

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – DECEMBER 2, 2022

TAMIL NADU

- **The Tamil Nadu Police, Idol Wing - has launched its own non-fungible tokens (NFT) to award members of Idol Wing unit as rewards**
- ✓ This initiative will make Tamil Nadu Police the second police force in the world after Dubai to mint its own NFTs.
- ✓ Further, Tamil Nadu Police's Idol Wing has become the first police unit in the world to mint Soulbound Tokens (SBTs), a non-transferable form of NFT, as "Digital Medals" to motivate officers in the wing to make exceptional contributions.
- ✓ In this regard, the Tamil Nadu police department has partnered with Chennai and Singapore-based Web 3 startup "GuardianLink" to issue Soulbound Tokens (SBT) as a token of appreciation to five members of the department.



- ✓ DSP Muthuraja, DSP Mohan, special sub inspector Ramalingam, head constable Reagan and grade 1 constable Laxmikant received the SBTs in their digital wallet for their work leading to retrieval of invaluable artefacts of our heritage and culture.
- ✓ They got the SBTs from Idol wing CID director general of police K Jayanth Murali on December 1.

- ✓ The Idol Wing plans to give NFTs to the public who volunteer information on people possessing illicit antique idols or on the movement of antique idols by idol smugglers, or volunteer information on the availability of stolen idols in foreign museums.
 - ✓ This is not the first time that the idol wing has utilized the benefits of cutting-edge technology.
 - ✓ Idol Wing CID DGP, Murali had previously launched TNIdols.com, a virtual museum using virtual reality and augmented reality to showcase cultural treasures of Tamil Nadu.
 - ✓ Further, GuardianLink is also working with the department to launch a volunteer organisation called 'Friends of Culture'.
 - ✓ Under this initiative, youth will contribute to preserve heritage and work alongside idol wing CID and earn SBTs as a recognition for their efforts.
 - ✓ SBTs, a concept first proposed by Ethereum co-founder Vitalik Buterin, are non-transferable blockchain assets that cannot be bought, sold or even moved to another wallet.
 - ✓ They act as digital medals with a unique personal identity.
 - ✓ Non-fungible tokens, as the name suggests, are assets that cannot be tweaked or modified.
 - ✓ These are created on underlying blockchain networks to ensure their decentralised nature and to keep track of who holds what NFT.
 - ✓ They can be any creative asset in digital form such as drawings, music, etc. but the focus is on digital art and other collectives/rare memorabilia in the world of pop culture and entertainment.
 - ✓ For instance, the founder of Twitter made an NFT out of his first tweet ever on the platform, and sold it to a buyer for \$3 million.
 - ✓ While NFTs are transferable in nature, Soulbound tokens are a recent innovation that are permanent, non-transferable NFTs and can't be given away or taken from the holder's private blockchain wallet.
- **On December 1, Tamil Nadu Transport Minister SS Sivashankar - launched 'Mission Chennai' campaign, funded by Hyundai Motors, which aims to benefit over 30,000 drivers in and around Chennai.**



- ✓ The programme will offer free preliminary health check-up for 18,000 government and private transport drivers with curative and preventive counselling by qualified medical professionals with a sustained follow-up plan.
 - ✓ Hyundai, using its CSR funds for the programme, will also conduct awareness sessions covering 12,000 corporate employees and drivers by sensitizing them about road safety and related personal health implications.
 - ✓ In addition to this, a survey will also be conducted among the beneficiaries on their road use experience to understand the existing issues and sustainable solutions for Chennai, Kancheepuram and Thiruvallur districts.
 - ✓ The survey would highlight some pertinent issues such as blind spots, civic issues, traffic signals, short-cuts, wrong side driving, high-traffic areas like school areas and marketplaces by engaging government authorities
- **Southern Petrochemical Industries Corporation (SPIC) - has become the first company in Tamil Nadu to start the supply of the indigenously manufactured urea, 'Bharat Urea'.**



- ✓ The bags will carry information about the production cost, maximum selling price including taxes and subsidy offered by the Union government.
- ✓ This is based on the new design prescribed under the Centre's 'One Nation One Fertilizer' policy
- ✓ The company will continue to maintain the same quality to nourish crops with the valuable nutrient for growth, Nitrogen

NATIONAL

- **The government - has allowed the Enforcement Directorate to share information about economic offenders with 15 more agencies under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).**
- ✓ The finance ministry notified changes to the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, recently on November 22.
 - ✓ These 15 agencies include National Investigation Agency (NIA), Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO), State Police Department, regulators under various

Acts, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Ministry of External Affairs, and Competition Commission of India (CCI).

- ✓ National Intelligence Grid, Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), Defence Intelligence Agency, National Technical Research Organisation, Military Intelligence, inquiry authority under Central Civil Services Rules and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau are the other agencies that have been added to the list of agencies for data sharing.
- ✓ As per the notification, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) would now be able to share data with a total of 25 agencies, including the 10 specified earlier.
- ✓ Until now, only the Director (Financial Intelligence Unit, India, under the Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue), Cabinet Secretariat (Research and Analysis Wing), Ministry of Home Affairs/National Security Council Secretariat/Intelligence Bureau, Economic Offences Wing of Central Bureau of Investigation, Chief Secretaries of State governments, Reserve Bank of India, Department of Company Affairs, and Securities and Exchange Board of India were required to share information with the ED.
- ✓ The ED deals primarily with cases of money laundering and violations of foreign exchange laws

COMMITTEES

- **The Centre - has constituted a panel to review the implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) scheme.**
- ✓ The panel will be headed by Amarjeet Sinha, the former Rural Development Secretary and advisor in the PMO.

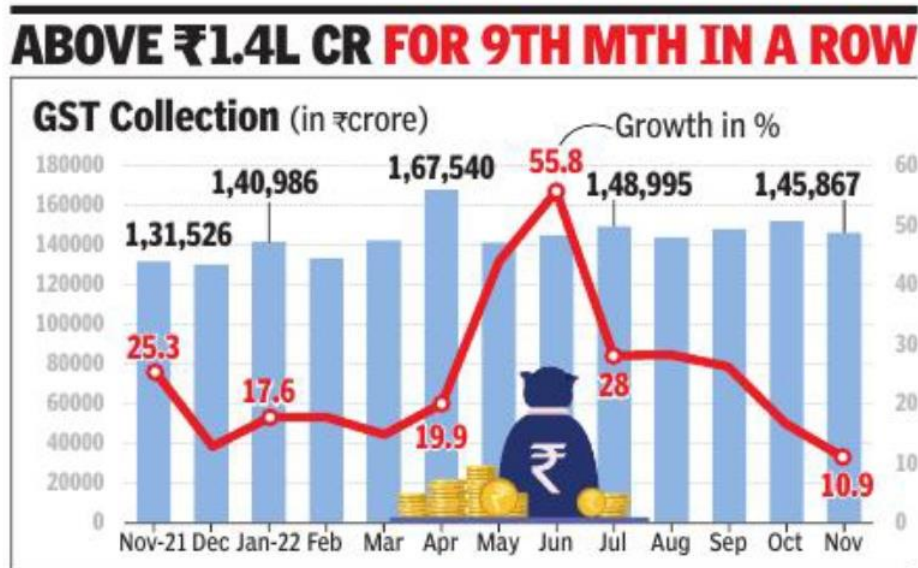


- ✓ Chief Economic Advisor Anantha Nageswaran is one of the members of this panel.
- ✓ The panel had its first meeting on November 21, 2022, and has been given three months to submit its suggestions
- ✓ It will assess the efficacy of MGNREGA scheme as a poverty alleviation tool
- ✓ The panel is tasked to study the various factors behind demand for MGNREGA work, expenditure trends and inter-State variations, and the composition of work

- ✓ The mandate of the MGNREGA is to provide at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work
- ✓ Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act was passed by the Indian Parliament on 23rd August 2005 but it came into force on February 6, 2006.
- ✓ On 2nd October 2009, an amendment was made in the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005, to change the nomenclature of the Act from NREGA to MGNREGA
- ✓ Currently 15.51 crore active workers are enrolled under the scheme

BUSINESS/ECONOMY

- The Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections for the month of November 2022 - stood at Rs.1,45,867 crore, according to the data shared by finance ministry on December 1.



- ✓ The revenue for the month of November are 11% higher than the GST revenue in the same month last year, which stood at Rs.1,31,526 crore.
- ✓ This is the ninth straight month when collections from GST has remained above Rs.1.40 lakh crore
- ✓ Out of the gross collections, Central GST was Rs 25,681 crore, while State GST was Rs 32,651 crore, Integrated GST was Rs 77,103 crore and cess was Rs 10,433 crore
- ✓ GST collections had touched a record high of nearly Rs 1.68 lakh crore in April, while the second highest collection was Rs 1.52 lakh crore in October.
- ✓ With the protected GST revenue period having ended on June 30, states are no longer compensated if their collections are not 14% or higher compared to the corresponding month of last year.

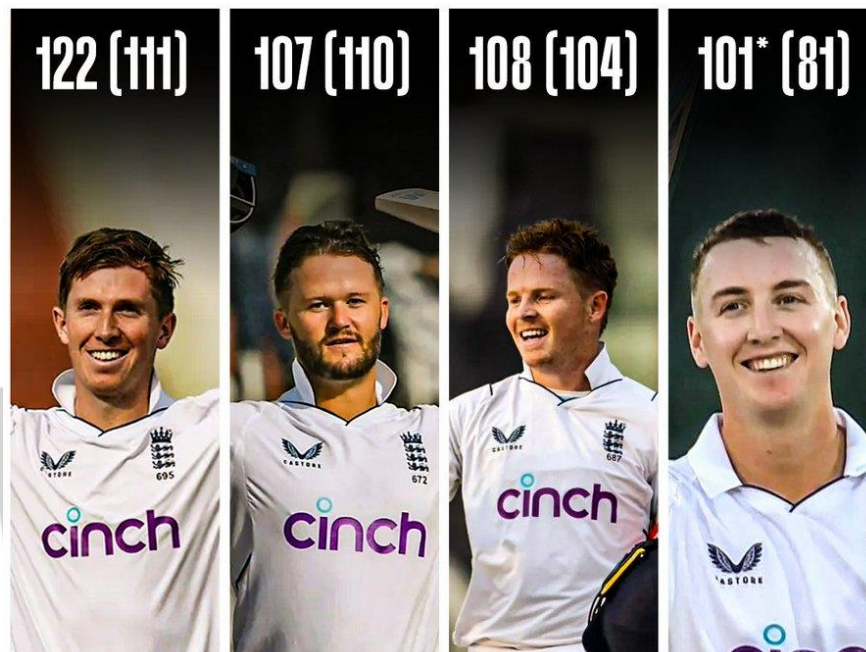
- ✓ Among the states, only Bihar (28%), Arunachal Pradesh (55%), Manipur (42%), Damn and Diu (67%), Maharashtra (67%), Puducherry (22%), Andhra Pradesh (14%), and Ladakh (273%) saw their GST revenues rise by 14% or more in November.

SPORTS

- On December 1, England - became the first team to score 500 runs on the opening day of a men's Test match

cricketmore

- FIRST TEAM TO SCORE 500 ON DAY 1
- FIRST TEAM TO HAVE 4 CENTURIONS ON DAY 1
- 2ND HIGHEST SCORE ON ANY DAY OF A TEST MATCH

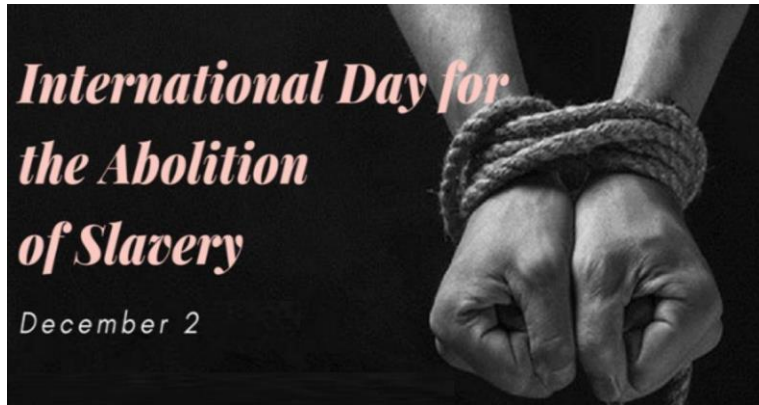


A RECORD-BREAKING DAY AT RAWALPINDI!

- ✓ They achieved the record on day one of the first test against Pakistan at Rawalpindi
- ✓ Four England batters - Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Ollie Pope and Harry Brooks - scored centuries as the visitors slammed 506, the all-time record for men's Test on day one
- ✓ The previous record for most runs on the first day was the 494/6 (in 99 overs) scored by Australia against South Africa in Sydney on December 9, 1910.
- ✓ More than 500 runs in a day is a record that has only been achieved on four other occasions – three times by England and once by Sri Lanka – but never on the opening day of a Test.
- ✓ The record is the 588 scored by England on day two of a test against India in 1936.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

➤ International Day for the abolition of Slavery – December 2



- ✓ The day is observed to remind us of the evils of enslavement, forced labour, child labour, and sexual exploitation and trafficking and to eliminate slavery practised in our time
- ✓ Slavery continues to persist today through forced labour, child labour, trafficking of women and children and illegal organ harvesting, among others.
- ✓ According to the United Nations, the number of modern slaves increased to 50 million by the end of 2021
- ✓ On December 2, 1949, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted the United Nations Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others via resolution 317 (IV).
- ✓ The International Day for the Abolition of Slavery is observed on December 2 to mark the above convention.
- ✓ Theme 2022 - 'Stories of Courage: Resistance to Slavery and Unity against Racism.'
- ✓ Africa has the highest rate of modern slavery, followed by Asia and the Pacific region.

➤ World AIDS Day – December 1



- ✓ World AIDS Day is observed every year to spread awareness about AIDS, a life-threatening condition caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and to support those who are fighting AIDS.
- ✓ World AIDS Day was first designated in August 1988 by James W. Bunn and Thomas Netter, who were public information officers for the AIDS Global Program of the World Health Organisation
- ✓ Since 1996, UNAIDS (the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS) has been in charge of organizing and publicizing the day
- ✓ Later, on November 30, 2017, President Donald Trump declared December 1 as World Aids Day.
- ✓ As per World Health Organization's (WHO) latest data, 38.4 million people were living with AIDS in 2021.
- ✓ India recorded almost 63,000 new HIV infection cases in 2021, according to National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO).
- ✓ Meanwhile, the number of AIDS-related deaths too has decreased from around 59,000 in 2019 to about 42,000 in 2021.
- ✓ According to NACO, Maharashtra has the most number of people living with AIDS, followed by Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.
- ✓ The total number of people living with AIDS in India is more than 24 lakh.
- ✓ Theme 2022 - "Equalize."

