answer not known

உலக பசுமை நகரம் விருது 2022 பெற்றது

- a. பங்களூரு b. கொச்சின் c. ஹைதராபாத்
d. கொடைக்கானல் e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

