

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – NOVEMBER 17, 2022

TAMIL NADU

- Flower Bazaar police station in north Chennai - was awarded with ISO 9001:2015 and WASH (Workplace Assessment for Safety and Hygiene) standard certificates on November 16
- ✓ The standardisation certificates were handed over in the presence of Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (HR & CE) minister, PK Sekar Babu



- ✓ The certificates were awarded after a government-authorized autonomous body, Quest Certification Private Ltd, carried out an independent assessment of the police station
- ✓ The certification was given based on several aspects such as the enforcement of laws, prevention, maintenance of law and order, detection and investigation of crimes, responding to emergencies, and providing support services to maintain peace in the area of jurisdiction
- ✓ The station, which was built in 1876, was renovated and a new building was constructed in 2006.

- ✓ It's also the only police station, painted white, as opposed to the usual red colour, which has now become synonymous with police stations across the State.
- ✓ This is the fifth police station in Tamil Nadu and 10th in the country to get both the standard certificates.
- ✓ Flower Bazaar police station has been a model police station for almost a year now
- ✓ It has an attractive landscaping on the premises, a reception area with dedicated personnel to attend to the complainants and spacious office spaces for the police workforce.
- ✓ To conserve electricity, the police station is powered by a solar power plant and there is also a dedicated CCTV room equipped with LED monitors.

STATES

- **On November 16, the Uttarakhand cabinet - gave nod to the Uttarakhand Freedom of Religion (Amendment) Act, recommending stricter provisions for unlawful, forceful and fraudulent conversions in the state.**
- ✓ The proposal recommended a jail term up to 10 years and a cash penalty ranging from Rs. 25,000 to Rs.10 lakh for the guilty.
- ✓ Besides, unlawful conversion has been made a cognisable and non-bailable offence in the state.
- ✓ In 2018, the state government had passed the Uttarakhand Freedom of Religion Act, which has now been made more powerful with the proposed amendment.
- ✓ The 2018 law had a provision for jail term ranging from one to seven years, but the cash penalty had not been defined
- ✓ In cases of mass conversion, the jail term would now range from three years to 10 years, with a penalty “not less than 25,000 or a maximum of 5 lakh to the victim.”
- ✓ The cash penalty would be doubled for a person found to be a repeat offender.

INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS

- **On November 16, UK PM Rishi Sunak and PM Narendra Modi – have agreed a new professional and cultural exchange scheme at the G20 summit in Indonesia**



- ✓ The two leaders confirmed the new UK-India Young Professionals Scheme, following the meeting.
- ✓ Under the scheme, the UK will offer 3,000 places annually to 18-30-year-old degree educated Indian nationals to go to the UK to live and work for up to two years
- ✓ The scheme, which will open in early 2023, will be reciprocal
- ✓ It is separate to and not a part of the bilateral trade deal currently being negotiated.
- ✓ India is the first “visa-national country” to benefit from such a UK scheme, highlighting the strength of the UK-India migration and mobility partnership agreed last year.
- ✓ The MoU signed in May 2021 aims not only to increase mobility between both countries, but also to return those with no right to be in both the UK and India and share best practices on organised immigration crime.

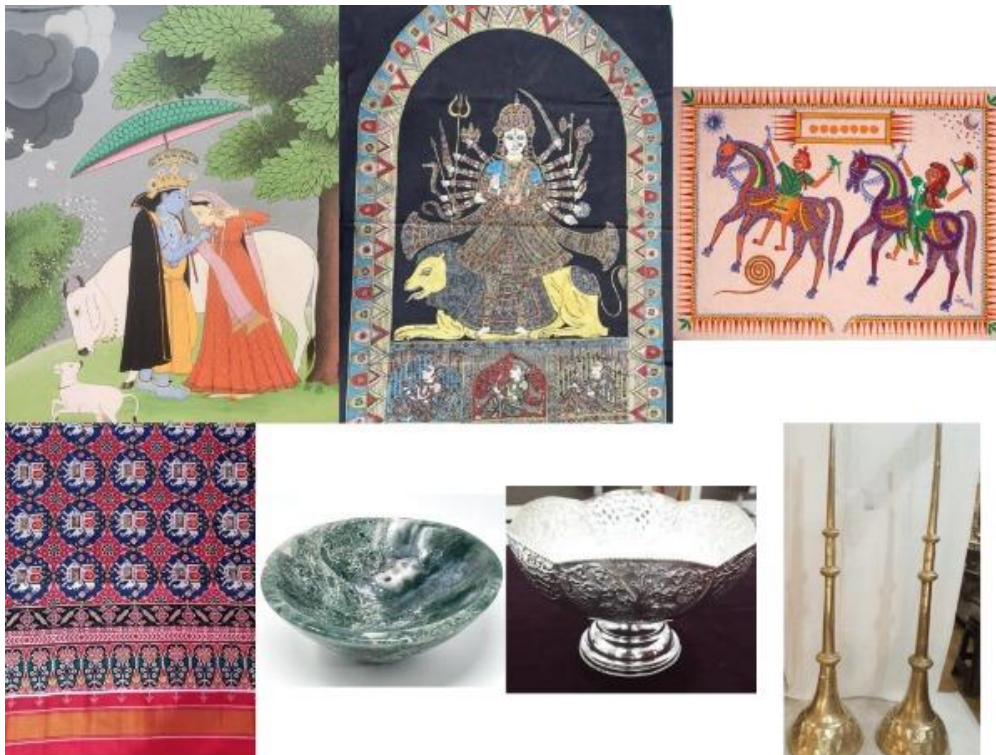
CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **On November 16, Indonesian President Joko Widodo - handed over the G20 presidency to Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the conclusion of the two-day G20 Summit in Bali.**



- ✓ The handing-over ceremony came as the member states issued a joint declaration titled ‘G20 Bali Leaders’ Declaration’
- ✓ The G-20 communique echoed Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s message to Russian President Vladimir Putin, as it said that “Today’s era must not be of war.”
 - ✓ PM Modi made the statement in a bilateral meeting on the margins of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit in Samarkand in September this year
- ✓ Prime Minister Modi has promised a presidency that will be inclusive, ambitious, decisive, action-oriented and a voice of the developing countries.
- ✓ In a session on digital transformation, the prime minister said the principle of 'data for development' will be an integral part of the overall theme of India's upcoming G-20 Presidency.

- ✓ PM Modi said over 40% of the world's real-time payment transactions took place through UPI last year
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi held talks with French President Emmanuel Macron with a focus on enhancing bilateral defence and economic engagement on the sidelines of the G-20 summit.
- ✓ Leaders of the G20 major economies made a declaration saying they "deplore in the strongest terms" Russia's aggression against Ukraine.
- ✓ Chinese President Xi Jinping, US President Joe Biden, UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and French President Emmanuel Macron among others attended the summit.
- ✓ PM Modi greeted the world leaders at the G20 Summit with gifts highlighting India's culture and arts, mostly from Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat, the two states he visited recently for election rallies.



- ✓ US President Joe Biden was presented with miniature paintings from Kangra, which are made with natural colours by master painters from Himachal Pradesh
- ✓ UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak received Mata Ni Pachedi, a sacred textile piece made by nomadic communities in Gujarat
- ✓ Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni was presented a Patan Patola scarf, a colourful dupatta woven in the northern part of Gujarat, which was encased in a decorative sadeli box, a wooden craft native to Surat
- ✓ Among other items from the Himachal Pradesh were a Kinnauri shawl, presented to the President of the host country, Joko Widodo
- ✓ Widodo was also presented with a silver bowl from Surat.

- ✓ Agate bowls, formed of chalcedonic silica, from Kutch were presented to the leaders of France, Germany and Singapore.
- ✓ PM Modi gifted a tribal art piece, Pithora, to his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese.
 - ✓ Pithora paintings, ritualistic tribal folk art by the Rathwa artisans from Chhota Udaipur in Gujarat, are based on the cave paintings that tribal people used to make, reflecting their social, cultural and mythological life and beliefs
- ✓ Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez was gifted a Kanal brass set from Himachal's Mandi and Kullu districts
- ✓ India will officially assume the G20 Presidency from December 1
- ✓ The next summit will be held in New Delhi on September 9-10, 2023
- ✓ Under its Presidency, India is expected to host over 200 G20 meetings across the country, beginning December 2022
- ✓ Ahead of his Bali visit, PM Modi had said India's G20 Presidency will be grounded in the theme 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' or 'One Earth, One Family, One Future'.
- ✓ The G20 or Group of 20 is an intergovernmental forum of the world's major developed and developing economies
- ✓ It comprises 19 countries — Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the UK, the USA and the European Union (EU).
- ✓ Together, they account for over 80% of the global GDP, 75% of international trade and two-thirds of the world population.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **Nasa - launched the Artemis-1 mission to the Moon after months of delays and several unsuccessful attempts.**

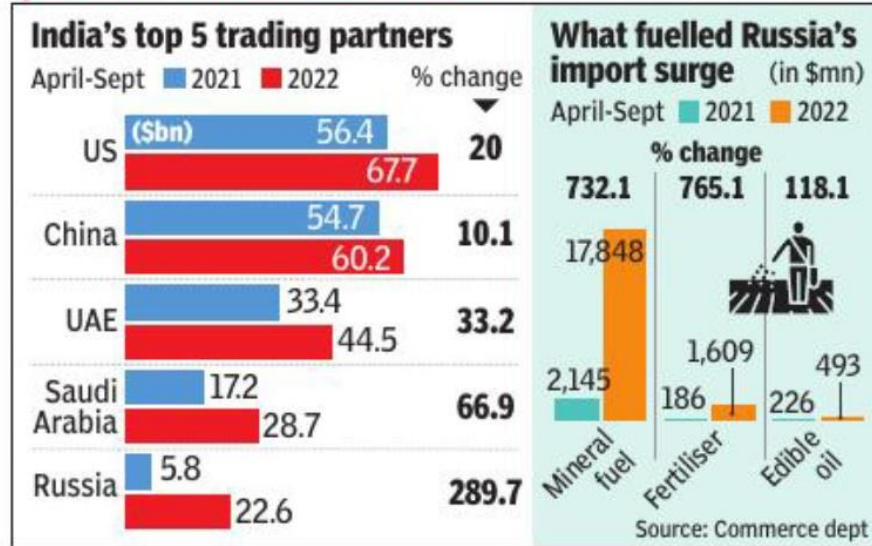


- ✓ The 32-storey-tall Space Launch System (SLS) rocket lifted off with the Orion crew capsule from Nasa's Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral
- ✓ About 90 minutes after launch, the rocket's upper stage successfully thrust the Orion capsule out of Earth orbit and on its trajectory to the moon
- ✓ The Orion spacecraft will fly farther than any spacecraft built for humans has ever flown
- ✓ It will travel 4.5 lakh kilometers from Earth, thousands of kilometers beyond the Moon over the course of about a four to six-week mission.
- ✓ It is an uncrewed flight test that will provide a foundation for future human deep space exploration systems
- ✓ The mission will carry a dedicated set of CubeSats onboard, each of which has various instruments designed for science investigations and experiments
 - ✓ Among the payload is the first biology experiment - Bio Experiment 1-headed into lunar orbit.
 - ✓ It will study the effects of space radiation before humans jump onboard and are sent to the Moon and, then on to Mars.
- ✓ The Artemis I mission involves a 25-day Orion flight bringing the capsule to within 97km of the lunar surface before flying 64,400km beyond the moon and returning back to Earth on December 11
- ✓ Unlike Artemis I, Artemis II will have a crew aboard Orion and will be a test mission to confirm that all of the spacecraft's systems will operate as designed when it has humans on board during its proposed launch in 2024
 - ✓ The crew of this mission will travel 4,600 miles beyond the far side of the Moon
- ✓ This mission will be followed by Artemis 3, which will send the first woman and the first person of color to the Moon's surface at the south pole by 2025
- ✓ Named for the ancient Greek goddess of the hunt — and Apollo's twin sister — Artemis-1 was formerly known as Exploration Mission-1.
- ✓ The Artemis 1 mission was earlier scheduled to launch on November 14 but it had to be postponed because of tropical storm Nicole.
- ✓ The space agency's previous attempts to launch the Artemis 1 mission had to be cancelled due to various issues with the new rocket and spacecraft.
- ✓ The last crewed mission to the Moon was the Apollo 17 mission, between 7 and 19 December in 1972.

BUSINESS/ECONOMY

- **Russia - has emerged as India's fifth largest trading partner during April-September period this year.**

\$20BN TRADE DEFICIT WITH RUSSIA



- ✓ Driven largely by a surge in oil imports, Russia jumped to the 5th place from the 25th place at the end of the last financial year.
- ✓ Among India's top five trading partners, China and Russia are the only countries where exports have dropped during the first half of the year, when overall exports had grown by 17%.
- ✓ The US and China have retained the top two places in terms of trading with India.
- ✓ The government has let oil companies buy more crude from Russia, which emerged as the biggest source for Indian crude in October

SPORTS

- India's table tennis star Achanta Sharath Kamal - has become the first player from the country to get elected in the athletes' commission of the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF).



- ✓ Eight athletes (four male and four female) were elected from Asia, Africa, the Americas, Europe, and Oceania and will serve in the Athletes' Commission for four years from 2022 to 2026.
 - ✓ The veteran table tennis player from Tamil Nadu got 187 votes, the second-highest number, behind Elizabeta Samara of Romania, who received 212 votes, polled from their continents -Asia and Europe -respectively.
 - ✓ Liu Shiwen, elected from the female quota, is the other Asian on the Commission, but the Chinese managed only 153 votes.
 - ✓ Besides the eight athletes, two para-athletes will also serve the four-year term.
 - ✓ A multiple Commonwealth Games medallist, Sharath has been appointed as the vice-chairman of the Athletes' Commission of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA).
 - ✓ Sharath is one of the ten eminent athletes elected a couple of days ago to the national Olympic body that goes to the polls next month.
- **India's shooters - swept all four gold medals on offer in the Asian Airgun Championship in Korea on November 16.**



- ✓ In the 10m air pistol women title clash, Rhythm Sangwan beat Palak, while in the 10m air pistol women junior event, Manu Bhaker defeated Esha Singh.
- ✓ Shiva Narwal, Naveen and Vijayveer Sidhu won the 10m air pistol team men final and Sagar Dangri, Samrat Rana and Varun Tomar won the 10m air pistol team men junior event.

