

Since - 1998



TNPSC EXAMS
24 YEARS OF
EXCELLENCE



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

CURRENT AFFAIRS – OCTOBER (1 - 31), 2021

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TAMIL NADU

➤ **PATTAM Programme**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu prison department Started the initiative PATTAM, referring to 'Personality and attitude transformation by therapeutic management', will be launched on October 2 as part of Gandhi Jayanti celebrations
- ✓ It will focus on young and first-time offenders, aged between 18 and 24 years, who have committed petty crimes, to bring down recidivism.

➤ **Pappapatti Gram Sabha**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin – Participated in Pappapatti Gram Sabha meeting in **Chellampatti** union in Madurai
- ✓ In 2006, the DMK-led government conducted smooth elections in the 3 caste-conflicted villages including **Pappapatti**, **Keeripatti** and **Nattarmangalam**, bringing an end to the 10-year-long struggle

➤ **Road named after Freedom Fighter Tiruppur Kumaran**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, named a road in Erode district after late freedom fighter Tiruppur Kumaran on the occasion of his birth anniversary.
- ✓ Tiruppur had died from injuries sustained from a police assault on the banks of Noyyal River in Tiruppur during a protest march against the British government on 11 January 1932.

➤ **Chennai Sustainable Urban Services Programme**

- ✓ The World Bank has approved \$150 million (around Rs 1,112 crore) loan for funding '**Chennai City Partnership: Sustainable Urban Services Program**' of **Tamil Nadu**, with the vision of making Chennai into a world-class city that is more green, livable, and resilient to climate change.
- ✓ The project will drive significant improvements in the quality of four key urban services, including water supply and sewerage, mobility, health, and solid waste management.

➤ **Vallalar's birth anniversary is "benevolence day"**

- ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin announced that the State government would observe the birth anniversary of '**Arutpragasa Vallalar**' **Ramalinga Adigalar** as the **Day of Thaniperungarunai** (boundless benevolence) every year.
- ✓ In a statement, Mr. Stalin recalled the life of Vallalar and highlighted how the kitchen in his **Sathya Gnana Sabhai in Vadalur**, Cuddalore district, continued to feed the hungry

➤ **The State Government - announced the constitution of Non-Resident Tamils' Welfare Board** to ensure the welfare of non-resident Tamils living abroad and in other parts of the country

- ✓ A scheme - **'My Village'** - will be launched to help non-resident Tamils improve infrastructure in their native, and meet the basic needs such as education and healthcare.
- **Tamil Nadu - has earned GI tag for five products – Kanyakumari clove, Thanjavur Netti works, Karuppur Kalamkari paintings and wood carvings of Arumbavur and Kallakurichi**
- **DISHA**
 - ✓ The Tamil Nadu government - has constituted a 39-member committee, led by chief minister M K Stalin to monitor the implementation of centrally-sponsored schemes in the state.
 - ✓ The schemes to be monitored include MGNREGA, **Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihood Mission, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya - Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (rural employment scheme) and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (road connectivity to habitations).**
 - ✓ The district development coordination and monitoring committee, also known as DISHA committee, would meet at least once in every six months.
 - ✓ Minister for rural development **K R Periakaruppan** will remain as the co-chairperson for the state-level committee.
- **Tamil Nadu government - constituted 'Advisory council for Future IT, Emerging and deep technologies' under the chairmanship of the state IT minister, T Mano Thangaraj**
 - ✓ The committee aims to integrate futuristic technologies such as **Artificial Intelligence (AI), blockchain, robotics and quantum computing for the development of the state's IT ecosystem.**
 - ✓ The 12-member council includes CEOs, academicians, tech veterans and experts from the IT and start up ecosystem.
 - ✓ The council will act as a think-tank to suggest proactive policy changes so as to benefit the state's IT department from innovation and technology of the future
- **The State Government - has set up five committees to inspect whether effluents are let out by industrial units into River Cauvery and its tributaries as part of sustained efforts to prevent river water pollution.**
 - ✓ This was stated by **State minister for environment and climate change V Meyyanathan.**
 - ✓ The committees, formed, would inspect if untreated effluents are being let out into the Cauvery river and its tributaries from industrial units functioning at **Erode, Kumarapalayam, Pallipalayam, Karur areas.**
 - ✓ The study by **IIT-M** detected high concentrations of pharma compounds including painkillers, caffeine and those used to treat heart blocks, high blood pressure, depression and epilepsy, and heavy metals zinc, manganese, lead, chromium, nickel, copper, aluminium, mercury, arsenic and cadmium in river Cauvery.

- **The Greater Chennai police** - will have 104 police stations including the Chennai airport under its jurisdiction following the trifurcation of the Greater Chennai city commissionerate
- **T.N. Cooperative of indigenous people wins UNDP Equator Prize**
 - ✓ The **Aadhimalai Pazhangudiyinar** Producer Company Limited in the Nilgiris has been awarded the prestigious Equator prize 2021 by the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**.
- **Multi - Modal Logistics Park - " Mappedu "**
 - ✓ The Tamil Nadu government - released the draft of its first resettlement and rehabilitation policy for slum dwellers.
 - ✓ The policy deals with various issues relating to relocation of slum dwellers and also about enhancing employment opportunities provided to them after moving to the tenements.
 - ✓ As per the draft drawn up by the **Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board (TNUHDB)**, a Chennai city habitat development committee would be established.
- **Chief minister M K Stalin - launched the web portal of the commissionerate of revenue administration, www.cra.tn.gov.in.**
 - ✓ The Chief Minister also relaunched monetisation of small gold ornaments offered by devotees to HR&CE temples
- **Tamil Nadu set to be 1st state to give kids Covid-19 vaccine**
 - ✓ Tamil Nadu is set to become the first in the country to administer Covid-19 vaccines to those aged 2-18 years.
 - ✓ An expert panel of the Central drug authority has recommended granting emergency use authorisation to Bharat Biotech's Covaxin for children and adolescents in the 2 to 18 years age group.
 - ✓ Tamil Nadu was also the first in inoculating pregnant women
- **'Illam Thedi Kalvi'**
 - ✓ **The school education minister Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozi** - launched a new website 'illamthedikalvi.tnschools.gov.in' for registration of volunteers to the state's ambitious '**Illam Thedi Kalvi**' campaign scheme at Mudaliarkuppam in Villupuram district
 - ✓ It is a statewide six-month long campaign that seeks to bridge the learning gaps among students from Class I to VIII, who have not attend physical classes for the last 18 months.
 - ✓ The campaign targets around 34 lakh students in state run primary and middle schools.
 - ✓ The handbook for the campaign was prepared by the **State Council for Educational Research and Training (SCERT)**

- **The seventh phase of excavation at Keeladi site** - has been completed by the Tamil Nadu State Archaeology Department
 - ✓ No decision yet on eighth phase excavation at Keeladi, says archaeology minister Thiru. Thangam Thennarasu.
- **Chennai-based NGO, The Banyan - has received the 2021 Dr. Guislain 'Breaking the Chains of Stigma Award'.**
 - ✓ The award is named after Belgian psychiatrist Dr Joseph Guislain (1797-1860)
 - ✓ The Banyan is the second organisation from India to receive the coveted award.
- **Tamil Nadu FibreNet Corporation Ltd (TANFINET) - signed the Master Service Agreement for the implementation of BharatNet Project in Tamil Nadu** with system integrators.
- **TVS Motor Company wins India Green Energy Award**
 - ✓ TVS Motor Company has been recognized in the category 'Outstanding Renewable Energy User' at the 3rd edition of the India Green Energy Award 2020 by the Indian Federation of Green Energy (IFGE).
- **Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation wins Earth Guardian Award**
 - ✓ Eight winners of the award were felicitated by secretary general of "UN Convention on International Trade in the Endangered Species of Wild Fauna & Flora", Ivonne Higuero in a virtual ceremony.
- **First Mobile Library in India - Melavasal - Tamil Nadu**
 - ✓ A bullock cart laden with books at Melavasal, a village near Mannargudi, on October 21, 1931 evoked the curiosity of people. It was perhaps the first mobile library in India.
 - ✓ The brainchild of Rao Bahadur S.V. Kanagasabai Pillai, a Mannargudi-based engineer, the library was inaugurated by S.R. Ranganathan, the father of Indian Library Science. Ninety years have passed since the mobile library started its journey.
- **E - Munnnetram and IT Nanban**
 - ✓ Tamil Nadu CM M.K Stalin launches IT Department Portals
 - ✓ Tamilnadu Chief Minister M.K Stalin inaugurated two web portals name 'e-Munnnetram' and 'IT Nanban' developed by Information Technology Department on 22 October 2021.
 - ✓ He also released two Tamil computing softwares 'Keezhadi Keyboard' and 'Tamizhi - Tamizhinayam Unicode converter'.
 - ✓ e-Munnnetram is a platform that will facilitate review of the progress of all major infrastructure projects.
- **Tamil Nadu governor R N Ravi - has promulgated ordinances for the creation of four corporations, , Cuddalore, Kancheepuram, Sivakasi and Karur, upgrading the erstwhile municipalities**

- **Tamil Nadu Govt** - Chief minister M K Stalin - announced a **seven-member committee** for social justice.

1. Suba Veerpandian	Chairman.
2. K Dhanavel	Retired bureaucrat
3. Swaminathan Devadoss	Former pro vice-chancellor of Periyar Maniammai Institute of Science and Technology
4. Manushyaputhiran	Poet
5. A Jaison	Expert in laws for Adi Dravidar and Scheduled Castes
6. R Rajendran	Economic expert
7. G Karunanidhy	Federation of All India Backward Classes general secretary

- ✓ Also CM has appointed a female member ,**Dr. Shanti Ravindranath**, representing the CPI state council, as a member to the social justice monitoring committee.
- **Tamil Nadu government** - has decided to introduce a new cement brand, **Valimai**, through the state PSU **Tamil Nadu Cement Corporation (Tancem)**.
 - ✓ Tancem is already manufacturing and selling Arasu cement at rates much lower than private brands.00
 - ✓ The agency is selling 90,000 tonnes of cement under the brand Arasu cement in the open market every month.
 - ✓ Around 30,000 tonnes of low-priced and high-quality Valimai brand cement would be sold monthly in the initial phase to reduce the retail price.
- **Chief Minister's Girl Child Protection Scheme**
 - ✓ The Tamil Nadu government - has increased the age limit for either of the parents, who have two girl children, from 35 years to 40 years to enroll under the Chief Minister's girl child protection scheme.
 - ✓ As per the direction of Chief Minister M K Stalin, the department has increased the age limit by five years.
 - ✓ The order has been issued to benefit more number of women, who were getting married late after their studies.
- **Kalaighar Porkizhi Award**
 - ✓ It is an annual literature award bestowed for Tamil and other language writers at book fair organized by the Booksellers and Publishers Association of South India (BAPASI) since 2008.

Abi	Poem
Rajendra Cholan	Fiction
S Ramakrishnan	Dialogue
Veli Rangarajan	Drama

Marudha Nayagam	English
Nadith Sakiya	Other Indian Language (Kashmiri)

- **Tamil Nadu government** - reconstituted the **State Export Promotion Committee (SEPC)** to include representatives from export associations and councils of various sectors.
 - ✓ The committee will have the chief secretary to the government as its chairman
 - ✓ It comprises of principal secretary of the industries department, **secretaries of the finance, animal husbandry, handlooms, MSME, and agriculture departments, the MD and CEO of Guidance Tamil Nadu**, and additional director general of foreign trade.
 - ✓ The committee will review all trade related issues, including issue of logistics, agriculture exports and service exports at the state level
 - ✓ It shall meet at least once in every six months to review progress of export strategy.

- **'Mullaperiyar Dam issue': SC directs Kerala/TN state governments to abide by committee suggestion**
 - ✓ The Supreme Court on October 28, 2021 directed the Kerala and Tamil Nadu governments to follow the decision taken by the Supervisory Committee regarding maintaining appropriate water level in the Mullaperiyar dam on Periyar river in Kerala.
 - ✓ The water level at Mullaperiyar dam has reached 137.45 ft. The Chief Minister of Kerala Pinarayi Vijayan has written a letter to Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin.
 - ✓ In the letter, he has urged Stalin to take necessary action to gradually open the spillway shutters and release water from the Mullaperiyar dam in the wake of rising water levels.

- **Chief Minister M K Stalin** - announced that **July 18 will be observed as Tamil Nadu Day**.
 - ✓ He also said the state government would present Rs.1 lakh cash prize each to 110 'Border Saviours' on November 1 to honour their struggle to safeguard the border of Tamil Nadu when the states were formed on linguistic basis in 1956.
 - ✓ In a statement, the chief minister said former chief minister C N Annadurai had moved a resolution in the state assembly on July 18,1967, to change the name of erstwhile Madras state as Tamil Nadu.
 - ✓ On January 14, 1969, the law came into effect renaming the state as Tamil Nadu.

- **The Tamil Nadu government** - announced a **ban** on manufacturing, storing, transporting and selling fireworks with barium salts and series crackers for Diwali and for other occasions

- **The Tamil Nadu government** - has issued an order to cancel the 'package tender system', which was in practice during the previous regime.

- **The Centre - has granted permission to Tamil Nadu to admit 850 students to undergraduate courses in seven new government medical colleges this academic year**

TAMIL NADU – EXCAVATION

- Archaeologists - have discovered a 700-year-old stone inscription, belonging to the King Kulasekhara Pandian period, near Soorakulam bordering Sivaganga and Pudukottai districts.
- **Ancient Chinese potsherds, believed to be about 1,000 years old - have been discovered near a school in Thirupulani in Ramanathapuram district.**
 - ✓ The potsherds were discovered by students of the Suresh Sudha Azhagan Memorial Government Higher Secondary School, Thiruppullani, near their school premises
 - ✓ The potsherds belong to a period between 12th and 13th century AD and were made of porcelain and celadon having Chinese origin.
- **A 400-year-old hero stone - was discovered by archaeologists in a village near Usilampatti in Madurai district**
- **State to hold excavations in Korkai**
 - ✓ The ancient port town of the Pandya kingdom, Korkai, yielding artefacts, proving its maritime trade connections with Rome, China and Egypt, the State government is taking steps to conduct archaeological excavations here, with guidance from oceanographic experts, Minister for Industries, Tamil Culture and Archaeology **Thangam Thennarasu** has said.
- **13th century Pandya-era stone inscription**
 - ✓ A 13th century Pandya-era stone inscription, which has details of donations made to local Shiva and Vishnu temples - was discovered at Cholapuram near Rajapalayam in Virudhunagar district.
 - ✓ From the stone inscription it is understood that Cholapuram was earlier known as Uthama Chola Sathurvedhi Mangalam.
 - ✓ The Shiva temple was constructed during the rule of Maravarman Vikrama Pandyan (AD 1250 to AD 1278).
- **A 10th century stone inscription belonging to the period of Raja Raja Chola I - was discovered in a Siva temple in Thiruvasi village near Trichy recently**
 - ✓ The inscription with 293 lines in Tamil mentions a maid named 'Nakkan Karpagavalli', attached to the larger quarters (periya velam) of Raja Raja Chola I palace.

STATE

- **Project Ponvakk.**
 - ✓ Kerala government introduces project ponvakk to stop **child marriages**

- **On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, *World's largest khadi national flag* weighing 1,000 kg - was unveiled in Leh, the capital of Ladakh**
 - ✓ Lieutenant Governor R K Mathura unveiled a gigantic handwoven national flag on the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's 152nd birth anniversary.
 - ✓ The historic event was organised by the Fire and Fury Corps at Leh Garrison on a hill overlooking the Leh valley.

- **1st State to have 11 crore doses of the Covid-19 vaccine.**
 - ✓ Uttar Pradesh - has become the first state in the country to have administered over 11 crore doses of the Covid-19 vaccine

- **'Ramganga National Park'**
 - ✓ The tiger reserve was called 'Ramganga National Park' – after the Ramganga river that flows through it – before it was renamed in a tribute to Corbett.

- **'Mera Ghar Mere Naam' scheme**
 - ✓ Punjab CM Charanjit Singh Channi launches 'Mera Ghar Mere Naam' scheme
 - ✓ Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi on October 11, 2021, announced a scheme 'Mera Ghar Mere Naam' to give proprietary rights to the people living in the houses within the 'Lal Lakir' of villages and cities.

- **Rani Chennamma Jayanthi**
 - ✓ Karnataka celebrated "Kittur Rani Chennamma Jayanthi" on October 23.
 - ✓ Kittur Chennamma was born on October 23, 1778.
 - ✓ She belonged to the Lingayat community.
 - ✓ She led an armed rebellion in the year 1824, against the British East India Company.

- **'Desh Ke Mentor' Programme.**
 - ✓ Arwind kejriwal, Delhi CM, launched the '**Desh Ke Mentor**' programme, nine lakh students studying in classes 9 to 12 will be able to search for a career.

- **India's Newest Tiger Reserve in Chhattisgarh.**
 - ✓ National Tiger Conservation Authority has approved the Chhattisgarh government's proposal to declare the combined areas of the Guru Ghasidas National Park & Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary as a Tiger Reserve.

NATIONAL

➤ **Digi Saksham Programme.**

- ✓ The government of India promotes **Digital Education in Youth**, so it has launched the 'Digi Saksham Programme'. The program is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Labour and Employment and Microsoft India. .
- ✓ Programme will be implemented in the field by “Aga Khan Rural Support Programme India (AKRSP-I)”.

➤ **Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 and AMRUT 2.0.**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 (SBM-U 2.0) along with **the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation** and Urban Transformation 2.0 (AMTUT 2.0). These schemes were launched at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi.
- ✓ Both the schemes, SBM-U 2.0 and AMRUT 2.0, are in line with the vision of PM Narendra Modi.
- ✓ These schemes are designed to realize the aspiration of making all cities Garbage Free and Water Secure.

➤ **'PM' Poshan Scheme .**

- ✓ The Union Cabinet approved the roll-out of the 'PM POSHAN in Schools' scheme for the five years, from 2021-22 to 2025-26, with a financial outlay of Rs 54061.73 crores from the central government and Rs 31,733.17 crore from the state governments and union territory administrations.
- ✓ The scheme will provide hot cooked meal to students of elementary classes in government and government-aided schools across the country.
- ✓ The existing mid-day meal scheme will be subsumed into the **PM Poshan Shakti Nirman** scheme with the addition of several new components in it.

➤ **The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) -** declared the popular comic book character 'Chacha Chaudhary' as the mascot of the Namami Gange – Ganga Rejuvenation programme.

- ✓ The NMCG has tied-up with Diamond Toons to develop and distribute comics, e-comics and animated videos

➤ **'PRANA'**

- ✓ Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) - recently launched 'PRANA', a national portal to regulate air pollution
- ✓ PRANA, meaning 'Life' in Sanskrit, is a portal for regulation of air pollution in 132 cities across the country.

➤ **Amazon Future Engineer**

- ✓ The main goal of Amazon future engineers is to give students early exposure and access to computer science education through in-person contact, blended and online learning formats.

- **PM Modi dedicated 35 Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) Oxygen Plants to the nation on October 07, 2021 through video-conferencing, during an event at AIIMS Rishikesh, Uttarakhand**
 - ✓ These 35 PSA Oxygen Plants have been established under PM CARES, across 35 States and Union Territories.
 - ✓ Now all districts of the country will now have commissioned PSA Oxygen Plants.
 - ✓ As per the data, a total of 1,224 PSA oxygen plants have been funded under the PM-CARES (Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situation) fund across the country till date and of these, more than 1,100 plants have already been commissioned providing an output of over 1,750 MT oxygen per day

- **Tatas will own a 100% stake in " Air India"**
 - ✓ The Tatas will own a 100% stake in Air India, as also 100% in its international low-cost arm Air India Express and 50% in the ground handling joint venture, Air India SATS.
 - ✓ Apart from 141 aircraft and access to a network of 173 destinations, including 55 international ones
 - ✓ , Tatas will also have the ownership of iconic brands such as Air India, Indian Airlines and the Maharajah

- **'Mission "Kavach Kundal"**
 - ✓ The state government of Maharashtra has launched a special Covid-19 vaccination drive named as Mission Kavach Kundal, with the target of inoculating 15 lakh people everyday

- **Health benefit Package under "Ayushman Bharat "revised.**
 - ✓ Ayushman Bharat, the health insurance scheme, will now offer a healthcare cover to transgender people and support sex-change operations.
 - ✓ The addition is part of the **National Health Authority's (NHA)** revised Health Benefits Package, or HBP 2.2. The HBP 2.2 is expected to be rolled out from November, 2021.
 - ✓ Under the revised HBP 2.2, rates of health packages have been increased by 20 per cent to 400 per cent.

- **Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) gives a medical cover of Rs 5 lakh per family per year for free treatment at all public and empanelled private hospitals for 53 crore beneficiaries.**
 - ✓ This benefit will now be extended to transgender people under the government's new scheme, Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise (SMILE). The health cover will include medical support and medical intervention for transgender persons

- **'Gatishakti'**
 - ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi - to unveil the country's first ever **National Infrastructure Masterplan 'GatiShakti'** on October 13, 2021
 - ✓ On India's 75th Independence Day, PM Modi had announced that the Centre will launch '**PM Gati Shakti Master Plan**', a Rs 100 lakh-crore project for developing 'holistic infrastructure'.
 - ✓ The initiative is aimed at improving connectivity to major industrial clusters across the country and also to generate employment.
 - ✓ Under the initiative, all economic zones and infrastructure development will be depicted in a single integrated platform
 - ✓ This promotes comprehensive and integrated multi-modal national networks of transportation and logistics.

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi - will virtually launch the *Indian Space Association (ISpA)***
 - ✓ *Indian Space Association (ISpA)* is the premier industry association of space and satellite companies, representing the Indian space sector
 - ✓ During the event, the PM will also interact with representatives of the space industry on this occasion.
 - ✓ The ISpA will undertake policy decisions and engage with all stakeholders in the Indian space domain, including the government and its agencies.

- **ZyCoV-D, the first vaccine to be approved for use in children in the age group of 12-17 in India - will be introduced in the country's Covid vaccination programme by October.**
 - ✓ The vaccine will also be made available to private sector hospitals across the country.
 - ✓ The Centre's supply principle in the ratio of 75:25 for public and private vaccination will remain applicable for this vaccine as well.
 - ✓ The needle-free ZyCoV-D vaccine, manufactured by Zydus Cadila, has received emergency use authorisation for being administered to children between 12 and 17 years of age in India.
 - ✓ The three-dose vaccine is to be given with a 28-day gap between each dose.

- **Railways launch two long haul freight trains 'Trishul', 'Garuda'**
 - ✓ The Indian Railways has launched two long haul freight trains "Trishul" and "Garuda" – which are twice or multiple times longer than the normal composition of freight trains.

- **Covaxin for 2 - 18 years**
 - ✓ The central drugs regulator's subject expert committee - approved the restricted emergency use (EUA) of Bharat Biotech's Covaxin in children and adolescents between 2 and 18 years of age

- ✓ Covaxin is the second Covid-19 vaccine to be approved for emergency use among children in India after Zydus Healthcare's ZyCoV-D, meant for children above 12 years of age.
- ✓ The indigenous vaccine will be administered in two doses, with a gap of 20 days between the first and second dose.
- **The Union Cabinet - approved the proposal to affiliate 100 new or existing schools** in the Government and Private sector to the Sainik School Society, an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Defence
- **The Union Cabinet - approved the financial outlay of over 4 lakh crore for two major programmes for urban areas to make cities cleaner, garbage-free and 100% access to clean drinking water in the next five years.**
 - ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched both the programmes – **Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) 2.0** and **AMRUT 2.0** – on October 1.
 - ✓ The Cabinet also approved the continuation of **Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) till 2025-26.**
 - ✓ One of the main focus areas of the SBM(U) 2.0 will be the remediation of all legacy dumpsites to free up 14,000 acres of locked up land lying under 15 crore tonnes of legacy waste.
 - ✓ SMB 2.0 will focus on sustainability of open defecation free (ODF) outcomes, achieving scientific processing of solid waste and managing wastewater in cities with less than one lakh population
- **PM Modi dedicates 7 new defence firms to the nation on Dussehra**
 - ✓ PM Narendra Modi dedicated the seven new defence companies to the nation on 15 Oct 2021 on the occasion of Vijayadashami.
 - ✓ The new companies are: Munitions India Limited (MIL);
 - ✓ Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited (AVANI);
 - ✓ Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited (AWE India);
 - ✓ Troop Comforts Limited (TCL);
 - ✓ Yantra India Limited (YIL);
 - ✓ India Optel Limited (IOL); and
 - ✓ Gliders India Limited (GIL).
- **'Good Samaritans'**
 - ✓ Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways - recently launched a reward scheme for 'Good Samaritans'
 - ✓ Under the scheme, a cash award of Rs 5,000 will be given to any individual who save the life of a road accident victim by rushing him/her to hospital within the 'golden hour' of the accident.

- **India - completed a vaccination milestone of 100 crore doses on 21st October 2021**
 - ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi was at the Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital in New Delhi on the day when the 100th crore vaccine shot was administered by S Christina to Arun Kumar Rai.
- **152 Saksham Centres launched as part of Amrit Mahotsav**
 - ✓ A total of 152 Centre for Financial Literacy and Service Delivery (SAKSHAM Centres) across 77 districts of 13 states were launched under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) in October 2021.
- **NITI Aayog launches Atal Innovation Mission digi-book**
 - ✓ NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) has launched - "Innovations for You".
 - ✓ It is an attempt to showcase the success stories of Atal Innovation Mission's Startups in different domains.
 - ✓ The first edition of this book is focused on innovations in Health Care and soon other sectors shall follow.
 - ✓ The book is a compilation of 45 health tech startups, incubated at Atal Incubation Centres.
- **Delhi Government to launch Rojgar Bazaar 2.0**
 - ✓ The Delhi government is all set to create the Rojgar Bazaar 2.0 portal that will be a job matching platform for entry-level jobs for youth of the national capital.
- **India's first Banni buffalo IVF calf born**
 - ✓ A "Banni" buffalo belonging to a dairy farmer from **Dhanej village in Gir Somnath** gave birth to an IVF male calf, in what the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying called the birth of the first calf of the breed born using in-vitro fertilisation (IVF).24-Oct-2021
- **Koozhangal**
 - ✓ P S Vinohraj's Tamil film "Koozhangal" (Pebbles) - has been unanimously chosen as the **Indian entry for the Oscars 2022 Best International Feature Film category**.
- **Civil Aviation Minister launches Krishi UDAN 2.0**
 - ✓ The Ministry of Civil Aviation launched "Krishi Udan 2.0 scheme" on October 27, 2021.
 - ✓ Under "Krishi Udan 2.0 scheme", cargo-related infrastructure will be built in airports of hilly, tribal, and north-east regions. Such infrastructure will help in assisting farmers to transport agriculture products.
 - ✓ Under **Krishi Udan 2.0**, central government has planned for granting full waiver of airport charges at select airports.

- ✓ Waiver would be given even if agricultural cargo is lower than 50 per cent of total chargeable weight carried.
- **“Har Ghar Dastak” campaign to be launched**
 - ✓ The central government plans to launch the ‘Har Ghar Dastak’ campaign to boost COVID-19 vaccination in poor-performing districts.



SCHEME

➤ **SAMBHAV**

- ✓ MSME Ministry launches “SAMBHAV” National Level Awareness Programme

COURT VERDICT

- **Madras high Court** - directed the State government to remove all statues of leaders installed on roads and other public places within six months and create a ‘Leaders park’ to relocate them.
- **The Supreme Court** - formed an independent committee **to look into allegations of unauthorised spying by Pegasus, a flagship spyware product of Israel’s NSO Group**
 - ✓ The Committee is tasked with investigating whether the Pegasus spyware was used on phones or other devices of the citizens of India to access stored data, snoop on conversations and intercept information.
 - ✓ The bench comprising **Chief Justice of India (CJI) NV Ramana, and Justices Surya Kant and Hima Kohli** criticised the government’s refusal to divulge, on the grounds of national security, any details of what the software was used for and why.
 - ✓ The order reinforces India’s commitment to privacy, a concept less than explicitly defined in the Constitution but enshrined as a fundamental right in a landmark 2017 SC judgment.

INTERNATIONAL

- **India re-elected to UN Human Rights Council for new three year term from 2022-2024**
 - ✓ India has been re-elected to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) for a sixth term on October 14, 2021 with overwhelming majority.
 - ✓ The new three year term of India will be effective from January 2022 to December 2024.

- **Sri Lanka - has sought a \$500 million credit line** from India to pay for its crude oil purchases, under the India-Sri Lanka economic partnership arrangement.

- **Global Hunger Index**
 - ✓ **Among Global Hunger Index 2021 ,India ranks at 101 out of 116 countries**
 - ✓ **India ranked 94 among 107 countries** in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) released last year.
 - ✓ India was also behind most of the neighbouring countries. Pakistan was placed at 92 rank, Nepal at 76 and Bangladesh also at 76.

- **Global Food security Index**
 - ✓ **Global Food security Index 2021 - India 71st Position** out of 113 countries.

- **'TRUTH Social'**
 - ✓ Former US President Donald Trump - has announced plans to launch a new social media platform, called '**TRUTH Social**'
 - ✓ Trump's new social media platform "TRUTH Social" is up for pre-registration in the Apple App Store.

- **Facebook changes name to Meta**
 - ✓ Facebook has announced that it is changing its company name to "**Meta**". Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg announced this at the company's Connect virtual reality conference on October 29, 2021.
 - ✓ Zuckerberg said, "from now on we're going to be metaverse first, not Facebook first."

- **The world's 20 biggest economies (G20) - are set to endorse a landmark deal on a global minimum corporate tax rate of 15% and will aim to implement the rules by 2023**
 - ✓ The G20 had called upon the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting to develop the model rules and multilateral instruments as agreed in the Detailed Implementation Plan.
 - ✓ Earlier this month, a major reform of the international tax system was finalised at the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) that will ensure that multinational enterprises (MNEs) will be subject to a minimum 15% tax rate from 2023.
 - ✓ This will ensure that these firms pay a fair share of tax wherever they operate and generate profits.

INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

- **India, UK agree joint programme on smart power, renewable energy**
 - ✓ Minister for Power and New and Renewable Energy Raj Kumar Singh and UK Business and Energy Secretary Kwasi on October 8, 2021, agreed on a new joint programme on smart power and renewable energy during the 3rd UK-India Energy for Growth Dialogue.
 - ✓ The Smart Power and Renewable Energy programme will aid to promote industrial energy efficiency, efficient power distribution, solar and offshore wind generation, electric vehicles, and energy storage.

- **India and Denmark inked four agreements after bilateral talks.**
 - ✓ India and Denmark signed four agreements and decided to expand cooperation in different fields of health and agriculture.
 - ✓ The agreements have been signed in the field of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Traditional Knowledge Digital Library, on establishing a Centre of Excellence towards natural refrigerants for tropical climates with potential applications and on mapping of ground water resources and aquifers.
 - ✓ The agreements have been signed after the bilateral talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Danish counterpart Mette Frederiksen in New Delhi.
 - ✓ Both the countries have started a new partnership in the health sector.

- **India - got re-elected to the UN Human Rights Council for the 2022-24 term (6th term) with 184 votes in 193 member United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).**

CONFERENCES AND SUMMITS

- **Further, the ISA gave its approval to the political declaration – called ‘One Sun’ – for the launch of the ambitious Green Grid Initiative-One Sun One World One Grid (GGI-OSOWOG) at COP26**
- **PM Modi to attend G-20 Leaders’ Summit-2021**
 - ✓ At the two-day G-20 Summit, starting from October 30 in Italy, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to direct a united global approach to deal with the situation in Afghanistan and combating challenges of climate change & covid-19 pandemic.
 - ✓ The prime minister is set to travel Rome to attend 16th G-20 Summit and Glasgow to attend World Leaders’ Summit of COP-26, from October 29 to November.
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DEFENCE

- **Konkan Shakthi 2021**
 - ✓ The first ever India-UK tri-services joint exercise, called **Konkan Shakthi** 2021 - has commenced on October 21, 2021, with the re-entry of UK's Carrier Strike Group (CSG) into the western Indian Ocean waters
 - ✓ The maritime component of the exercise will be conducted off India's west coast in two phases.
 - ✓ Harbour phase will be held in Mumbai from October 21 to October 23, moving to the sea phase which concludes on October 27
- **‘Yudh Abhyas 2021’**
 - ✓ The Indian and US armies - have commenced the joint military exercise ‘Yudh Abhyas 2021’ at Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson in Alaska, United States.

ECONOMICS

- **GST revenue collection for September 2021 is Rs 1.17 lakh crores: Finance Ministry**
- ✓ The mop-up from GST was **Rs 1.17 lakh crore** in September 2021. Tax collections last month on goods sold and services rendered was 24 per cent higher than in October 2020, and up 36 per cent over 2019-20.
- **The International Monetary Fund (IMF) - has retained India's GDP growth projections for the current fiscal year at 9.5% .**

RANKINGS

- **India Ranks Third in 2021 EY Index**
 - ✓ India has retained the third position in the 58th Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index (RECAI) released by the consultancy firm Ernst & Young (EY).
- **India - has slipped to 101st position in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2021 out of 116 countries**

APPOINTMENTS

- **Shaktikanta Das - as RBI governor- 2nd term**
 - ✓ The Centre has re- appointed Shaktikanta Das - as RBI governor for a period of three years from December 20, or until further orders.
 - ✓ Completion of the term will make Das the longest-serving governor in over seven decades and second-longest in RBI's history.
 - ✓ The longest-serving RBI governor is Benegal Rama Rau –for 7 years and 197 days between July 1, 1949 and January 14, 1957.
 - ✓ Das' reappointment comes following his tactful handling of the economic crisis in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic

- **M. Ravichandran to be Earth Sciences Secretary**
 - ✓ He is an expert on polar missions.
 - ✓ The government has appointed M. Ravichandran as Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences. He is currently Director, National Centre for Ocean and Polar Research, Goa and has been in charge of coordinating several of India's scientific missions to Antarctica and the Arctic.

- **Amitkhare Advisor to Prime Minister**
 - ✓ Amit Khare as adviser to the Prime Minister for two years on contract basis.

- **The government - has appointed veteran banker K V Kamath as the first chairperson of the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure & Development (NaBFID)**

- **Tedros Adhanom reappointed as WHO director general for a second term**
 - ✓ The Director-General for the second five-year term will be chosen formally during the WHO's next assembly in May of 2022.

AWARDS

- **Nobel Prize in Medicine 2021**
 - ✓ David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian have been jointly awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2021. The US scientists have won for their discoveries on receptors or temperature and touch.
 - ✓ The Nobel Prize 2021 for other disciplines including Physics, Literature, Peace will be announced in the coming days.

- **The 2021 Nobel Prize in Physics**
 - ✓ Three scientists – **Syukuro Manabe** (Japan) of Princeton University, **Klaus Hasselmann** (Germany) of Max Planck Institute of Meteorology, and **Giorgio Parisi** (Italy) of Sapienza University of Rome.

- **Nobel Prize for Chemistry-2021**
 - ✓ German scientist Benjamin List and British scientist David WC MacMillan - were awarded the Nobel Prize for Chemistry for developing “asymmetric organocatalysis” - a tool to build molecules

- **Nobel Prize for Literature 2021**
 - ✓ Novelist **Abdulrazak Gurnah** has been awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature 2021.
 - ✓ He has been honoured for his uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugees.
 - ✓ Gurnah has published 10 novels along with a number of short stories. His **4th novel 'Paradise', published in 1994, turned out to be his breakthrough as a writer.**

- **Nobel Prize for Economics 2012**
 - ✓ Three US-based economists, David Card, Joshua D Angrist and Guido W Imbens - won the 2021 Nobel prize for economics on October, 2021 for work on drawing conclusions from unintended experiments, or so-called "**natural experiments**".

- **Nobel Peace Prize-2021**
 - ✓ **Journalists Maria Ressa** of the Philippines and **Dmitry Muratov** of Russia - won the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize for their fight for freedom of speech

- **Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize**
 - ✓ Professor Saket Saurabh of the Institute of Mathematical Sciences (IMSc), Chennai, has been awarded the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for **Science and Technology 2021 in Mathematical Sciences.**
 - ✓ **The award is given by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, India.**

- **Shiv Nadar to be awarded Global Leadership Award 2021**
 - ✓ The US India Business Council (USIBC) has chosen Shiv Nadar and Mallika Srinivasan as the recipient of its 2021 Global Leadership Award.
 - ✓ Shiv Nadar is the founder and chairman emeritus of HCL Technologies Limited. Mallika Srinivasan is the chair and managing director, Tractors and Farm Equipment Limited (TAFE).
- **Indian Organisation LIFE receives 2021 Right Livelihood Award**
 - ✓ The Delhi-based environmental organisation "Legal Initiative for Forest and Environment (LIFE)" has been felicitated with the 2021 Right Livelihood Award, an international honour, also known as Sweden's alternative Nobel Prize.
- **Yidan Prize for Education Development.**

India's Dr Rukmini Banerji and US Professor Eric A. Hanushek - were selected recently as the recipients of the 2021 Yidan Prize for Education Research
- **Parambikulam Tiger Reserve**
 - ✓ The Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation - has won **the Earth Guardian Award** for its efforts in supporting the conservation of tigers and biodiversity
 - ✓ The theme for the year 2021 awards is "**Biodiversity – a resilient nature is the foundation on which all climate mitigation and adaptation efforts must be raised.**"
- **Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award**
 - ✓ At the 52nd International Film Festival of India (IFFI), film directors Martin Scorsese and Istvan Szabo will be honoured with the prestigious Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award.
 - ✓ IFFI will be held in Goa from November 20 to 28, 2021. OTT platforms will also be invited for the first time to the festival.
- **Rajnikanth awarded with Dadasaheb Phalke Award.**
 - ✓ Kollywood superstar Rajnikanth was conferred with **51st Dadasaheb Phalke Award** for his outstanding contribution to the Indian Cinema. The award was presented by Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu at the 67th National Film Awards held in New Delhi.25-Oct-2021
- **Seven-year-old Aadhyaa Aravind Shankar from Malleswaram, Bengaluru – won the Children's Peace Image of the Year-Global Peace Photo Award.**
- **Telugu Filmmaker B Gopal Chosen for Satyajit Ray Award**
 - ✓ Renowned Telugu filmmaker B Gopal has been chosen for the **4th Satyajit Ray Award** for his contribution to Indian cinema.
 - ✓ He will be presented with the award on October 13 in Hyderabad.
 - ✓ Gopal has been selected by a panel comprising Malayalam filmmaker Balu Kiriyath, music director Perumbavoor G Raveendranath and others.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- **DART spacecraft**
 - ✓ The American Space Agency, NASA has announced to launch “asteroid-killing Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) spacecraft.”
 - ✓ The DART mission is based on the idea of developing a defence system against asteroid collisions
- **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) - has released the Multilingual Dementia Research and Assessment (MUDRA) Toolbox in five Indian languages - Hindi, Bengali, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam**
- **DRDO successfully test-fired ABHYAS - the High-speed Expendable Aerial Target**
 - ✓ The Defence Research and Development Organisation successfully flight-tested ABHYAS - the High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) on October 22, 2021 from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur, off the coast of the Bay of Bengal in Odisha
- **China launches satellite ‘Shijian-21’**
 - ✓ China successfully launched a new satellite named Shijian-21 on October 24, 2021.
 - ✓ The satellite will be used to test and verify space debris mitigation technologies.
 - ✓ Shijian-21 was launched from the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in southwest China’s Sichuan Province on a Long March-3B carrier rocket.
- **India - successfully test-fired a surface-to-surface ballistic missile, Agni-5, from APJ Abdul Kalam Island off Odisha coast on October 27**
 - ✓ The Intercontinental-range missile, which uses a three-stage solid-fuelled engine, is capable of striking targets up to a 5,000-km range with a very high degree of accuracy.
- **India’s manned ocean mission ‘Samudrayaan’ - was launched at Chennai**
 - ✓ The Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh has launched the first manned ocean mission of India Samudrayaan at Chennai.
- **India - is planning to build its first deep sea research vessel equipped to penetrate several metres into the seabed for exploration and map sediment and other resources**

SPORTS

- **Indian women's cricket team opener Smriti Mandhana** - became the first Indian woman to score a century in a pink-ball Test on October in Gold Coast, Australia
- **Anshu Malik (57kg)** - created history by becoming the **first-ever Indian woman wrestler to reach the final of the World Championships.**
- **Rahul Dravid appointed as Team India head coach**
 - ✓ Batting legend and former captain Rahul Dravid has been officially appointed as the new head coach of the Indian cricket team, the BCCI announced on Wednesday. Dravid will take over the new role and begin his tenure as India's full-time coach from the home T20I series against New Zealand starting **November 17.**
- **Tamil Nadu fencer Bhavani Devi** - won in the individual women's sabre event at the Charlellville National Competition in France
 - ✓ The 28-year-old Bhavani made history at the Tokyo Games when she became the first Indian to compete in the sport.
 - ✓ At the Tokyo Olympics, she won her round of 64 matches against Tunisia's Nadia Ben Azizi before losing to eventual bronze-medallist, Manon Brunet of France in the Round of 32
 - ✓ Bhavani, who trains in Italy, is currently ranked 50th in the world and is the top-ranked fencer from India.
- **Khel Ratna Award 2021**
 - ✓ For the first time ever, 11 sportspersons - have been recommended for this year's rechristened Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna by the national sports awards selection committee

1. Neeraj Chopra	Athletics
2. Ravi Dahiya	wrestling
3. PR Sreejesh	hockey
4. Lovlina Borgohain	boxing
5. Sunil Chhetri	football
6.Mithali Raj	cricket
7.Pramod Bhagat	para-badminton
8.Sumit Antil	para-javelin
9.Avani Lekhara	para-shooting
10.Krishna Nagar	para-badminton
11.Manish Narwal	para-shooting

OBITUARY

- **Kannada superstar Puneeth Rajkumar passes away**
 - ✓ Kannada actor Puneeth Rajkumar passed away in October 2021.
 - ✓ Puneeth was the son of legendary actor, Rajkumar.
 - ✓ He was known to fans as "Appu" - after the 2002 film in which he played his first lead role.

REPORT

- **India's infant mortality rate (IMR)** - has dropped from 50 to 30 between 2009 and 2019, according to data released by the sample registration system (SRS).



IMPORTANT DAY

Date	Day	Theme
October 1	International day of older persons	✓ Theme 2021 - Digital Equity for All Ages
October 5	World Teachers' Day	✓ Theme for 2021 International Teachers Day is "Teachers at the heart of education recovery"
October 5	Ganga River Dolphin Day	-
October 8	Indian Air Force Day	-
October 8	World Egg Day	✓ The theme for 2021 World Egg Day is "Eggs for all: Nature's perfect package".
October 9	World Post Day	✓ The theme of 2021 World Post Day is "Innovate to recover."
October 9	World Migratory Bird Day	✓ The Theme for 2021 WMBD is "Sing, Fly, Soar - Like a Bird!"
October 10	World Mental Health Day	✓ Theme 2021- "Mental Health in an Unequal World".
October 11	International Day of the Girl Child	✓ The theme for 2021 International Day of the Girl Child is "Digital generation. Our generation".
October 12	World Arthritis Day	✓ The theme 2021 is Don't Delay, Connect Today: Time2Work. ✓
October 14	International E - Waste Day	✓ The theme for 2021 IEWD is "Consumer is the key to Circular Economy!"

October 16	World Food Day	✓ Theme 2021: "Safe food now for a healthy tomorrow"
October 20	World Statistics Day	✓ "Connecting the world with data we can trust."
October 20	World Osteoporosis Day	✓ The Global WOD Campaign theme is "Serve Up Bone Strength"
October 21	Global Iodine deficiency Day	-
October 24	World Polio Day	✓ World Polio Day is "One Day. One Focus: Ending Polio - delivering on our promise of a polio-free world!"
October 27	Indian Army celebrates 75th Infantry Day	-
October 27	World Occupational Therapy Day	✓ The theme for 2021 is "Belong. Be You".
October 30	World Thrift Day	✓ The aim is to promote the importance of savings.