

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-JUNE 6, 2023

TAMIL NADU

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



- ✓ The luxury cruise ship named Cordelia Empress, operated by Cordelia Cruises, will sail for Sri Lanka's Hambantota and reach the port on June 7.
- ✓ From there, it will sail to Trincomalee and dock there for a day before sailing back to Chennai on June 9.
- ✓ The MV Empress will visit three ports in Sri Lanka before returning to Chennai - Hambantota, Trincomalee, and Kankesanturei.
- ✓ The cruise has been launched following an agreement signed between Chennai Port and Waterways Leisure Tourism Private Limited during the first Incredible India International Cruise Conference in 2022.
- ✓ It was launched from Chennai's International Cruise Terminal, which has been built at a cost of 17.21 crore
- ✓ Coinciding on the occasion of Environment Day, the Minister along with the port officials also planted 2,500 tree saplings at the port.

NATIONAL

- **The Ministry of Education - announced the ranking of educational institutes by National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) for the year 2023.**
- ✓ Dr Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs and Education, Government of India, announced the results of the eighth edition of NIRF India Ranking Results on June 5 in New Delhi and gave away the prizes.
- ✓ The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras was awarded the best educational institute under the overall category for the fifth consecutive year (2019 to 2023).
 - ✓ In the 'Research Institutions' category, IIT Madras was ranked at second position, retaining last year's position.
 - ✓ IIT Madras was also ranked at second place in 'Innovations' category (previously known as the Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements).
 - ✓ IISc Bengaluru has been ranked as the best institution for research, while IIT Kanpur has been ranked the best for innovation.

MIRANDA NO. 1 COLLEGE; JNU, JAMIA NO. 2 & NO. 3 UNIVS

Rank	Overall Category	Universities	Colleges	Medical Institutes
1	IIT, Madras	Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru	Miranda House, Delhi	AIIMS, New Delhi
2	IISc, Bengaluru	Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi	Hindu College, Delhi	PGIMER, Chandigarh
3	IIT, Delhi	Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi	Presidency College, Chennai	Christian Medical College, Vellore
4	IIT, Bombay	Jadavpur University, Kolkata	PSGR Krishnammal College for Women, Coimbatore	National Institute of Mental Health & Neuro Sciences, Bengaluru
5	IIT, Kanpur	Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi	St Xavier's College, Kolkata	Jawaharlal Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education & Research, Puducherry

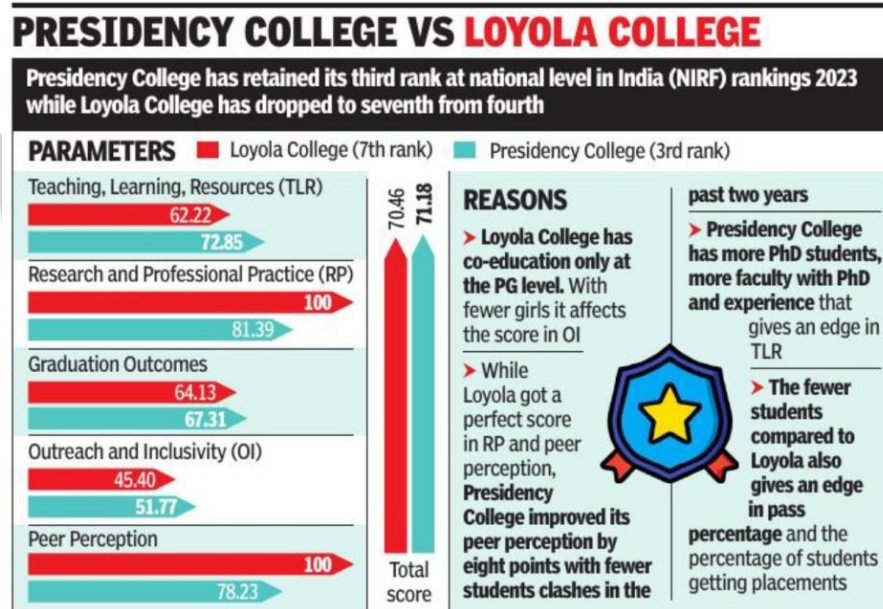
- ✓ IIT Madras has also been recognised as an 'Institution of Eminence' (IoE) in September 2019 by the Government of India.
 - ✓ As an Institute of Eminence, IIT Madras has recently launched 15 Centres of Excellence for undertaking cutting-edge research in next-generation technologies such as Construction, Healthcare and Assistive Technologies, the Marine sector, Sports, Cancer Genomics, and Energy, to mention some.
- ✓ The Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru secured the second position, while IIT-Delhi and IIT Bombay secured the third and the fourth position, respectively.
- ✓ In the overall category, there are some new entrants in the top 100, including National Institute of Technology Calicut (ranked 54), IIT-Jodhpur (66), Graphic Era University Dehradun (89), Tamil Nadu agricultural university (93), and Christ University Bengaluru (100).

PRESIDENCY NO. 1 COLLEGE FROM TAMIL NADU

Rank	Overall Category	Medical Institutes	Top 5 univs from TN (all India rank)	Top 5 colleges from TN (all India rank)
1	IIT, Madras	AIIMS, New Delhi	Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Coimbatore (7)	Presidency College, Chennai (3)
2	IISc, Bengaluru	PGIMER, Chandigarh	VIT, Vellore (8)	PSGR Krishnammal College for Women (4)
3	IIT, Delhi	Christian Medical College, Vellore	Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences, Chennai (13)	Loyola College (7)
4	IIT, Bombay	National Institute of Mental Health & Neuro Sciences, Bengaluru	Anna University (14)	Madras Christian College (16)
5	IIT, Kanpur	Jawaharlal Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education & Research, Puducherry	SRM Institute of Science and Technology (18)	Thiagarajar College, Madurai (18)

- ✓ Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Banaras Hindu University and Jamia Millia Islamia were the top autonomous institutes in the overall list, bagging the 10th, 11th and 12th spot respectively.
- ✓ Among the engineering institutions, IIT Madras retained the top spot for the eighth consecutive year (2016 to 2023), while IIT Delhi and IIT Bombay have been ranked second and third, respectively in the category.
 - ✓ In engineering category, eight IITs – Madras, Delhi, Bombay, Kanpur, Roorkee, Kharagpur, Guwahati and Hyderabad – figured among the Top 10
- ✓ Delhi University's Miranda House and Hindu College have bagged the first and second spot among colleges followed by Presidency College, Chennai and PSGR Krishnammal College for Women, Coimbatore.
 - ✓ Five of top 10 colleges are from Delhi including Miranda House , Hindu College, Atma Ram Sanatan Dharma College, Kirori Mal College, and Lady Shri Ram College for Women.
- ✓ In the medical colleges category, AIIMS (Delhi) bagged the top spot, followed by PGIMER, Chandigarh, and Christian Medical College, Vellore— same as last year.
 - ✓ AIIMS has occupied the top slot in medical for the sixth consecutive year while it moved to the 6th position in the overall category.
- ✓ Among the management colleges, Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad has been ranked at the top followed by IIM Bangalore and IIM Kozhikode.
- ✓ Among the top Universities, the IISC Bengaluru has topped the list for the eighth year in a row, followed by Jawaharlal Nehru University, JNU New Delhi, Jamia Millia Islamia, Jadavpur University and Banaras Hindu University

- ✓ Among private institutes, Manipal Academy of Higher Education (6th), Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham in Coimbatore (7th) and Vellore Institute of Technology (8) featured among the top 10 in the 'universities' category.
- ✓ In pharmacy, the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research, Hyderabad has been ranked first, while Jamia Hamdard and BITS Pilani have been ranked at the second and third spot, respectively.
- ✓ Similarly for law, the National Law School of India University, Bengaluru followed by the National Law University, Delhi and NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad have figured in the Top 3 ranking.
- ✓ **Thirty-five colleges from Tamil Nadu featured in the top 100 colleges in the NIRF list this year, three more than in the previous year.**
- ✓ Further, 22 Tamil Nadu universities, including 12 deemed to be universities, were among the top 100, one more than last year.
- ✓ Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham and Vellore Institute of Technology have got the seventh and eighth positions this year in the university category.
- ✓ Anna University moved up from 20 to 14, while in engineering, it moved up four places to 13.



- ✓ Presidency College retained third position in the rankings, but Madras University slipped 11 positions to 50th rank this year, while Bharathiar University slipped six positions to 21.
 - ✓ The rankings of Madurai Kamaraj University and Manonmaniam Sundaranar University also came down slightly compared to the previous year.
- ✓ Among the dental colleges, Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences retained its top position.
- ✓ In the colleges category, Loyola College was ranked seventh, against fourth last year.
- ✓ CMC Vellore retained its third position among medical colleges.

- ✓ The ranking framework evaluates institutions on five broad generic groups of parameters of teaching — learning and resources; research and professional practice; graduation outcomes; outreach; and inclusivity and perception.
 - ✓ The NIRF was started with four categories, but now has 12 categories, including eight subject-specific rankings.
 - ✓ The 12 categories include universities, colleges, research institutions, engineering, management, pharmacy, medical, dental, law, architecture and planning, agriculture and allied sectors, and innovation.
 - ✓ The agriculture and allied sectors made their debut on the ranking this year with Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, achieving the top slot, while the architecture discipline was renamed as 'Architecture and Planning'.
- **The central government - has formed a medical assessment and regulatory board (MARB)**
 - ✓ The board will deal with the applications for opening new medical colleges, increasing seats in existing medical colleges and even to increase the intake of students in a course or college.
 - ✓ According to a government notification, no medical college or medical institution can be established, or new medical courses be started unless it is granted permission by the MARB in writing.
 - ✓ The central notification also mandates the MARB to carry out assessment and rating of all medical institutions and shall be vested with all such authority in discharging functions under the Act.
 - **On June 5, Environment minister Bhupender Yadav - on World Environment Day - launched two new schemes, Amrit Dharohar Yojana and Mishti Yojana**



- ✓ The two schemes aim to conserve India's wetlands of international importance (Ramsar sites) and revive as well as protect the mangrove ecosystem of the country respectively.

- ✓ A compendium of LiFE (lifestyle for environment) practices around the world — Mindful Living — carrying do's and don'ts for sustainable living, was also released on the occasion.
- ✓ The compendium is jointly brought out by the UNDP and the Niti Aayog.
- ✓ The 'Amrit Dharohar' initiative was announced in this year's budget to promote unique conservation values of Ramsar sites.
- ✓ The scheme aims to conserve the wetland ecosystem and will involve local communities, based on the philosophy of conservation through people's participation and prosperity through conservation.

DEFENCE

- **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh - held a bilateral meeting with US Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin in New Delhi on June 5.**



- ✓ The meeting between the two leaders revolved around enhancing defence cooperation in several areas including convergence of strategic interests and enhanced security cooperation.
- ✓ During the meeting, a roadmap for US-India Defence Industrial Cooperation which shall guide the policy direction for the next few years was concluded
 - ✓ The roadmap will fast-track technology cooperation and co-production of existing as well as futuristic weapon systems and platforms.
 - ✓ The areas range from air combat, infantry combat vehicles and ISR (intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance) systems to long-range artillery, smart munitions and underwater domain awareness.
- ✓ The leaders also discussed the growing importance of innovation and cooperation in emerging domains such as space, cyberspace, and artificial intelligence.
- ✓ The two countries have recently launched the Advanced Domains Defense Dialogue, a new collaborative programme to look into such emerging technologies.
- ✓ Both the leaders decided to initiate negotiations on a Security of Supply Arrangement and a Reciprocal Defence Procurement Agreement, which will

promote long-term supply chain stability, besides reviewing the regulatory hurdles affecting closer industry-to-industry cooperation.

- ✓ India's plan to procure 30 MQ-9B armed drones from US defence major General Atomics was also discussed.
- ✓ Further, India is planning to manufacture General Electric F-414 turbofan engines in the 98 kilonewton thrust class in partnership with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited under technology transfer.
 - ✓ This engine may be used to power home-grown Tejas Light Combat Aircraft –Mk II for the IAF besides to be used for two other indigenous fighter jet programmes – AMCA (advanced medium combat aircraft) and TEDBF (Indian Navy's twin engine deck-based fighter aircraft).
- ✓ The US Secretary of Defence arrived in New Delhi on June 4 on a two-day visit ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Washington later this month.
- ✓ During his visit, Prime Minister Modi will also unveil a new initiative named India-US Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS-X) to advance cutting-edge technology cooperation.
 - ✓ This new initiative will be launched by the US-India Business Council on June 21
 - ✓ It is designed to complement the existing government-to-government collaboration by promoting innovative partnerships between US and Indian companies, investors, start-up accelerators, and academic research institutions.
- ✓ This is Secretary Austin's second visit to India, the previous one being in March 2021, and is a part of the four-nation tour he is undertaking.

