



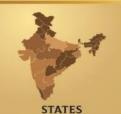
TNPSC EXAMS 24 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE



Foot Prints

(Compilation of Current Events)









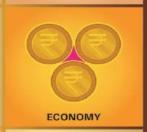
















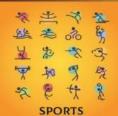
CONFERENCES &

SUMMITS



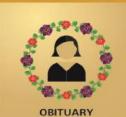


























EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-NOVEMBER 1-30, 2021

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TAMILNADU

25th Puthumaipithan Memorial Award

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

➤ Mega Housing Project for Sri Lankan Tamils

- ✓ On November 2, Chief Minister M K Stalin laid the foundation stone for the first phase of a mega housing project for Sri Lankan Tamils.
- ✓ Under the government sponsored scheme, 3,510 houses are to be constructed at a cost of 142.16 crore for Sri Lankan Tamil people residing at Melmonavur rehabilitation camp in Vellore district.

➤ Mobile Vaccination Camp

- ✓ In a first, Health Minister Ma Subramanian kicked off a mobile vaccination camp in the villages of Chengalpattu on November 2.
- ✓ The aim of the initiative is to push first dose coverage from 71% to 100% by the end of November and encourage all people to take the second dose.

> T.N. Forest and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau

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

Government order - Weekly off to TN Police Personnel

- ✓ On November 3, the state government has issued an order allowing police personnel up to the rank of Head Constable to take one day off every week
- ✓ The move was recommended by the State DGP, C Sylendra Babu, soon after he assumed the charge, so that the police personnel can take care of their health and spend time with their family members.

> Keeladi

✓ Keeladi 8th phase excavations likely after Pongal.

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

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

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government sets up the first ever Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV)
 Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company to professionally manage three critical natural conservation missions of the state.
- ✓ The proposed company will manage three missions namely, Tamil Nadu Climate Change mission, Tamil Nadu Wetlands mission and Tamil Nadu Green movement mission.
- ✓ It will also develop collaborations and strengthen community engagement to build long term commitment for a net zero carbon future for Tamil Nadu.

> Tambaram Corporation

- ✓ The government has declared the formation of the Tambaram corporation by promulgating an ordinance on November 4, 2021
- ✓ Governor RN Ravi has promulgated an Ordinance for upgrading Tambaram municipality as a municipal corporation.
- ✓ Tambaram is the 21st municipal corporation in Tamil Nadu.
- ➤ Stanford University's list of the leading 2% of scientists Anna University vice-chancellor R Velraj has been named among the top 2% scientists in the world listed by Stanford University.

> Principal Secretary - Finance Department

✓ On November 6, the Tamil Nadu government - appointed N Muruganandam as principal secretary, finance department, replacing additional chief secretary S Krishnan.

> Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC)

- ✓ The Union environment ministry's Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) has granted environmental clearance (EC) for phase III of the Chennai-Bengaluru Expressway project.
- ✓ The Phase III of the project will connect Sriperumbudur with Gudipala in Andhra Pradesh.
- ✓ The total length of the proposed third phase is 106 km.

Padma Vibhushan goes to SPB

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

> Reservation For Widow and Destitute Women

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government passed an order to provide 25% reservation for widow and destitute women in jobs in anganwadi centres.
- ✓ The posts to be covered include Anganwadi Worker, Micro Anganwadi Worker and Anganwadi Assistants under the Integrated Child Development Program and nutrition organizer and cook under the MGR Noon Meal Program.

> Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB)

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) has reclassified coir pith units to orange category from the white category on November 10, putting them in the category of polluting industries.
- ✓ In general, Industries are colour-coded red, orange, green and white based on their pollution emission levels.

Mullaperiyar

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

> The Porunai Museum

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

Muthalvarin Mugavari

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

> Flood Mitigation Panel Head

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

> Food Security Museum

- ✓ Union Minister for Commerce, Industry, Food, and Public Distribution Piyush Goyal on 15 November 2021, virtually launched India's first Food Security Museum in Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ The museum showcases India's agriculture revolution from dependency to self-sufficiency.

Thooya Tamizh Patralar Award

- ✓ 18-year-old V Varatharajan wins 'Thooya Tamizh Patralar' award.
- ✓ The Thooya Tamizh Patralar award instituted by the Tamil Nadu government, has been conferred on V Varatharajan, an 18-year old student from Melur.
- ✓ The award was instituted to honour those who use pure Tamil in daily life.

> Tamil Film Koozhangal

- ✓ Tamil film Koozhangal selected to be screened at IFFI 2021, the Indian Panorama segment in the 52 International Film Festival Goa.
- ✓ Koozhangal is also India's official entry for Academy Award for Oscars.

Tancem's 'Valimai' Cement Brand

- ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Tuesday launched 'Valimai' a new cement brand from the Tamil Nadu Cements Corporation Limited (Tancem), a State government undertaking.
- ✓ The two varieties of the Valimai cement brand are priced at 350 and 365 a bag.

Madras Sappers

- ✓ The Madras Sappers celebrated its 241st Corps Day on 18 November 2021.
- ✓ The Indian Army's Corps of Engineers officially recognizes its birth in 1780 when the oldest group of the Corps, the Madras Sappers, was raised.

> Innuyir Kaappom Thittam

- ✓ Tamil Nadu has become the first state in the country to offer free 81 lifesaving emergency treatment procedures to accident victims for two days of their hospitalisation.
- ✓ The procedures worth 1 lakh can be availed at 609 empanelled government and private hospitals in the state.
- ✓ The scheme **Nammai Kaakkum 48** (saving our lives in 48 hours) was announced by the Government on November 18.
- ✓ The scheme will cover all those who don't have any insurance schemes.
- ✓ The state has set aside 50 crore for the first phase of implementation of the 'Innuyir Kaappom Thittam' (saving precious lives).

> Silambam

- ➤ Silambam or stick fencing is a pre-historic ancient martial art form which originated in Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ On November 18, the Tamil Nadu government included 'Silambam' as one of the sporting disciplines which will be eligible under the 3% sports quota for recruitment in public sector undertakings (PSUs) and government departments.
- ✓ Silambam was included as one of the sports disciplines for consideration under the sports quota for admission into professional courses like medical, engineering, law, etc.

➤ V O Chidambaram's Literary Works

- ✓ On November 18, Chief Minister M K Stalin unveiled books on freedom fighter V O Chidambaram's literary works at the Secretariat to mark the beginning of the year-long celebration of his 150th birth anniversary.
- ✓ The first volume of the compendium of VOC's works (V.O.C Pannool Thirattu) and the second volume of VOC's speech on 'Thirukkural' (V.O.C. Thirukkural

Urai) were published by Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation (TNTBESC).

National Highways

- ✓ On November 18, Chief minister M K Stalin requested Prime Minister Narendra Modi to declare eight state roads in Tamil Nadu as national highways.
- ✓ In this regard, the CM requested the Centre to direct the Union ministry of road transport and highways (MoRTH) and entrust the development work with the state government with requisite funding.

FinTech Governing Council

- ✓ On November 19, the Tamil Nadu government formed a FinTech governing council comprising members from the government and the industry
- ✓ It has been formed based on the recommendation of the Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission.
- ✓ The council will form sub-committees to address various aspects in the upcoming Fin-Tech Policy such as marketing and branding, business development and outreach, partnerships, education, venture capital and regulation.

➤ Helpline Number '14417

- ✓ The government to print the helpline number '14417' in all the school textbooks to create awareness about child abuse and harassment among the student community as well the general public.
- ✓ The helpline number,14417, was created specifically for school students, teachers, and parents to extend counselling.

> Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission

- ✓ Vidya Mahambare, professor of Economics and Program Director, PGDM, at Great Lakes Institute of Management, Chennai has been appointed on the expert committee of the Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission.
- ✓ The appointment has been made for the commission's preparation of the state's draft policy on 'Employability and Skilling for a Transitioning Economy'.

> Tamil Nadu State Policy for Children 2021

- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on 20 November 2021 launched the Tamil Nadu State Child Policy.
- ✓ The policy has been formulated taking holistically the needs of the children like their growth targets in their various stages, nutrition, education, healthcare, etc.

✓ He also launched the Forensic DNA Profile Search Tool that would enable restoring the lost children to their parents.

Chennai Metropolitan Area Project

- ✓ AIIB approves USD 150 million loans for Chennai Metropolitan Area project.
- ✓ The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has approved \$150 million loans to India for the implementation of the Sustainable Urban services program for the Chennai metropolitan area (CMA).

➤ 3-D Eye Surgery Facility

- ✓ India's first 3-D eye surgery facility inaugurated in Chennai.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu Health Minister Ma Subramanian inaugurated India's first 3D eye surgery facility at a government hospital in Chennai on 19 November 2021.
- ✓ The country"s first three-dimensional eye surgery facility has been developed at Chennai's Egmore Eye Hospital.

Bala Sabhas

- ✓ T.N. to get 'bala sabhas' in all panchayats.
- ✓ The creation of 'bala sabhas' at all village panchayats for children aged 12 to 18, on the lines of gram sabhas, the introduction of a child protection policy at all panchayats and urban bodies and a child safeguarding policy at all schools are among the provisions envisioned in the Tamil Nadu State Policy for Children, 2021, released by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Saturday.

> DNA Profile-Based Search Tool

- ✓ On November 20, Chief Minister M K Stalin inaugurated a new DNA profilebased search tool at the Secretariat.
- ✓ The new device will help trace abandoned children, inter-state criminals and child sexual predators among others.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu has become the first state in the country to get the state-of-the-art device as part of the efforts to modernise the state forensic department.

Swachh Survekshan Report

- ✓ Chennai improved its ranking in cleanliness in 2021 by securing 43rd spot in the Swachh Survekshan report for 2021 released on November 20.
- ✓ Swachh Survekshan is an annual survey of cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation in cities and towns across India
- ✓ It was launched as part of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, which aims to make India clean and free of open defecation.

> Palar River

- ✓ Palar witnessing flows never seen before.
- ✓ Originating from the Nandi Hills in Karnataka, the Palar flows down to Tamil Nadu through Andhra Pradesh. Of its total length of 348 km, 93 km lies in Karnataka, 33 km in Andhra Pradesh and 222 km in Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ The river, having seven tributaries, enters Tamil Nadu near Vaniyambadi. It covers many important towns such as Vellore and Kancheepuram.

Tamil Nadu - Investors' first Port of Call' Conclave

✓ On November 23, the Tamil Nadu government - signed 59 MoUs for projects worth 35,208 crore across various sectors, including aerospace and defence, which are expected to create 76,795 direct employment opportunities.

> FinTech Policy

- ✓ On November 23, Chief Minister M K Stalin unveiled a FinTech Policy for the state and released a handbook on aerospace and defence systems at the investment conclave in Coimbatore.
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu FinTech Policy 2021 has set a vision to transform the State into a leading global destination for fintech firms by 2025 and aims to develop Chennai as a FinTech hub.

> The Tamil Nadu school education department

✓ The Tamil Nadu school education department - has decided to add the 'medium of instruction' for all classes on the Class X mark sheets from this year.

> 4GW Integrated Solar Photovoltaic Cell

✓ Tata Group's solar power arm – is in talks with the Tamil Nadu government to set up a 4GW integrated solar photovoltaic cell manufacturing unit in Gangaikondan near Tirunelyeli.

Vir Chakra Award - Tamil Nadu soldier

- ✓ More than 20 Indian soldiers were killed in a clash between Chinese and Indian forces in the Kalwan Valley on June 15 last year.
- ✓ Palani from Tamil Nadu was one of the notables. The Vir Chakra award was given in his honour.

Welspun One

- ✓ Welspun One signs MoU with Tamil Nadu to invest Rs 2500 crore.
- ✓ Welspun One Logistics Parks (WOLP) has signed an MoU with Guidance the Government of Tamil Nadu's nodal agency.

✓ It has been signed for investment promotion and single window facilitation.

➤ L&T

- ✓ L&T signs pact with Tamil Nadu to build data centre at Kanchipuram.
- ✓ Larsen & Toubro (L&T) has entered into a pact with the Tamil Nadu government to establish a data center in the state.

> Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Urban Index

- ✓ Chennai has been ranked 11th among 56 cities in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Urban Index.
- ✓ The NITI Aayog report considered 16 goals including 'no poverty', good health and well-being, quality education, reduced inequalities, climate action, life below water and on land and peace, justice and strong institutions to arrive at a composite score for the index.

> National Family Health Survey (NFHS) 5

- ✓ T.N. ahead in Reproductive, Child Health.
- ✓ With significant improvements in several social and health parameters, when compared with the previous edition, the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) 5 seems to have set the State on its regular path ahead yet again, particularly in reproductive and child health.

▶ Green Certification

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board had announced 'Green Certification' for schools in Chennai.
- ✓ The certification will be provided for the schools to which the children come either by walk or by riding bicycles.

> Advisory Panel

- ✓ On November 25, the Tamil Nadu government formed an advisory panel to harness the strength of the Tamil diaspora and streamline investments into the state.
- ✓ The panel will strive to tap the potential of the global Tamil community, members of which are in various positions of influence in public and private institutions, to promote business investments into the State.

➤ Guidelines For the Release of 700 Life Convicts

✓ Tamil Nadu government - released a set of guidelines for the release of 700 life convicts in the state jails.

- ✓ The completion of at least 10 years in jail is the basic eligibility for the premature release.
- ✓ The premature release, under Article 161 of the Constitution, is to mark the 113th birth anniversary of former chief minister C N Annadurai.

Covid Vaccination

- ✓ 100% first installment dose district Kanchipuram.
- ✓ So far more than 76% of people in Tamil Nadu have been vaccinated with the first dose and 40% with the second dose.

 Kanchipuram is the first district to get 100% first dose of vaccine.

> Nimirndhu Nil, Thunindhu Sol

- ✓ The Karur district administration launched the initiative 'Nimirndhu Nil, Thunindhu Sol' to dispel fear among school girls to report sexual assault.
- ✓ As part of the scheme, a questionnaire seeking personal details including name, class, school, address, parents' mobile number and information on sexual abuse on them or their friends in school or near their houses was given to the students.

> 100cm Rain

- ✓ Chennai has recorded more than 100cm rain in November for the third time in nearly 100 years, with Chennai Nungambakkam weather station crossing the 100cm mark.
- ✓ As per Meteorologists, the Chennai-based observatory recorded the highest rainfall for November in 1918 with 1088mm, followed by 1049mm in 2015.
- ✓ Chennai's normal rainfall for the entire North East monsoon season is 87cm.

'Niruthuda Women's movement'

- ✓ To mark the "International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women November 25", the 'Niruthuda Women's movement' was formally launched by Karunalaya Social Service Society on Thursday.
- ✓ The members of the Nirthuda movement met police officials last year and urged them to look into complaints of violence against women and take action immediately.

STATE

> Full Tax Exemption for EVs - Odisha

- ✓ Government of Odisha announced full exemption of motor vehicles taxes and registration fees on electric vehicles (EVs) in the state.
- ✓ This decision was taken for encouraging faster adoption of EVs. Exemption was granted under the Odisha Motor Vehicles Taxation Act and is applicable till 2025.
- ✓ Government announced an exemption of 100 per cent on motor vehicles taxes and registration fees for battery-operated vehicles.

> Formation Day

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

Delhi Bazaar Portal

- ✓ Delhi Government is preparing a Delhi Bazaar web portal for traders, industrialists, and professionals to help them promote their products all over the world both nationally and internationally, Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal announced on November 3, 2021.
- ✓ The portal will aid in boosting Delhi's revenue, Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and economy in a big way.

Grand Annual Deepotsav Celebrations

- ✓ The grand annual Deepotsav celebrations in Uttar Pradesh's Ayodhya district started on November 3 by lighting 12 lakh earthen lamps this year.
- ➤ Out of this, 9 lakh lamps have been lit on the banks of the Saryu, while the remaining three lakh lamps were lit in temples of the town, setting up a new Guinness World Record.

29 Museums Inaugurated to Protect Culture of Ethnic Tribes

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

➤ Go to Village 2.0

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

➤ Indus River Dolphin - The Most Threatened Species

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

> Jai Bhim Mukhyamantri Pratibha Vikas Yojana

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

➤ Open Defecation Free (ODF) Status

- ✓ Goa has become the first state in the country to achieve Open Defecation Free (ODF) status and has connected every household with electricity.
- ✓ This was announced by Information and Broadcasting Minister, Anurag Thakur, recently.
- ✓ The original ODF protocol was issued in the year 2016.

> Janasevaka Scheme

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

➤ Kittur Karnataka

- ✓ The Mumbai-Karnataka region has been renamed as 'Kittur Karnataka'.
- ✓ The Mumbai-Karnataka region, which was formerly under the Bombay presidency, became part of Karnataka in 1956.
- ✓ The region has been named after 19th-century ruler, Kittur Rani Chennamma.
- ✓ Kittur Rani Chennamma fought the British for freedom about 40 years before Jhansi Rani Laxmibai.

Shramik Mitra Scheme

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

➤ Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Rural Energy and Development (MGIRED)

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

COP26 in Glasgow

- ✓ Maharashtra Bags Top Leadership Award at COP26 in Glasgow.
- ✓ Maharashtra has bagged the inaugural Inspiring Regional Leadership award at the U2C General Assembly that coincided with the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) summit in Glasgow on 7 Nov'21.

✓ It also received high commendations in two other categories - Climate Partnerships and Creative Climate Solutions.

UNESCO Creative Cities Network 2021

- ✓ Srinagar joins UNESCO Creative Cities Network 2021 under crafts, folk arts category.
- ✓ UNESCO has included Srinagar city of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir in its coveted list of Creative Cities Network (UCCN).
- ✓ The announcement was made by UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay in recognition of their commitment to placing the culture and creativity at the heart of their development and to sharing knowledge and good practices.
- ✓ The UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) is a project of UNESCO launched in 2004 to promote cooperation among cities which recognized creativity as a major factor in their urban development.

Tissue Culture-Based Seed Potato Rules

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

> Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana

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

Srinagar Airport Declared as 'Major Airport'

✓ The Ministry of Civil Aviation declared "Srinagar International Airport" as a
"Major Airport" on November 6, 2021.

✓ Airport was declared as major airport by exercising powers conferred by Sub-Section (i) of Section 2 of the Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India Act, 2008.

> Rakshak

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

➤ Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM)

✓ IBM has launched a client naming center in Mysuru.

Niramay Gujarat Yojana

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

➤ Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) Programme

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

> Punjabi Made Compulsory in Punjab schools

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

World's Largest Solar Power

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

> Bhagwan Birsa Munda Museum

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

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

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

> Purvanchal Expressway

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 341-km long Purvanchal Express in Sultanpur district, Uttar Pradesh.
- ✓ The expressway links state capital Lucknow with Ghazipur and has been constructed at an estimated cost of Rs 22,500 crore.
- ✓ The key feature of the Expressway is the 3.2 km long airstrip to enable landing and take-off of Indian Air Force fighter planes in case of emergency.

Pakke Tiger Reserve 2047 Declaration on Climate Change

- ✓ Arunachal Pradesh Cabinet adopts declaration on climate change.
- ✓ The state cabinet, headed by Chief Minister Pema Khandu, adopted the Pakke Tiger Reserve 2047 Declaration on Climate Change-Resilient and Responsive Arunachal Pradesh. The declaration is aimed at lowering emissions and achieving sustainable development.

Pochampally in Telangana

✓ The Pochampally village in Telangana has been selected as one of the best Tourism Villages by the UN World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO).

- ✓ The award will be given on the occasion of the 24th session of the UNWTO General Assembly on 2 Dec 2021 in Madrid, Spain.
- ✓ Pochampally is often referred to as the Silk City of India.

World Food Programme (WFP)

- ✓ The Meghalaya government has signed an MoU with the United Nations World Food Programme to streamline and strengthen the public distribution system in the state.
- ✓ The partnership will help the WFP authorities and the state government work together towards Sustainable Development Goal two Zero Hunger.

Clean Yamuna River

- ✓ The Chief Minister of Delhi, Arvind Kejriwal, pledged to clean Yamuna River completely by 2025.
- ✓ He announced a six-point action plan to clean the holy river.
- ✓ He also promised to make Yamuna River fit for drinking and bathing by 2025.

School Transformation Program

- ✓ On November 16, 2021, Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik inaugurated 130 refurbished schools as part of the state's educational reform initiative.
- ✓ The school transformation programme was established with the goal of instilling a competitive mindset among students in order to achieve academic achievement.

> Best Performing Marine District

- ✓ Balasore awarded 'Best Performing Marine District' in India.
- ✓ For the first time, a district from Odisha got this award.
- ✓ Andhra Pradesh was awarded the Best Marine State, while Telangana got Best Inland State Award.

> Rani Gaidinliu Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum

- ✓ Home Minister to lay foundation stone of Rani Gaidinliu Tribal Freedom Fighters
 Museum in Manipur.
- ✓ Union Minister of Home Affairs Amit Shah will lay the foundation stone of the Rani Gaidinliu Tribal freedom fighters Museum at Luangkao village, Tamenglong District in Manipur on November 22, 2021 through video conference.

> (SALT) Project

- ✓ Government of Andhra Pradesh, Union government and the World Bank have signed legal agreements for a loan of \$250 million for the "Supporting Andhra's Learning Transformation (SALT) project".
- ✓ SALT project aims to improve the quality of learning for more than 50 lakh students in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

Mukhyamantri Tirth Yatra Yojana

- ✓ The Delhi government decided to include Kartarpur Sahib in Punjab province of Pakistan and Velankanni Church in Tamil Nadu to its pilgrimage scheme called "Mukhyamantri Tirth Yatra Yojana".
- ✓ Under the scheme, Delhi government will provide travel packages for free pilgrimage to senior citizens of the state, who are above 60 years.

> First Cyber Tehsil of India

- ✓ Madhya Pradesh Cabinet has approved the proposal to create cyber tehsils in the state of Madhya Pradesh.
- ✓ After this, MP will become the first state in the country to have a cyber tehsil. Cyber Tehsil will make the mutation process easy and people from anywhere in the state can avail of its benefit. With this, the process of conversion will become convenient in the cases of undisputed land.

> STREET Project

- ✓ Kerala Tourism to launch 'STREET project' across seven districts to enrich visitor experience and take tourism deep into the interior regions of the state
- ✓ The STREET is an acronym for "Sustainable, Tangible, Responsible, Experiential, Ethnic, Tourism" hubs.
- ✓ The project is conceived by the Responsible Tourism Mission and inspired by the 'Tourism for Inclusive Growth' slogan of The United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)

NATIONAL

➤ 'Net zero' goal by 2070

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi committed India to becoming a 'carbon neutral' country through a 'net zero' goal by 2070 along with major targets on renewables and reductions in greenhouse gases by 2030.
- ✓ This is the first time such a 'net zero' goal has been set for the country

> 5th edition of "Ganga Utsav 2021"

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

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

- ✓ Indian government and the World Bank have signed MoU for a \$40 million project for improving the quality of health services in Meghalaya.
- ✓ This MoU will strengthen the capacity of state to handle future health emergencies like covid-19 pandemic. Project is dubbed as "Meghalaya Health Systems Strengthening Project".

> SpaceX Incorporates Subsidiary in India

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

> Pneumococcal 13-valent Conjugate Vaccine

✓ The government has launched a nationwide expansion of Pneumococcal 13 - valent Conjugate Vaccine (PCV). This is under the Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP) as a part of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'.

✓ It was for the first time in the country that PCV would be available for universal use. PCV13 protects against 13 types of bacteria that cause pneumococcal disease.

XtraGreen

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

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

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

Climate Equity Monitor

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

➤ Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana (PMGKAY)]

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

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

➤ Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules

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

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

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

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

- ✓ The Ministry of Health has placed a purchase order for one crore doses of Zydus Cadila's three-dose Covid vaccine ZyCoV-D at Rs. 358 per dose, excluding GST.
- ✓ ZyCov-D the world's first plasmid DNA vaccine is a three dose vaccine that will be given on day zero, day 28 and day 56.
- ✓ ZyCoV-D is the first vaccine cleared by India's drug regulator for inoculation of those aged 12 years and above.

➤ Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana (KVPY)

- ✓ The Union government informed the Madras high court that it would conduct the aptitude test for a centrally-sponsored scholarship programme Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana (KVPY) in all 22 official languages.
- ✓ Earlier, the Madras high court suspended conducting of the exams scheduled for November 7, as the examination was to be conducted only in English and Hindi.
- ✓ KVPY is a National Program of Fellowship in Basic Sciences funded by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

Ayushman Bharat-Digital Mission

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

➤ Covid - 96 Countries Recognise India's Vaccination Certificate

- ✓ According to Union health minister Mansukh Mandaviya, about 96 countries have agreed to mutually recognise India's Covid-19 vaccination certificate.
- ✓ India has so far administered around 109.08 crore jabs.

➤ Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)

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

> Civil Aviation Minister launches e-GCA

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

Cotton Corporation of India

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

Ethanol Blended Petrol Programme

- ✓ Union Cabinet approves higher ethanol prices under Ethanol Blended Petrol Programme.
- ✓ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on November 10, 2021, cleared higher ethanol prices derived from different sugarcane-based raw materials for sugar season 2020-21 under Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme to facilitate setting up advanced biofuel refineries in India.

Norovirus Infection

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

Tele-Law on Wheels

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

NITI Aayog

- ✓ The Central government think tank NITI Aayog has announced the **top five** most aspirational districts in education sector for the month of September.
- ✓ The Aspirational Districts programme was launched in the year 2018
- ✓ The initiative aims to transform 112 most under-developed districts across the country

✓ The 'delta ranking' for the aspirational districts measures the incremental progress made by them across six developmental areas of health and nutrition, education, agriculture and water resources, financial inclusion, skill development, and basic infrastructure.

Ordinances

- ✓ On November 14, the Centre promulgated two ordinances to extend the terms of the chiefs of the Enforcement Directorate and the Central Bureau of Investigation to up to five years.
- ✓ Earlier, the central agency chiefs were appointed for two-year terms.

 The twin ordinances, signed by President Ram Nath Kovind, amend the Central Vigilance Commission Act and the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, which govern the ED and the CBI, respectively.

Grass Conservatory

- ✓ India gets first 'Grass Conservatory' in Uttarakhand's Almora district.
- ✓ India's first grass conservation centre has been set up at the Kalika Forest Research Center of Ranikhet in Uttarakhand.
- ✓ The grass is the most economically important of all flowering plants because of its nutritious grain and soil-forming function.

> Tax Devolution

- ✓ Centre to release over 95 thousand crore rupees as tax devolution to States this month.
- ✓ Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has said that the Centre will release 95 thousand 82 crore rupees as tax devolution to States in the current month after including one advance instalment to help them push their capital expenditure.

Bhumi Samvaad

- ✓ The Union Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Giriraj Singh has inaugurated 'Bhumi Samvaad'.
- ✓ It is a national workshop on the digital India land record modernization programme.

Rashtra Raksha Samparpan Parv

- ✓ Three day Rashtra Raksha Samparpan Parv will be held in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations.
- ✓ 19th of November is the Birth Anniversary of Rani Lakshmi Bai, the epitome of bravery and courage and a great National icon of Rashtra Raksha and India's Independence struggle.

Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF)

- ✓ On November 17, the Union Cabinet cleared utilisation of the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) for provision of mobile connectivity in 7,287 uncovered villages.
- ✓ These uncovered villages of 44 aspirational districts across five states of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Odisha will get 4G-based mobile services.

> Covovax

✓ Covishield maker Serum Institute of India (SII) – to start the paediatric trial of Covovax by including children in the 2-6 years age bracket across 10 sites in India.

> Indian Railways

- ✓ The first pod hotel of the Indian Railways was inaugurated virtually by Raosaheb Danve, Union minister of state for Railways, from the Churchgate station in Mumbai on November.
- ✓ The pod hotel, also known as capsule hotels, has several small bed-sized capsules and provides overnight accommodation at affordable rates.

➤ LINAC- NCDC Fisheries Business Incubation Centre (L1F1C)

- ✓ The first-of-its-kind, dedicated fisheries business incubator has been inaugurated in Gurugram of Haryana to nurture fisheries start-ups under real market-led conditions.
- ✓ The incubator is known as LINAC- NCDC Fisheries Business Incubation Centre (LIFIC). The centre has been established at a cost of Rs. 3.23 crore under the central flagship Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).

➤ New Model Concession Agreement - 2021 announced

- ✓ Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal on 18 November 2021 announced the revised Model Concession Agreement (MCA) -2021 for PPP (Public-Private Partnership) projects at Major Ports.
- ✓ It will be applicable to all the future PPP projects at major ports, as well as projects which are under bidding stage.

Rezang La War Memorial

- ✓ Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated a newly revamped war memorial in Ladakh's Rezang La, on 18 November 2021.
- ✓ The memorial has names of soliders who died in the June 2020 Galwan Valley clash with the Chinese.

√ 18 November is marked as this battle's anniversary.

Centre to Roll Back Three Farm Laws

✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced that his government will repeal the three contentious agricultural laws and requested protesting farmers to go back to their fields and homes.

➤ The Three Contentious Bills:

- ✓ The Farmer's Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2020.
- ✓ The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, 2020.
- ✓ The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill.

> Sustainable Development Cell

- ✓ Ministry of coal has constituted a "Sustainable Development Cell", in line with the commitment of clean energy.
- ✓ The Sustainable Development Cell was constituted in the backdrop of Prime Minister's announcement on new climate targets at COP26 under 'Panchamrit Strategy'.

> Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act 1996 (PESA)

- ✓ The Centre has asked Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha to expedite notification and implementation of the rules of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act 1996 (PESA).
- ✓ These four states account for a significant part of India's tribal population.
- ✓ The provisions of the PESA Act seek to empower local self-governments in the Schedule V areas of the country to help safeguard and preserve the traditions and customs of the tribal communities.

➤ India's Cleanest City

- ✓ Madhya Pradesh's Indore city has been declared as India's cleanest city for 5th time in a row under the Centre's Swachh Survekshan 2021 on 20 November 2021.
- ✓ Surat (Gujarat) and Vijaywada (Andhra Pradesh) grabbed the second and third positions respectively.
- ✓ Among Indian states, Chhattisgarh has bagged top position as the country's cleanest state.

TRIFED Aadi Mahotsav

- ✓ Mary Kom has been appointed as the Brand Ambassador of TRIFED (**Tribal** Cooperative Marketing Development Federation Ltd) Aadi Mahotsav.
- ✓ TRIFED Aadi Mahotsav is a national tribal festival and a joint initiative of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and the TRIFED.

➤ National Resources Accounting (NRA)

- ✓ The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has started National Resources Accounting (NRA) process to ensure tighter scrutiny and accounting of mineral and energy resources of states.
- ✓ All states and Union Territories have been asked to submit their 'assets account' of their mineral and energy resources for 2020-21 by March next year.

Swachh Survekshan Awards - 2021

- ✓ In 'Swachh Survekshan 2021,' President Ram Nath Kovind will honour 342 cities that have received a star rating for being garbage-free and clean.
- ✓ Under the 'Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge,' the Swachh Amrit Mahotsav will also honour sanitation workers by recognising top-performing cities.
- ✓ Swachh Survekshan is a government initiative that aims to improve sanitation in India.

> Centre for Nanotechnology

- ✓ Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated the state-of-theart Centre for Nanotechnology and Centre for Indian Knowledge System at IIT Guwahati. He also released a book on NEP 2020 implementation.
- ✓ The Centre for Nanotechnology will work towards meeting future challenges and augmenting academic partnerships with industry in Nanotechnology.

Cryptocurrency and Regulation of Official Digital Currency Bill, 2021

- ✓ The Centre has proposed to introduce the Cryptocurrency and Regulation of Official Digital Currency Bill, 2021 during the winter session of Parliament, which starts on November.
- ✓ The proposed legislation will also put in place a framework for the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to create an official digital currency.

Bharat Gauray" Trains

✓ The Indian Railways - has decided to allow travel and tour operators, state tourism entities and any interested party to run theme-based "Bharat Gaurav" trains.

✓ They can run these trains on any route of their choice and will be free to determine the fares as well.

PM Garib Kalyan Ann Yojna (PMGKAY)

- ✓ On November, the Union Cabinet approved the PM Garib Kalyan Ann Yojna (PMGKAY) till March 2022.
- ✓ This entitles 5 kg free food grain per month to nearly 81 crore people in the country.

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban)

- ✓ Centre approves construction of 3.61 lakh houses in 17 states and UTs.
- ✓ The Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee (CSMC) on November 23, 2021, approved the construction of 3.6 lakh houses in 17 States and Union Territories under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban).

Disaster Management (WCDM)

- ✓ Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh, virtually inaugurated the "5th World Congress on Disaster Management (WCDM)" on November 24, 2021.
- ✓ While inaugurating the conference, minister noted that, Indian Armed Forces have demonstrated time and again that they care for and stand by India's partners when they need without distinguishing between natural or man-made disasters.

> E-portal of Accreditation Scheme for Mineral Exploration

- ✓ The Union Minister of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs Shri Pralhad Joshi inaugurated the E-portal of accreditation scheme for Mineral exploration on November 23, 2021.
- ✓ The portal was inaugurated at the **5th National conclave on Mines and Minerals** in **New Delhi**.

> Primary Health Care in India

✓ The Government of **India** and the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** have signed loan agreement worth \$300 million on November 23, 2021 to strengthen and improve access to comprehensive primary health care in urban areas. The programme will be implemented in urban areas across 13 states.

> Noida International Airport

- ✓ On November 25, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for the Noida International Airport at Jewar, Gautam Buddha Nagar in Uttar Pradesh.
- ✓ The airport, which would be one of the largest in Asia, is located at about 72 kilometres of the national capital's Indira Gandhi International Airport.
- ✓ The first phase of the airport is scheduled to be completed by 2024.
- ✓ It will also be India's first net zero emissions airport.

River Cities Alliance

- ✓ Jal Shakti Minister launches River Cities Alliance on 25 November 2021.
- ✓ The alliance is a dedicated platform for river cities in India to ideate, discuss and exchange information for the sustainable management of urban rivers.
- ✓ It will focus on three broad themes, networking, capacity building and technical support.

➤ Wage Rate Index (WRI)

✓ Union Labour Ministry has released the new series of Wage Rate Index (WRI) with base year 2016=100, which will replace the old series with a base of 1963-65 =100.

The government periodically revises the base year for major economic indicators to reflect the changes in the economy and to capture the wage pattern of workers.

➤ Covid-19 and Vaccination

- ✓ On November 27, Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired a meeting to review the situation relating to Covid-19 and vaccination in the country.
- ✓ The meeting was conducted immediately after the World Health Organisation designated the new variant, B.1.1.529 or Omicron, as 'variant of concern' on November 26.

Starlink Internet Services

- ✓ On November 26, the government advised the public not to subscribe to the satellite-based internet services being advertised by Starlink Internet services, a division of Elon Musk-led SpaceX.
- ✓ The Elon Musk-backed company has not obtained licence from the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) for offering such services.

- ➤ Indo-German Science & Technology Centre (IGSTC)
- ✓ On November 26, Indo-German Science & Technology Centre (IGSTC) launched a first-of-its-kind programme to promote women in the field of research and development through lateral entry.
- ✓ The programme is called 'Women's Involvement in Science and Engineering Research (WISER)' program.
- **➤** World's Tallest Pier Bridge
- ✓ The Indian Railways is constructing the tallest pier railway bridge of the world in Manipur.
- ✓ The bridge is being built at a height of 141 metres.



SCHEMES

➤ "Dairy Sahakar" Scheme

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

> Ayushman CAPF Health Card Scheme

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

Krishi UDAN 2.0

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

> O-SMART

✓ Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the continuation of umbrella scheme called "Ocean Services, Modelling, Application, Resources and Technology (O-SMART)" for the period of 2021-26.

✓ The O-SMART is a government scheme, launched on August 29, 2018 with the aim of promoting ocean research and setting early warning weather systems. STUDY GENTRE

INTERNATIONAL

> COP26

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

Pfizer-BioNTech COVID vaccine

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

Microsoft

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

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

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

> COP26 - One Sun, One World & One Grid initiative

✓ One Sun, One World & One Grid' will not only reduce storage needs but also enhance the viability of solar projects, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi during

COP26 Leaders event 'Accelerating Clean Technology Innovation & Development'. He stated that the creative initiative will not only reduce carbon footprints & energy cost but also open a new avenue for cooperation between different countries & regions.

- ✓ OSOWOG is the first ever international network of global interconnected solar power renewable energy grids.
- ✓ During the event, PM Modi reiterated that the idea for the One Sun One World One Grid (OSOWOG) initiative was put forth by him at the First Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) in October 2018.

> Facebook

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

> 1 Trillion Dollar Hike in Climate Finance

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

Antiviral-COVID Pill

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

Commemorative £5 Coin - Mahatma Gandhi

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

NASA Science Mission

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

"Crew 3" mission

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

> \$1 trillion in 'climate finance'

- ✓ India has demanded a trillion dollars over the next decade from developed countries to adapt to, and mitigate, the challenges arising from global warming, and has kept this as a condition for delivering on climate commitments made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a senior official who is part of on-going climate agreement negotiations in Glasgow.
- ✓ India's five-fold plan aims at reducing the carbon intensity of its economy and eventually achieving net zero by 2070.

➤ United Arab Emirates to host COP28 in 2023

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

> Fumio Kishida re-elected Japan's Prime Minister

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

India International Trade Fair 2021

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

> First Non Profit City in the World

- ✓ Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has announced the establishment of the first nonprofit city in the world on 14 November 2021.
- ✓ It will be called Prince Mohammed bin Salman Nonprofit City.

Resident Coordinator

- ✓ The United Nations has appointed Shombi Sharp, a sustainable development expert from the US as its Resident Coordinator in India.
- ✓ Within the world organization, he most recently served as United Nations Resident Coordinator in Armenia.

WePOWER India Partnership Forum

- ✓ The WePOWER India Partnership Forum was held through a virtual platform on November 9, 2021, to boost the South Asia Women in Power Sector Professional Network (WePOWER) in India.
- ✓ The event was organized by the World Bank (WB) and Asian Development Bank (ADB) in association with the India Smart Grid Forum (ISGF).

✓ The event saw a panel discussion on expanding job opportunities for women in India's Clean Energy Transition.

> UNESCO

- ✓ India re-elected to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) executive board for 2021-25 term.
- ✓ India has been re-elected to the UNESCO Executive Board, one of the three constitutional organs of the UN, for the 2021-25 term.
- ✓ The election took place on 17 November 2021.

> US Presidential Powers

- ✓ US vice president, Kamala Harris became the first woman to get US presidential powers, though briefly, on November 19.
- ✓ Harris held presidential powers for a total of one hour and 25 minutes, when President Joe Biden went under anaesthesia for a colonoscopy procedure.
- ✓ The US' first female, first Black and first South Asian vice president Harris broke another barrier as she became the first woman to hold presidential powers in the country.

➢ Bitcoin City

- ✓ El Salvador Plans to Build World's First 'Bitcoin City'
- ✓ El Salvador President Nayib Bukele has announced that the country is planning to build the world's first "Bitcoin City".
- ✓ The new city is planned to be developed in the eastern region of La Union and will be initially funded by bitcoin-backed bonds.

> World's Most Systemic Bank

✓ JP Morgan Chase has become the world's most systemically important bank once again according to the latest annual ranking of top lenders by global regulators.

New German Chancellor

- ✓ Olaf Scholz will be Germany's next Chancellor, replacing Angela Merkel who has led Germany for 16 years.
- ✓ He is currently serving as the Finance Minister.

New Prime Minister of Kuwait

✓ Sheikh Sabah Al Khaled Al Hamad Al Sabah has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of Kuwait.

➤ World Heritage Committee - 2021-25

✓ India was elected to the United Nations World Heritage Committee for a fouryear term from 2021 to 2025.

> New COVID variant named Omicron

- ✓ The new COVID-19 variant, B.1.1.529, first found in South Africa, has been designated as a "Variant of Concern" by the World Health Organisation.
- ✓ This variant of SARS-CoV-2 has been named as Omicron.

 This variant was first detected in Botswana region of South Africa on November 24.

➤ World's Newest Republic

- ✓ Barbados, a former British colony becomes the world's newest republic this week.
- ✓ Famous for its beaches and love of cricket, Barbados will replace its head of state, Queen Elizabeth II, with her current representative, Governor General Sandra Mason.

> Petr Fiala named new Prime Minister

✓ Petr Fiala has been named as the new Prime Minister of Czech Republic. President Milos Zeman named him as the PM on November 28, after his electoral win in October.

➤ Word Of The Year For 2021

✓ The American publishing company Merriam-Webster has chosen the word "vaccine" as its 2021 Word of the Year.

Twitter CEO

✓ Parag Agarwal, an IIT Mumbai alumnus and chief technology officer of Twitter - will take over as CEO of the social media platform, Twitter.

President of INTERPOL

✓ The International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) has elected Inspector General Ahmed Naser Al-Raisi (United Arab Emirates) as its President for a 4-year term at the 89th Interpol general assembly meeting held in Istanbul, Turkey.

➤ Floating City by 2025

✓ South Korea is soon going to get the world's first floating city, to deal with the problem of floods due to rising sea levels.

✓ The floating city project is a joint effort by the UN Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habit) and OCEANIX.

Sweden's First Woman PM Returns

✓ Magdalena Andersson, who last week was Sweden's first woman Prime Minister for a few hours before resigning because a budget defeat made a coalition partner quit, was on elected again on Monday as the head of Government.



INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

➤ Vaccine Exports to Four Nations

- ✓ India resumes vaccine exports to four nations Myanmar, Bangladesh, Nepal and Iran.
- ✓ The Centre stopped vaccine exports due to rising Covid-19 cases, as the second wave hit India in April-May.
- ✓ India now has a long list of vaccines Covavax, Corbevax, ZyCovD, Gennova's mRNA vaccine at various stages of regulatory approval.

> 21st India-Russia Annual Summit

- ✓ Russian President Vladimir Putin will visit India on December 6 for the 21st India-Russia annual Summit with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ✓ This will be the first face-to-face meeting between the two leaders after their meeting on the side-lines of the BRICS Summit in Brasilia in November, 2019.

> Presidential Election - Uzbekistan

- ✓ Chief Election Commissioner **Sushil Chandra** visited **Uzbekistan** as an international observer for four days for the October 24 presidential election.
- ✓ The CEC led a three-member delegation to Uzbekistan from October 21-25
- ✓ Uzbekistan's President Shavkat Mirziyoyev emerged victorious with more than 80% of the vote in the elections and was re-elected for a second five-year term

➤ Bharat Biotech's COVAXIN

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

> India and Israel

- ✓ India and Israel decided to set up a new Task Force and a sub-working group to boost bilateral defence cooperation.
- ✓ This was agreed upon in the 15th India-Israel Working Group Meeting held recently in Tel Aviv, Israel.

> India and Bhutan

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

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

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

> Diwali as a National Holiday - United States of America

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

> International Solar Alliance (ISA)

- ✓ On November 10, the United States became the 101st member country of the inter-governmental treaty based 'International Solar Alliance' (ISA), launched and promoted by India and France.
- ✓ US Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry signed the ISA framework agreement in Glasgow at COP26 climate summit venue.
- ✓ The International Solar Alliance was launched in 2015 by PM Modi and the former President of France François Hollande.

➤ World Trade Organization (WTO)

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

> The India- Sri Lanka Parliamentary Friendship Association

- ✓ India and Sri Lanka have revived their "Parliamentary Friendship Association" for which Minister Chamal Rajapaksa has been selected as its president.
- ✓ This association was there in the past.
- ✓ It is being revived for current Parliament which was elected in August 2020.

- ✓ At the revival event, Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister G.L. Peiris noted the "close civilisational ties" between India & Sri Lanka. He observed that greatest gift of India to Sri Lanka was Buddhism.
- ✓ This association will help in "reinvigorating" Parliamentary exchanges and strengthening bilateral ties between both the countries.



CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

> CII Asia Health 2021 summit

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

✓ G-20 Summit adopts Rome Declaration

- ✓ Two-day G-20 Summit was concluded on October 31, 2021. During the summit, Rome Declaration was adopted.
- ✓ During the summit, leaders elaborated deliberations on issues of global importance like fighting covid-19 pandemic, improving health infrastructure, strengthening economic cooperation and furthering innovation.
- ✓ Main focus of the session was on energy and climate.

> 6th 'Pune Dialogue on National Security 2021

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

➤ Goa Maritime Conclave (GMC) - 2021

- ✓ The third edition of Goa Maritime Conclave (GMC) 2021 is being hosted by the Indian Navy from November 7 to 9, 2021 under the aegis of Naval War College, Goa.
- ✓ The theme for this year's edition of GMC is "Maritime Security and Emerging Non-Traditional Threats: A Case for Proactive Role for IOR Navies"

- ✓ The biennial GMC is Indian Navy's outreach initiative providing a multinational platform for maritime security leaders and the academia.
- ✓ As part of the Conclave, visitors would witness India's indigenous shipbuilding industry at the 'Make in India Exhibition'.

> cOcOn 2021

- ✓ Chief of Defence Staff, Bipin Rawat will inaugurate cOcOn 2021, the annual cyber security and hacking conference, on November 12, 2021.
- ✓ The conference is being organised this year on the theme 'Improvise, Adapt and Overcome'.
- ✓ It will feature two days of pre-conference workshops on November 10 and 11, followed by the main conference on the next two days
- ✓ The conference will be organised under the theme "Improvise, Adapt and Overcome" as a part of International Information Security Day.

> The Delhi Declaration on Afghanistan

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

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

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

➤ 51st Conference of Governors and Lieutenant Governors

✓ President Ram Nath Kovind - presided over the 51st conference of governors and lieutenant governors at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on November 10.

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

United Nations Climate Change Conference

- ✓ Egypt was selected to officially host the 27th session of the 2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference in the Red Sea resort of Sharm El-Sheikh (COP27) in November 2022.
- ✓ This was decided at the COP26 conference held in Glasgow, United Kingdom
- ✓ In September, Egypt's President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi declared his country's interest in hosting the COP27 on behalf of the African continent.

 The Paris Climate Agreement adopted at COP21 and signed by over 190 states came into effect in 2016 with the aim of reducing the rate of global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

> Southern Zonal Council

- ✓ Union Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah chaired the 29th meeting of the Southern Zonal Council in Tirupati on November 14.
- ✓ The council comprises of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Telangana, and Union Territories of Puducherry, Lakshadweep and the Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
 - During the meeting, officials discussed a broad range of issues, including boundary disputes, security, and infrastructure-related matters like road, transport, industries, water and power.

Virtual Summit between US and China

- ✓ The Presidents of the US and China will hold their first virtual summit on November 16.
- ✓ As per the Foreign Ministry of China, US President Joe Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping will have a candid and in-depth exchange of views on the strategic issues related to the future of US-China relations.

> Bengaluru Tech Summit

✓ Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated a three-day annual flagship Bengaluru Tech Summit (BTS) 2021.

- ✓ The summit has been organized by the Department of Electronics IT, Bt and S&T,
 Government of Karnataka, and was co-hosted by STPI.
- ✓ The central theme of BTS 2021 is "Driving the Next".

➤ First Global Innovation Summit of Pharmaceuticals Sector

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to inaugurate the "First Global Innovation Summit of Pharmaceuticals sector" on November 18, 2021.
- ✓ The summit will also highlight the opportunities in Indian Pharmaceuticals industry that has huge potential for growth.

> Sydney Dialogue

- ✓ The Sydney Dialogue is being held from 17-19 November as an initiative of the Australian Strategic Policy Institute.
- ✓ PM Modi spoke on the theme of India's technology evolution and revolution.
- ✓ The summit, co-hosted by the Australian government and Meta, will focus on space, the quantum computing race, etc.

➤ All India Presiding Officers Conference (AIPOC)

- ✓ Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated two-days **82nd All India Presiding Officers Conference (AIPOC)** on November 17, 2021 in **Shimla**, **Himachal Pradesh** through video conferencing.
- ✓ AIPOC is the supreme body of legislatures in India.
- ✓ The year 2021 marks the centennial year of the AIPOC (100th anniversary).

➤ Conference of Director Generals of Police (DGPs)

- ✓ DGPs' meet discusses emerging challenges.
- ✓ Violence perpetrated by Maoists, action against terror modules and cybercrime were some of the issues that figured prominently at the conference of DGPs here on Saturday attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ✓ Union Home Minister Amit Shah, DGPs of all States and Union Territories, DGs of central police organisations and 350 other senior police officers attended the three-day conference.

> The G7 Summit of Foreign and Development Ministers

- ✓ The G7 summit of Foreign and Development Ministers is scheduled to take place from December 10-12, 2021 in Liverpool, United Kingdom.
- ✓ UK Foreign Secretary Liz Truss will host the summit and welcome counterparts from countries including France, Germany, US, Canada, Italy, Japan and the EU.
- ✓ This would be the second in-person meeting of the G7 Foreign Ministers this year.
- ✓ The UK is holding the G7 presidency this year.

> 5th East Asia Summit Conference

- ✓ 5th East Asia Summit Conference on Maritime Security Cooperation to be held on November 23-24.
- ✓ The 5th East Asia Summit (EAS) Conference on Maritime Security Cooperation will be held in Kolkata from November 23 to 24, 2021.
- ✓ India will organize the event in partnership with Australia.

≻ Connect 2021

- ✓ The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) will organise its flagship event 'Connect 2021' from November 26 to 27 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Connect is an international conference and exhibition on information & communication technology (ICT).
- ✓ Theme: "Building a Sustainable Deep T'ech'N'ology Ecosystem".
- ✓ The main focus of 'Connect 2021' is to take the state's GDP to US\$ 1,000 billion by 2030.

➤ 1st International Conference on Hydrogen Energy

- ✓ The 1st International Conference on Hydrogen Energy Policies, Infrastructure Development and Challenges is being held from 24-25 November 2021.
- ✓ It is being organized by Central Board of Irrigation and Power (CBIP) with the support of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

> ASEM (Asia-Europe Meeting) Summit

- ✓ The 13th ASEM (Asia-Europe Meeting) Summit is being held virtually from 25 November 2021.
- ✓ The theme of the two-day summit is Strengthening Multilateralism for Shared Growth.

➤ 'Enhancing electoral participation of Women, Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) & Senior citizen Voters: Sharing Best Practices and New Initiatives'

✓ The Election Commission of India - organized an international webinar on the theme 'Enhancing electoral participation of Women, Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) & Senior citizen Voters: Sharing Best Practices and New Initiatives' at New Delhi on November 26, 2021.

> Ayurveda Parv-2021

- ✓ Minister of State (MoS) for Ayush, Munjpara Mahedrabhai virtually inaugurated the Ayurveda Parv-2021 on November 26 in New Delhi.
- ✓ The three-day event has been organised to promote Ayurveda.

> 9th BRICS Science & Technology Ministers' Meet

- ✓ Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addressed the 9th BRICS Science & Technology Ministers' meet at New Delhi on November 26.
- ✓ During the meeting, the Minister said that BRICS countries must come together and innovate cost-effective, affordable, accessible, sustainable and scalable scientific solutions for many similar and unique challenges.

> Tribes India Conclave

- ✓ A Tribes India Conclave was organized in association with the Ministry of External Affairs at Tribes India 'Aadi Mahotsav' in New Delhi on November 27, 2021.
- ✓ The 'diplomats day' event was attended by around 100 diplomats from more than 20 foreign missions in India besides senior officials from the Ministry of External Affairs and other ministries.

CENTR

COMMITTEES

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

GENTR



DEFENCE

> 15B stealth guided-missile destroyer, Y 12704

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

➤ New Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) 'Sarthak'

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

➤ 36th Raising Day

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

▶ Blue Flag exercise

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

Indian Air Force

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

➤ Long-Range (LR) Bomb

- ✓ The Defence Research and **Development** Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Air Force jointly flight-tested an **indigenously-developed long-range** (**LR**) bomb from an aerial platform recently.
- ✓ The LR Bomb, after release from the IAF fighter aircraft, was guided to a landbased target at a long range with accuracy within specified limits The LR Bomb has been designed and developed by Research Centre Imarat (RCI), a DRDO laboratory located at Hyderabad in coordination with other DRDO laboratories.

> Scorpene Submarine - Vela

- ✓ The fourth submarine of the Project 75, Yard 11878 was delivered to the Indian Navy on 9 November 2021.
- ✓ Project 75 includes the construction of six submarines of Scorpene design.
- ✓ These submarines are being constructed at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) Mumbai, under collaboration with M/s Naval Group, France. 'Vela' was launched on May 6, 2019, and has completed all major harbour and sea trials including weapon and sensor trials.

➤ Indo-Thai CORPAT

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

➤ SHAKTI 2021

- ✓ The 6th Edition of Indo France Joint Military Excercise- EX SHAKTI 2021 is being conducted from 15 to 26 November 2021 in Frejus, France.
- ✓ Exercise SHAKTI will focus on Counter-Terrorism operations under United Nations Mandate.

✓ The main objective of the exercise is to enhance military cooperation and interoperability between the two Armies.

> Dubai Air Show

- ✓ Indian Air Force contingent participates in Dubai Air Show.
- ✓ An aircraft contingent of the Indian Air Force (IAF), including its Sarang and Suryakiran aerobatics team, is participating in the Dubai Air Show.
- ✓ It is being held from November 14 to November 18, 2021.

 The IAF has been invited by the UAE government to perform along with some of the best aerobatics and display teams in the world, including the Russian Knights, and the UAE's Al Fursan.

➤ S-400 Triumf Surface-To-Air Missile System

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

> Institute for Defence Studies

- ✓ Institute for Defence Studies renamed after Manohar Parrikar.
- ✓ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh unveiled a plaque at the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses in New Delhi on November 15, 2021.

> SITMEX-21

✓ The 3rd edition of the Trilateral Maritime Exercise named SITMEX-21 is being held from 15 to 16 Nov 21 in the Andaman Sea. The Navies of the India, Singapore and Thailand will participate in the event.

Light Combat Helicopters (LCH)

✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has handed over the indigenously built light combat helicopters (LCH), developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, to the Indian Air Force chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari.

> Advanced Electronic Warfare System Shakti

- ✓ In the Uttar Pradesh city of Jhansi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi handed over an advanced electronic warfare system known as 'Shakti' to the Navy on 19 November 2021.
- ✓ Shakti is designed to intercept, detect, classify, identify, and jam both traditional and modern radars. Defense Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) built it for the Navy's capital warships.

> INS Visakhapatnam

- ✓ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh commissioned the indigenously developed missile destroyer INS Visakhapatnam into Indian Navy at Naval Dockyard in Mumbai on November 21, 2021.
- ✓ INS Visakhapatnam is the first stealth-guided missile destroyer ship of Project 15B. It is named after the historic city of Visakhapatnam.

Operation Sankalp

- ✓ As part of Operation Sankalp, INS Trikand is currently deployed by the Indian Navy in the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman.
- ✓ INS Trikand is a state-of-the-art guided missile stealth frigate.
- Operation Sankalp ensure safety of India's Mercantile Marine in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman.

> Dakshin Shakti

- ✓ Indian Army is conducting a major combat exercise with other forces along the western border in Gujarat and Rajasthan to test new concepts and doctrines for wars of the future.
- ✓ The theatre-level 'Dakshin Shakti' exercise includes over 30,000 troops from the Army, Navy, IAF, Coast Guard, BSF and intelligence agencies.

CORPAT

- ✓ The **37th edition** of **India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT)** is being held in the **Indian Ocean region** on November 23 and 24, 2021.
- ✓ CORPAT is held twice in a year to ensure safety and security in the region for commercial shipping, international trade and conduct of legitimate maritime activities.

> Dosti

- ✓ The India, Maldives and Sri Lanka are holding the 15th edition of the biennial trilateral coast guard exercise 'Dosti', in the Maldives.
- ✓ Year 2021 marks the 30th year of Dosti Trilateral Coast Guard Exercise.

✓ The exercise was started on November 20 and will conclude on November 25.

> Submarine INS Vela

✓ The Indian Navy on 25 November 2021 commissioned Scorpene-class submarine INS Vela at the naval dockyard in Mumbai. INS Vela is the fourth Scorpene-class submarine to be commissioned under Project 75.

> Ex SHAKTI- 2021

✓ 6th edition of biennial Indo – France joint military exercise called "Ex SHAKTI-2021" concluded on November 26, 2021 in France. Ex SHAKTI 2021 involved twelve days of intense joint military training.



ECONOMICS

Global Hackathon named HARBINGER 2021

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India has launched its first global hackathon named "HARBINGER 2021 Innovation for Transformation".
- ✓ The theme of HARBINGER 2021 is 'Smarter Digital Payments'.

> PM Modi launches two RBI schemes

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

> ONGC

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

> Illegal Digital Lending

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India has proposed new norms and asked the government to frame a new legislation to curb illegal digital lending.
- ✓ The proposals come after a panel set up by RBI found that there are 1,100 loan apps in various app stores, of which 600 are illegal.

> SIDBI- Google to support MSMEs

- ✓ Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has joined hands with Google India Pvt Ltd (GIPL) to support micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).
- ✓ The partnership will pilot a social impact lending programme, providing a financial assistance of up to Rs 1 crore at competitive interest rates to MSMEs.

Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

- ✓ Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) released an investor charter on November 17.
- ✓ The new charter outlines the rights and responsibilities of investors and dos and don'ts of investing in the securities market.
- ✓ The Investor charter was first proposed in Union Budget 2021-2022 with the aim of protecting investors from mis-selling the financial products.

➤ Micro-Credit Facility

- ✓ HDFC Bank has launched a micro-credit facility for the street vendors.
- ✓ HDFC Bank launched a micro-credit facility for the street vendors under PM Street vendor's Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi), with common service centres.
- ✓ PM SVANidhi provides a collateral-free affordable loan of Rs 10,000 along with an interest subsidy of 7 percent.

> Tejasvini and Hausala Schemes

STUD

- ✓ Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on 23 November 2021 launched Tejasvini and Hausala schemes of J&K Bank.
- ✓ Tejasvini scheme focuses on providing financial assistance of Rs. 5 lakh to girls between 18-35 years for starting their business.

APPOINTMENT

> Paralympian Mariyappan Thangavelu

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

➤ National Research Development Corporation

- ✓ Retired Commodore Amit Rastogi has been appointed as the new Chairman & Managing Director of the National Research Development Corporation
- ✓ Commodore Amit Rastogi is a distinguished alumnus of Defence Services Staff College Wellington and College of Defence Management, Secunderabad.

> Madurai Kamaraj University Vice-Chancellor Search Committee

- ✓ Former vice-chancellor of Anna University, E Balagurusamy has been appointed as convenor of Madurai Kamaraj University vice-chancellor search committee.
- ✓ Former vice-chancellor of Madurai Kamaraj University, P Maruthamuthu and former vice-chancellor of Tamil University, M Rajendran were nominated as the other members of the search committee.

✓ New Chief of Naval Staff

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

New NDRF Director-General

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

Working Group on Cooperatives

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

> 'Fire and Fury' Corps Commander

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

> Ambassador of India to Myanmar

- ✓ IFS Officer Vinay Kumar appointed as next Ambassador of India to Myanmar.
- ✓ The Ministry of External Affairs has informed that the 1992-batch IFS (Indian Foreign Services) officer Vinay Kumar, has been appointed as the next Ambassador for India to Myanmar.

> Interpol

✓ Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) special director Praveen Sinha was elected as the delegate for Asia in the executive committee of the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) following a tough contest involving China.

Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)

- ✓ On November 28, senior bureaucrat, Vivek Johri has been appointed as the chairman of Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).
- ✓ Vivek Johri has been holding the position of Member (Tax Policy) in CBIC, handling GST and tax policy.

New Chief of Naval Staff

✓ Admiral R Hari Kumar has received the Guard of Honour as the new 25th Chief of Naval Staff. He took over as the new Chief of Naval Staff on November 30, 2021.

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✓ UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay has appointed Japanese film director Naomi Kawase as UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Cultural and Creative Industries.



AWARDS

➤ Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award 2020

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

Highest Civilian Awards from Tamil Nadu

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

➤ KidsRights International Children's Peace Prize

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

> Lifetime Achievement Award

✓ Indian badminton legend Prakash Padukone has been selected for the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award for 2021 by the Badminton World Federation (BWF) Council.

✓ Padukone is the first-ever Indian to win a medal at World Championships in the 1983 Copenhagen tournament.

> 52nd International Film Festival of India

- ✓ Union minister for information & broadcasting Anurag Thakur presented the Indian Film Personality of the Year 2021 Award to MP & actress Hema Malini at the 52nd International Film Festival of India, Panaji.
- ✓ The festival was embracing new technology by including, for the first time, OTT (over the top) platforms.
- ✓ The IFFI also conferred the first 'Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement' award on filmmakers Martin Scorsese and Istvan Szabo.

Manipur State Award

- ✓ Novelist Beryl Thanga alias Laishram Biramangol Singh received the 12th Manipur State Award for Literature 2020 for his book Ei Amadi Adungeigi Ithat' (I and the then island), in November 2021.
- ✓ Manipuri language is one of the 22 scheduled languages under the Constitution of India.

➤ Vir Chakra

- ✓ IAF Group Capt Abhinandan Varthaman awarded Vir Chakra.
- ✓ Indian Air Force ace pilot Group Captain Abhinandan Varthaman was awarded the Vir Chakra in an investiture ceremony on 22 November 2021.
- ✓ Varthaman shot a Pakistan F-16 fighter aircraft during aerial combat on February 27 a day after the Balakot airstrike in 2019.
- ✓ Vir Chakra is the third highest wartime gallantry medal in India.

Indira Gandhi Peace Prize 2021

- ✓ Pratham NGO has been awarded the Indira Gandhi Peace Prize 2021 for its work on expanding the scope for education in India.
- ✓ It's pioneering work for more than a quarter-century in ensuring that every child has access to quality education. Its innovative use of digital technology to deliver education.
- ✓ It's regular evaluation of the quality of education. It's timely response in making children learn amid Covid-19 restrictions.

➤ Tata Literature Live! Lifetime Achievement Award

✓ India's one of the best-selling authors, Anita Desai has been conferred with the Tata Literature Live! Lifetime Achievement Award for 2021 to recognise her long literary career which spans over 50 years.

UNESCO-ABU Peace Media Awards

- ✓ Doordarshan and All India Radio received multiple awards at the recently held ABU UNESCO Peace Media Awards-202 in Malaysia in November 2021.
- ✓ AIR's programme 'Living on the edge The coastal lives' won an award in the category of 'Ethical and Sustainable Relationship with Nature'.

➤ Gallants of Galwan

- ✓ President Ram Nath Kovind conferred the Maha Vir Chakra to the "Gallants of Galwan" at an investiture ceremony in Rashtrapati Bhavan on November 23.
- ✓ Colonel Bikumalla Santosh Babu, the then commanding officer of 16 Bihar, was posthumously conferred with the nation's second-highest wartime gallantry medal Maha Vir Chakra.
- ✓ Vir Chakra is the country's third-highest wartime gallantry award.

> Knighthood of Parte Guelfa

- ✓ Dr S K Sohan Roy from Kerala, CEO, and founder of Aries Group of Companies has become the first Indian to be honoured with the Knighthood of Parte Guelfa for his humanitarian and Environmental protection efforts in business and movies.
- ✓ The Parte Guelfa is concerned with environmental protection and the knighthood is recognised as the protector of the World Environment.

➤ International Film Festival of India (IFFI)

Japanese director Masakazu Kaneko's 'Ring Wandering' - bagged the coveted Golden Peacock Award at the closing ceremony of the 52nd edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa on November 28.

> IPI-India Journalism Award

✓ The International Press Institute (IPI) India Award for Excellence in Journalism-2021 has been given jointly to Sreenivasan Jain and Mariyam Alavi of NDTV and Lakshmi Subramanian and Bhanu Prakash Chandra of The Week.

> NOTTO Honours K.M. Cherian

- ✓ The National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO) honoured cardiac care surgeon K.M. Cherian at the 12th Indian organ donation day observed on Sunday in New Delhi.
- ✓ Dr. Cherian was chosen for his work in cardiac care and organ transplantation.

PERSONALITIES

Earthshot Prize finalist, Vinisha Umashankar

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

CV Raman's 133rd birth anniversary

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

> Devasahayam Pillai

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

Nykaa CEO Falguni Nayar

- ✓ Falguni Nayar, the CEO and founder of beauty and fashion eCommerce platform Nykaa, has become the richest self-made woman in India.
- ✓ She founded Nykaa in the year 2012. She holds 53.5% stake in Nykaa and has a net worth of USD 7.48 billion.

> Harshwanti Bisht

✓ Uttarakhand mountaineer, Harshwanti Bisht - has become the first woman in the history of the Indian Mountaineering Foundation to become its president.

> MC Mary Kom

- ✓ Olympic medalist and Padma Vibhushan, MC Mary Kom was selected as brand ambassador of the TRIFED Aadi Mahotsay.
- ✓ Aadi Mahotsav is a celebration of the spirit of tribal culture, cuisine, craft, and commerce, which showcases their arts and crafts at the national level.



BOOKS & AUTHORS

> 2021 Booker Prize

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

Modern India

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

Operation X

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

> Finding A Straight Line Between Twists and Turns

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

> Nehru: The Debates that Defined India

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

> Sunrise over Ayodhya - Nationhood in our Times

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

> Book on Satyajit Ray

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

> The Disruptor

- ✓ A new book based on the life of Vishwanath Pratap Singh, India's eighth Prime Minister, is set to hit stands on December 08, 2021.
- ✓ The book titled "The Disruptor: How Vishwanath Pratap Singh Shook India" has been authored by Debashish Mukerji.

> Resolved: Uniting Nations in a Divided World

- ✓ A book titled 'Resolved: Uniting Nations in a Divided World' is an autobiography of the Former United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.
- ✓ It consists of life experiences and challenges that the author faced in his life & elaborates his tenure in the United Nations (UN).

> The Story of an Unprecedented Diplomatic Win

- ✓ Former India's Permanent Representative to the UN Syed Akbaruddin has released his new book titled 'India Vs UK: The Story of an Unprecedented Diplomatic Win'.
- ✓ It highlights the view of India's victory at the UN body-International Court of Justice in the 2017 elections, in a close fight with the UK.

Contested Lands

✓ A book titled "Contested Lands: India, China and the Boundary Dispute" by Maroof Raza, Former Army Officer.

The book features the history of India's boundary making with Tibet and China and analyses the current India-China boundary contestation stemming from interpretations of history in the post-colonial period



SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

National Formulary of India (NFI)

- ✓ Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare, Mansukh Mandaviya launched the Sixth Edition of National Formulary of India (NFI) recently.
- ✓ NFI has been published by Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) to promote rational use of medicines in the country.
- ✓ The NFI is aligned with National Health Programmes and National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM).

Global Methane Pledge

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

➤ World's First Earth-Science Satellite

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

➤ Shenzhou-13 mission

- ✓ Chinese **astronaut Wang Yaping** created history by becoming China's first woman to walk in space outside the Tianhe module, as part of a six-month Shenzhou-13 mission to the Tiangong space station.
- ✓ Wang Yaping, a crewmember, took part in the mission's first extravehicular activity with mission commander Zhai Zhigang.

Leonids Meteor Shower

- ✓ The annual Leonids Meteor Shower will remain active between November 6 and 30 this year, with peak activity expected on November 17.
- ✓ The Leonids appear to be originating from the constellation Leo and are best seen from a dark location in the night sky.

- ✓ The Leonids are believed to originate from a small comet called 55P/Tempel-Tuttle in the constellation Leo, which takes 33 years to complete one revolution around the sun.
- ✓ The last such storm took place in 2002.

"Tech NEEV@75"

- ✓ Ministry of Science & Technology inaugurated "Tech NEEV@75" on November 15, 2021 as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- ✓ Central Government will set up 30 Science Technology and Innovation (STI) Hubs across the country for Scheduled Tribes (STs) by end of 2022.
- ✓ These STI hubs will help in promoting scientific talent among tribal communities as well as overall socio-economic development.

➤ India launches 41st Scientific Expedition to Antarctica

- ✓ India on 15 November 2021 launched the 41st scientific expedition to Antarctica.
- ✓ The 41st expedition has two major programs.
- ✓ The first program encompasses geological exploration of the Amery ice shelf at Bharati station.
- ✓ The second program involves reconnaissance surveys and preparatory work for drilling of 500 meters of ice core near Maitri.

Direct-Ascent Anti-Satellite (DA-ASAT)

- ✓ On November 15, Russia tested a direct-ascent anti-satellite (DA-ASAT) missile test that destroyed one of its older satellites.
- ✓ These are usually launched from the ground or from the wings of an airplane and destroy satellites by running into them at high speeds.

Star-Planet Bigger than Jupiter

- ✓ Indian scientists discover star-planet bigger than Jupiter.
- ✓ The exoplanet search and study group at the Ahmedabad-based Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), has discovered a new exoplanet orbiting too close to an evolved or aging star with a mass of 1.5 times that of the Sun and located 725 light-years away.
- ✓ The planet is called TOI 1789b or HD 82139b.

Hypersonic Cruise Missile 'Zircon'

✓ Russian Navy successfully test-fired the 'Zircon' Hypersonic Cruise Missile from Frigate – Admiral Gorshkov warship, which rightly hit the test target placed in the Russian Arctic waters.

> Cryptocarya Muthuvariana

- ✓ The plant was discovered by a team of scientists from the University of Kerala and the Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanical Garden and Research Institute (TBGRI).
- ✓ Cryptocaria Muthuvariana, a new species of the plant is named after the Muthuvar tribal group, has been discovered.
- ✓ For the first time in the state's history, a plant species has been named after a local tribe.

> DART Spacecraft

- ✓ The world's first planetary defense system called the DART spacecraft was successfully launched by NASA on 24 November 2021.
- ✓ The DART (Double Asteroid Redirection Test) blasted off aboard a SpaceX rocket from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California.

➤ Ultra-Pure Hydrogen

- ✓ India's first device for production of ultra-pure Hydrogen developed.
- ✓ Scientists at IIT BHU, Varanasi have developed a first-of-its-kind device in India for the on-site production of ultra-pure Hydrogen.

> India's First 5G Trial

- ✓ Bharti Airtel successfully conducted India's first 5G trial in the 700 MHz band in partnership with Nokia in November 2021.
- ✓ It was conducted on the outskirts of Kolkata and it was also the first 5G trial in Eastern India.

Skyroot Aerospace

✓ Hyderabad-based Spacetech start-up Skyroot Aerospace - has successfully tested Dhawan-1, India's first privately developed fully cryogenic rocket engine.

SPORTS

National Sports Awards

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

> Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award

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

> Rujna Zora Chess Tournament

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

Rahul Dravid

- ✓ Former India captain Rahul Dravid has been officially appointed as the next head coach for the senior Indian men's team.
- ✓ The Indian cricket board (BCCI) made the announcement on November 3, Dravid will take over from Ravi Shastri from the home series against New Zealand, which starts on November 17.

✓ Dravid reached the peak of his coaching career in 2018, when under him, India, led by Prithvi Shaw lifted the Under-19 World Cup in New Zealand.

India's quickest and 71st Grandmaster (GM)

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

World Table Tennis Contender Event

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

➤ India's 72nd Grand Master

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

Latest Rankings of the World Chess Federation (FIDE)

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

Novak Djokovic won 37th Masters Tennis Title at Paris 2021

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

➤ ISSF President's Cup

- ✓ India finished the inaugural ISSF President's Cup with five medals, including two Gold, two Silver and one Bronze.
- ✓ The invitation-only tournament was held at the Wroclaw in Poland, featuring the top-12 shooters in each of the shotgun, pistol and rifle categories.
- ✓ India's Manu Bhaker bagged two gold medals.

India's first National Yogasana Sports Championships

- ✓ India's first Physical National Yogasana Championships has been organised in Bhubaneswar, Odisha from November 11-13, 2021.
- ✓ The event aims to promote yoga and create a global brand around it, portraying it as a competitive sport with high standards and benchmarks.

> Gran Canaria Sailing Championships

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

➤ Men's T20 World Cup

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

> Transgender Athlete Rules

- ✓ International Olympic Committee (IOC) published advice on transgender athlete rules, recently.
- ✓ This move is aimed at helping sports write eligibility rules for transgender athletes.

Asian Archery Championships

✓ World championship triple silver medallist Jyothi Surekha Vennam – won the women's compound individual gold at the Asian Archery Championships in Dhaka, Bangladesh on November 18.

In the final, the Indian defeated top seed and former world champion Oh Yoohyun by a one point win with 146-145.

> Indian National Basketball League

- ✓ Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on 20 November 2021 inaugurated the Indian National Basketball League (INBL) in Bengaluru.
- ✓ The league which has been announced by the Basketball Federation of India aims to strengthen basketball and make it reach the rural areas of the country.

➤ Beijing Winter Olympics 2022

✓ Jammu & Kashmir alpine skier Arif Khan qualifies for the Beijing Winter Olympics 2022.

Arif Khan has become the only Indian ski racer to secure a place in the Beijing Winter Olympics 2022.

> Sam Whitehead

- ✓ Spin-bowling allrounder Sam Whitehead achieved the rare feat of picking up all 10 wickets in an innings of a First-Class match.
- ✓ With the feat, Whitehead registered the best figures in 115 years in South African domestic cricket.

> Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy

✓ Tamil Nadu - defeated Karnataka to lift the Syed Mushtaq Ali trophy 2021-22 for the national T20 title on November 22.

With this, Tamil Nadu became the most successful team in the history of Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy after winning their 3rd straight title.

➤ Men's Junior World Cup

- ✓ The FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup is scheduled to commence on 24 November at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- ✓ A total of 16 teams will fight for the coveted trophy at the prestigious hockey tournament.

OBITUARY

Tarak Sinha

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

> Philosopher Koneru Ramakrishna Rao

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

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

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

Babasaheb Purandare

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

Mannu Bhandari

✓ Eminent Hindi writer Mannu Bhandari passes away at the age of 90. Eminent Hindi writer Mannu Bhandari passed away at the age of 90.

- ✓ She was known for her novels 'Aapki Banti' and 'Mahabhoj'. Her famous novel 'Yahi Sach Hai' was adapted into a Hindi movie 'Rajnigandha' in 1974.
- ✓ She is one of the pioneers of the Nayi Kahaani literary Movement.

➤ World Famous Legendary Author Wilbur Smith

- ✓ Internationally acclaimed Zambia-born South African author, Wilbur Smith has passed away. He was 88. The global bestselling author has authored 49 novels and sold over 140 million copies worldwide in more than 30 languages.
- ✓ He rose to fame in 1964 with his debut novel "When the Lion Feeds" which turned in the movie with 15 sequels. Smith published his autobiography "On Leopard Rock" in 2018.

Kovi Manisekaran

- ✓ Sahitya Akademi award winning writer, Tamil scholar and film director, Kovi Manisekaran died at the age of 96 on November 18.
- ✓ A prolific writer and a respected figure in Tamil literary and cinema circles, Manisekaran has written eight plays, several short story collections, novels, poems, and essays.
- ✓ He was awarded Sahitya Akademi award for his novel `Kutrala Kuravanji' in 1992.

> World's Oldest Woman

- ✓ The world's oldest woman, Francisca Susano passed away at the age of 124, in November 2021.
- ✓ She was the last person alive who was born in the 19th century.
- ✓ Born and brought up in the Philippines, she was affectionately known as Lola.

➤ Former South Korean President Chun Doo-hwan

- ✓ Former South Korean President Chun Doo-hwan died at 90.
- ✓ He served as the 5th president of South Korea from 1980 to 1988.

REPORT

Global Carbon Project - Findings

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

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

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

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

- ✓ World Economic Forum (WEP) published its report titled "Mission 2070:
- ✓ A Green New Deal for a Net-Zero India" to provide a roadmap for India's energy transition.
- ✓ India's transition towards a green economy could contribute about \$1 trillion in economic impact by 2030.
- ✓ It will create more than 50 million jobs.
- ✓ The economic impact would increase to \$15 trillion by 2070.

Ministry of Women and Child Development

- ✓ India has more than 33 lakh malnourished children with over half of them being in the severe category, as per the data provided by Ministry of Women and Child Development
- ✓ This figure was reported from Poshan tracker, on which numbers are directly entered by anganwadis and are accessed by the Central government.

- ✓ The Poshan tracker app developed in 2020 by the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development is used as a governance tool for real-time monitoring of nutritional outcomes.
- ✓ As on October 2021, there are 17.76 lakh severely acute malnourished children (SAM) and 15.46 lakh moderately acute malnourished (MAM) children across 34 states and union territories in the country
- ✓ To tackle high persistence of malnutrition in the country, the Centre launched the Poshan Abhiyan programme in 2018 to reduce low birth weight, stunting and undernutrition and anaemia among children, adolescent girls and women.

United Nations Children's Fund - UNICEF

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

> UN Food and Agriculture Organization

- ✓ The global food trade should hit an all-time record high in both volume and value terms, according to a new report released by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).
- ✓ By the end of 2021, the global food import bill should extend beyond \$1.75 trillion, marking a 14 per cent increase from 2020.
- ✓ Even faster growth is expected for Low Income Food Deficit Countries (LIFDCs).

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

- ✓ Number of forcibly displaced person has exceeded 84 million: UNHCR.
- ✓ The number of forcibly displaced persons has exceeded 84 million globally in 2021.
- ✓ This was stated United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, UNHCR in a report.

Convention on Climate Change

✓ The 26th session of the Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP26) – concluded on November 13 with the adoption of an agreement called the **Glasgow Climate Pact** by all 197 countries.

- ✓ The annual climate change summit called upon the countries to further strengthen their 2030 emission reduction targets or NDCs (nationally-determined contributions) by next year, rather than every five years, as previously required.
- ✓ Further, India announced a Panchamitra (a mixture of five elements) of climate actions and also promised to turn net-zero by the year 2070.

> IQAir Air Quality Index

- ✓ Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai among world's top 10 polluted cities.
- ✓ According to the data from air quality and pollution city tracking service from IQAir, a Switzerland-based climate group, Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai are among the top ten most polluted cities of the world.
- ✓ Delhi topped the list with AQI at 556, Kolkata and Mumbai recorded an AQI of 177 and 169, respectively, at 4th and 6th position. The cities with the worst AQI indices also include Lahore, in Pakistan, and Chengdu, in China.

> WHO - World Health Organization

- ✓ Number of tobacco users decreased globally since 2015: WHO.
- ✓ World Health Organization (WHO) published the 4th edition of Global report on trends in prevalence of tobacco use 2000-2025.
- ✓ The number of people using tobacco globally decreased to 1.30 billion in 2020, from 1.32 billion in 2015.
- ✓ This was stated in the fourth World Health Organization (WHO) global tobacco trends report released on 16 November 2021.

➤ IndiGo

- ✓ IndiGo has emerged as the tenth largest airline globally and the largest in Asia Pacific by seat volume, according to UK-based air consultancy firm OAG.
- ✓ The low-cost carrier has 280 aircraft currently in its fleet and operates over 1,400 daily flights.
- ✓ At the moment, it has about 1,400 daily flights of which nearly 80 are international
- ✓ On November 19, OAG released a report on "essential metrics on the world's major airlines".

Avian Flu

- ✓ Around 300 Demoiselle Cranes (Grus virgo) have been reported dead in the latest bout of avian flu in Rajasthan's Jodhpur and Udaipur.
- ✓ This was revealed in a report by the Wildlife Trust of India.
- ✓ According to the report, the virus has affected only Demoiselle cranes, locally called "kuranja".

➤ India - World's Largest Recipient of Remittances

- ✓ According to the latest report by the World Bank titled 'World Bank's Remittance Prices Worldwide Database', India became the world's largest recipient of remittances by receiving USD 87 billion in 2021.
- ✓ The United States (US) was its biggest source, accounting for over 20% of these funds.
- ✓ In India, remittances are projected to grow 3% in 2022 to USD 89.6 billion.

> Best Regional Rural Bank

- ✓ KVG Bank adjudged Best Regional Rural Bank by ASSOCHAM.
- ✓ In recognition of its initiatives in Digital Financial Services in response to 'Atmanirbhar Bharat', KVG Bank has been adjudged Best Regional Rural Bank under 'Regional Rural Banks Category' by ASSOCHAM, Mumbai.

Personal Data Protection Bill

- ✓ On November 22, the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Personal Data Protection Bill adopted its draft report on the Personal Data Protection (PDP) Bill 2019.
- ✓ The report will be tabled for discussion in the Parliament session beginning November 29, following which the government will reintroduce the bill.

> All India Survey on Domestic Workers

- ✓ Union Labour Minister, Bhupender Yadav, started India's first survey of domestic workers on November 22, 2021.
- ✓ The survey of domestic workers is latest among a group of five national jobs enumeration campaigns, launched with the aim of discerning data on vast informal workforce in India.
- ✓ India's informal workforce will feed a forthcoming national employment policy in the third-largest economy in Asia.

> Himalayan Glacier

- ✓ Indian researchers studying an unnamed glacier in the upper Kali Ganga valley, Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand, have reported that the glacier had abruptly changed its main course.
- ✓ It is for the first time that such change in course has been reported from a Himalayan glacier.

➤ NITI Aayog Poverty Index

- ✓ Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Meghalaya have emerged as the poorest states in India, as per NITI Aayog's Multidimensional Poverty Index.
- ✓ Over 50% of the population in Bihar is classified as multidimensionally poor.
- ✓ Kerala, Goa, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, and Punjab have registered the lowest poverty across India and are at the bottom of the index.

Word of the Year 2021

- ✓ 'NFT', an abbreviation of the word 'non-fungible token', was revealed as Collins Dictionary Word of the Year 2021.
- ✓ Collins Dictionary defines NFT as a unique digital certificate, registered in a blockchain, that is used to record the ownership of an asset such as an artwork or a collectible.

ASER 2021 - SURVEY REPORT

> Enrolment in Government Schools in Rural India

- ✓ Enrolment in government schools in rural India crossed 70%, even higher than pre-Covid days.
- ✓ This was revealed in the Annual Status of Education (Rural) (ASER-2021) survey report
- ✓ The survey was held across 25 states and three UTs.
- ✓ Gender-wise enrolment in government schools for girls is at 80% in 2021.
- ✓ State-wise, Uttar Pradesh (13.2%) and Kerala (11.9%) registered maximum increase in government school enrolment.

> Smartphone Ownership

- ✓ The smartphone ownership in Tamil Nadu has increased from 40% in 2018 to 66.1% in 2021.
- ✓ This was revealed in the 2021 Annual Status of Education Report (ASER).
- ✓ One in three students in rural Tamil Nadu does not have a smartphone at home, as per the report.
- ✓ The survey also found that the percentage of students enrolled in government schools increased by around 10% to 76.3% in 2021 compared to 2018.

NATIONAL FAMILY HEALTH SURVEY (NFHS)-REPORT

- ➤ India's Total Fertility Rate (TFR)
- ✓ India's total fertility rate (TFR) or the average number of children born to a woman over her lifetime has dropped below replacement level for the first time and stands at 2 now.
- ✓ The replacement level TFR, at which a population exactly replaces itself from one generation to the next, is estimated to be 2.1.
- ✓ This was revealed in the fifth edition of National Family Health Survey (NFHS) data for 2019-21.
- ✓ It was released by the International Institute of Population Sciences for the phase-2 states along with all-India data on November 24.

> National Family and Health Survey: India has more women than men

- ✓ All three radical findings are part of the summary findings of the fifth round of the National Family and Health Survey (NFHS), which were released by the Union health ministry.
- ✓ India now has 1,020 women for every 1000 men, is not getting any younger, and no longer faces the threat of a population explosion.
- ✓ According to NFHS-3, conducted in 2005-06, the ratio was equal, 1000: 1000; it went down to 991:1000 in 2015-16 in NFHS-4.
- ✓ This is the first time, in any NFHS or Census, that the sex ratio is skewed in favour of women.

RANKINGS

Governance Performance of States

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

> Edelgive Hurun India Philanthropy List

- ✓ The Edelgive Hurun India Philanthropy List 2021 was jointly released by Hurun India and EdelGive.
- ✓ Azim Premji, the founder and chairman of Wipro, topped the list with a donation of Rs 9,713 crore in fiscal 2020-21, or roughly Rs 27 crore each day.
- ✓ Shiv Nadar of HCL held second place on the list with a 59 percent increase in annual donations to Rs 1,263 crore.
- ✓ With an annual donation of Rs 577 crore, Mukesh Ambani, chairman of Reliance Industries, and his family came in third on the philanthropy list.

➤ India's Rank in Global Drug Policy Index

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

Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI)

- ✓ India retains its spot in the top 10 best performing countries for the third year in a row in the latest global Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2022.
- ✓ The performance index of 2021 was released by German watch on the sidelines of the COP26 on November 9.

- ✓ India maintained its 10th position despite pandemic-hit difficulties.
- ✓ China, the biggest current polluter, stood at 37th position (down from 33rd last year) while the second most current emitter, the US, was at 55th spot.

➤ National logistics index 2021

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

SMART Policing Index

- ✓ Andhra Pradesh and Telangana were rated with the highest 'SMART policing index' score of 8.11 and 8.1 respectively on a scale of 1-10.
- ✓ SMART is an acronym for reforms to be introduced in the police department.
- ✓ 'S" stands for strict and sensitive police, 'M' expands to modern and mobile, 'A' alert and accountable, 'R' reliable and responsive and 'T' techno-savvy and trained.

➤ IPF Smart Policing Index 2021

- ✓ Andhra Pradesh Police ranks 1st on IPF Smart Policing Index 2021.
- ✓ Andhra Pradesh secured first rank among police forces of the country in a survey conducted by the Indian Police Foundation (IPF).
- ✓ The survey, conducted in 29 states and Union Territories of the country assessed the force on competence, values, and public trust.
- Telangana ranked second while Assam was third.

> Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Index

✓ Shimla - has topped Niti Aayog's Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) index The index ranks 56 urban areas based on the progress in meeting SDG goals on 77 SDG indicators related to ending poverty, zero hunger, good health and wellbeing, quality education and gender equality, among others.

Poverty Index

- ✓ Tamil Nadu has the fourth lowest poverty index among states with 4.89%, after Kerala (0.71%), Goa (3.76%) and Sikkim (3.82%).
- ✓ This was revealed in the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) report prepared by the NITI Aayog based on the National family health survey 4 done in 2015-16.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme
1 November	Foundation Day	-
2 November	National Ayurveda Day	✓ The day was started being celebrated with the objective of nationalizing the ayurvedic system of medicine and make it global.
5 November	World Tsunami Awareness Day	✓ World Tsunami Awareness Day in 2021 promotes the "Sendai Seven Campaign." ✓ It aims to "significantly expand international cooperation to developing nations through suitable and sustainable support to complement their national measures for the implementation of the current Framework by 2030."
October 26 to November 1, 2021	Vigilance Awareness Week	✓ Theme 2021 - Independent India @ 75: Self Reliance with Integrity
7 November	National Cancer Awareness Day	-
8 November	World Urbanism Day	✓ World Urbanism Day, also known
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		as "World Town Planning Day"
9 November	Uttarakhand Foundation Day	-
9 November	National Legal Services Day	-
10 November	World Science Day for Peace and Development	✓ The year 2021 marks the 20th edition of World Science Day for Peace and Development.
11 November	National Education Day	✓ The day was announced by the Ministry of Humar Resource Development on 11 September 2008
11 November	Armistice Day (Remembrance Day)	✓ The day marks the anniversary of the signing of the Armistice that marked the end of the Firs World War in 1918
11 November	World Quality Day	✓ Its theme is "Sustainability: Improving Out Products, People, and Planet".
11 November	World Usability Day	✓ The theme for 2021 is "Design of our Online World: Trust, Ethics and Integrity."
12 November	Public Service Broadcasting Day	-
12 November	World Pneumonia Day	✓ World Pneumonia Day 2021 is an annual even that was firs celebrated in the year 2009.

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14 November	World Diabetes Day	✓ Theme 2021-2023 - "Access to Diabetes Care – If Not Now, When?"
14 November	Children's Day	-
15 November	Janjatiya Gaurav Divas	-
15 November	146th Birth Anniversary of	-
	Tribal Leader Birsa Munda	
16 November	International Day of	-
	Tolerance	
16 November	National Press Day	-
16 November	75th Anniversary of	-
	UNESCO:	
16 November	Audit Diwas	
17 November	World COPD Day 2021	✓ The 2021 theme
	(3	is Healthy Lungs -
	7	Never More
		Important.
17 N. 1	N. C. IF I D	TK
17 November	National Epilepsy Day	3 -
17 November	Lala Lajpat Rai's 93th death anniversary	-
17 November	World Prematurity Day	
18 November	3 3	✓ The National
	Naturopathy Day	Naturopathy Day is observed in India on 18 November every year, to promote positive mental and physical health through a drugless system of medicine, called as Naturopathy
18 November	World Philosophy Day	-
18 November	World Pancreatic Cancer Day	-
19 November	World Toilet Day	"Valuing toilets".
19 November	552nd Guru Nanak Jayanti	-
15-21 November	National Newborn Week	✓ The theme of National
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		New-born Week 2021 is 'Safety, quality and nurturing care – the birth right of every new-born'.
19 November	National Integration Day	-
19 November	193rd birth anniversary of Rani Lakshmi Bai	
19 November	International Men's Day	✓ The theme for 2021 is "Better relations between men and women".
20 November	World Children's Day	✓ Theme: A Better Future for Every Child.
21 November	World Fisheries Day	
21 November	World Television Day	✓ The day is a reminder of the power of visual media and how it helps in shaping public opinion and influencing world politics.
21 November	World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims	✓ Theme 2021 – "ACT for LOW SPEEDS /ACT for LOW SPEED STREETS".
22 November	World Investor Week 2021	"World Investor Week 2021". Under the event, they will conduct several educational activities.
23 November	Fibonacci Day	-
24 November	Martyrdom Day of 'Guru Tegh Bahadur'	-
25 November	International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women	This year's theme for the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women is "Orange the World: End Violence against
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		Women Now!".
26 November	National Milk Day	-
November 18 to 24	World Antibiotic	✓ The theme for this year
	Awareness Week	was "Spread
		awareness. Avoid
		resistance".
26 November	India to celebrate	-
	Constitution Day	
27 November	National Organ Donation	-
	Day	
29 November	International Day of	-
	Solidarity with Palestinian	
	People	
30 November	Day of Remembrance for all	
	Victims of Chemical	
	Warfare	

MISCELLANEOUS

- > Guinness World Record World's Highest Motorable Road
- ✓ The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has received the Guinness World Record for constructing & blacktopping the world highest motorable road passing through the 19,024 feet 0.73 inches (5798.251m) high Umlingla Pass in the Union Territory of Ladakh.
- ✓ The 52-kilometre long Chisumle to Demchok tarmac road was developed under Project HIMANK of BRO.