



## **EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS\_in** **STATES**

- **Israel and the Haryana government - signed a joint declaration recently in integrated water resources management and capacity building on June 14**



- ✓ The joint declaration was signed by Ambassador Eynat Shlein, head of Mashav, Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation, Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Irrigation and Water Resources Department, Haryana government.
- ✓ Through this declaration, both sides expressed their willingness to strengthen their existing friendly relations in the water management sector
- ✓ Further, the agreement seeks to preserve water resources in public water areas in Haryana, improve public health in the region, and cooperate and coordinate efforts to protect the water resources.
- ✓ As part of this joint declaration, Mashav will share knowledge, capacity building and Israeli technologies for the development of Haryana in the water management sector.

# NATIONAL

- **BJP-led NDA - announces Draupadi Murmu as its Presidential candidate for the upcoming elections scheduled on July 18**
- ✓ The name was announced by BJP Chief J P Nadda after a BJP Parliamentary Board meeting chaired by PM Narendra Modi.
- ✓ The tribal leader Draupadi Murmu is the former governor of Jharkhand.
- ✓ If elected, Murmu will become the first tribal president of India and the second woman president in the country, after Pratibha Patil, who was backed by UPA.
- ✓ The NDA meeting regarding the presidential candidature was attended by PM Modi, Amit Shah, JP Nadda and others
- ✓ If Murmu becomes the next President, she will be the first Odia to hold the topmost constitutional post and will become the 15th President of India

## BJP VETERAN & ODISHA EX-MINISTER

➤ Droupadi Murmu, 64, who belongs to the Santhal community, was born in Odisha's Mayurbhanj district

➤ **Was a teacher** before beginning her public life as a **councillor** in Rairangpur Nagar Panchayat in 1997

➤ Appointed vice-prez of BJP's Scheduled Tribes Morcha same year; was its Mayurbhanj district president later

➤ She was a **2-time BJP MLA** (2000-09) from Odisha's Rairangpur & a junior minister in BJD-BJP govt during 2000-04

➤ In 2015, became first woman governor of Jharkhand (2015-21). Her name did the rounds as BJP's prez candidate in 2017

➤ Murmu's life has been marred by tragedy: She lost her two sons and husband. She has a daughter



- ✓ The 64-year-old Draupadi Murmu started her political career as a councilor in 1997, and later became the Vice-Chairperson of Rairangpur National Advisory Council.
- ✓ In the same year, she was appointed the vice-president of the Odisha BJP's ST morcha.
- ✓ She has also served as a government servant from 1979 to 1983 in the position of a junior assistant in the Odisha government's irrigation and power department.
- ✓ As a grassroots worker, Murmu has also taught without any salary at the Shri Aurobindo Integral Education Centre in Rairangpur.
- ✓ She was also the first woman Governor of Jharkhand.
- ✓ Murmu was also a minister in the Naveen Patnaik cabinet when the BJD ruled the state with the BJP support.
- ✓ She served as the minister of state (independent charge) for Odisha's department of transport and commerce from 2000 to 2004, and also assumed charge of the

state's animal husbandry department from 2002 to 2004, and the fisheries department in 2002.

- ✓ As a reward for her outstanding contribution, Murmu was awarded the 'Nilakantha Award for Best MLA' in 2007 by the legislative assembly
  - ✓ Draupadi Murmu's name was also making rounds for the President post in the year 2017
  - ✓ Born in the Santhal village of Uparbeda in Kusumi block of remote Mayurbhanj district in Odisha, Murmu is a seasoned tribal leader from the Santal ethnic group.
  - ✓ The Santals form the largest tribe in Jharkhand and are also present in Assam, Tripura, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and West Bengal.
  - ✓ Meanwhile, Several major opposition parties, including the Congress, the NCP and the TMC, named former Union Finance minister Yashwant Sinha as their presidential candidate
  - ✓ The election for the President of India will be held on July 18 and the counting will take place in New Delhi on July 21.
  - ✓ The tenure of current President of India Ram Nath Kovind is coming to an end on July 24.
- **The Centre - has launched the 'Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar' programme to clean-up 75 beaches in India.**



- ✓ On June 16, the government announced the coastal clean-up initiative for 75 beaches this year after a meeting chaired by the Union Minister Jitendra Singh at New Delhi
- ✓ The clean-up drive will commence from July 3 and end on September 17, 2022, designated as the 'International Coastal Cleanup Day 2022'.
- ✓ The 75 days drive will be the most extended clean-up in India's history to ensure the highest amount of volunteer participation and raise awareness among the general public
- ✓ The campaign will aim to clean around 1,500 tonnes of waste material from the Indian coasts
- ✓ The International Coastal Clean-up Day is observed every year on third Sunday of September,



# COURT VERDICT

- **On June 21, The Madras High Court - directed the Tamil Nadu government not to post police constables as orderlies to Indian Police Service (IPS) officers and instead appoint residential assistants**
- ✓ Justice SM Subramanian of the Madras High Court said it was an offence to post a police constable as an orderly to an IPS officer
- ✓ The judge also directed the government to immediately withdraw the services of constables from the residences of serving and retired officers and institute disciplinary proceedings besides registering criminal cases wherever necessary
- ✓ The observations were made on a plea moved by a retired police officer who was occupying the official residence provided to him even after several years of retirement.

# CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **The three-day international literary festival 'Unmesh' - was held at the historic Gaiety Theater in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh**



- ✓ Minister of State for Culture Arjun Ram Meghwal inaugurated the festival on June 16
- ✓ This festival was organized for the first time in the country by the Union Ministry of Culture and the Sahitya Akademi with the support of the state Department of Art and Culture as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- ✓ The festival, with the title "Unmesh - a celebration of expression", was the biggest international literary festival in the country so far.
- ✓ Over 425 writers, poets, translators, critics and distinguished personalities from 15 countries, representing over 60 languages, attended the event
- ✓ More than 1,000 books related to the freedom movement were displayed during the literary festival
- ✓ During the festival, Booker Prize-winning author Geetanjali Shree expressed her views on women's writing in Indian languages.

# SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- Researchers from IIT, Madras – have developed a robot titled ‘HomoSEP robot’ to clean septic tanks automatically without manual intervention



- ✓ The robot, aiming to eliminate manual scavenging in the next phase, will be deployed at 10 locations across Tamil Nadu and Gujarat
- ✓ At present, first two HomoSEP units have been distributed to self-help groups through the support of the NGO, Safai Karamchari Andolan (SKA).
- ✓ HomoSEP was first developed as a final year Masters' project and showcased at the IIT Madras Carbon Zerp Challenge 2019, after receiving seed support from IIT Madras' Socially Relevant Projects initiative.
- ✓ Later, the IIT Madras researchers collaborated with an IIT Madras-incubated start-up Solinas Integrity Private Limited to further develop HomoSEP.
- ✓ The path-breaking project was also supported first by several CSR donors over the years.
- ✓ GAIL (India) further supported product development and CapGemini supported efforts towards miniaturisation and portability of the robot, through their CSR initiatives.
- ✓ Over the last year, NSE Foundation and L&T Technology Services Foundation have commissioned the fabrication and distribution of 8 and 2 numbers of HomoSEP robots respectively, through CSR support
- ✓ The HomoSEP Robot can homogenise the hard sludge in septic tanks through custom-developed rotary blade mechanism and pump the tank slurry using an integrated suction mechanism.

## ECONOMY

- Twitter's board - has recommended unanimously that shareholders approve the proposed \$44-billion sale of the company to billionaire and Tesla CEO Elon Musk

- ✓ Musk reiterated his desire to proceed with the acquisition last week during a virtual meeting with Twitter employees
- ✓ Twitter's shares rose about 3% to \$39 on June 22, far short of the \$54.2 that Musk has offered for each share.
- ✓ The company's stock last reached that level on April 5 when it offered Musk a seat on the board before he had offered to buy all of Twitter.
- ✓ If the deal were to close now, investors in the company would earn a profit of \$15 for each share.

## SPORTS

- **Fazal Ali Meer, a 12-year-old boy from Chennai - won the gold medal at the under-12 South Asian ITF (International Tennis Federation) championship held in Nepal last week.**



- ✓ Fazal is the only player from South India to be selected for the national team.
- ✓ He won all the league matches and paired with Tavish Pahwa from Haryana to play in the doubles-finals against Pakistan.
- ✓ Fazal will be travelling with his team to Kazakhstan later this year to participate in the under-12 Asian championship.
- ✓ Fazal won his first national-level title at the age of 11 in the under-14 level tournament organised by Andhra Pradesh Tennis Association.
- ✓ He won several premier tournaments organized in the country in the following year, including the All India Tennis Association (AITA) Super Series 2022.

