

**EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – NOVEMBER 28, 2022**

**TAMIL NADU**

- Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation (TTDC) - has identified Yelagiri, which is located around 229 km from Chennai, as the next potential adventure tourism site in the state

**MOUNTAIN CALLING**



**Tourism development plans**

- Cost | ₹2.5 crore
- Area | 5 acres
- Eco-tourism resort with glamping/ordinary tents
- Adventure tourism | Ziplining, rock climbing and rope walking etc

**Yelagiri | Fact file**

- Distance from Chennai | 220 km (4 to 5 hours drive)
- Short Ghat road | 14 hairpin bends
- Currently attracts limited tourists due to limited infra and few resorts

- ✓ To cater to the growing demands of the tourism industry, Tamil Nadu has already developed Kolli Hills as an adventure tourist spot
- ✓ Now, the state is planning to promote Yelagiri as the next adventure tourism site for the people residing in Chennai to visit during weekends
- ✓ A tender has also been floated to transform Yelagiri into a major tourist destination at a budget of Rs.2. 5 crore within the next six months.
- ✓ In order to develop Yelagiri into an adventure destination, an array of outdoor activities such as rope walking, ziplining, rock climbing, boating etc. are being planned as well.

- ✓ Yelagiri, which is also known as 'Poor man's Ooty', is just four to five hours by road from Chennai, thereby attracting tourists during monsoons and winter
- **The Chennai Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority (Cumta) – has decided to partner with 'Transport For London' (TFL) for getting guidance on comprehensive mobility plan (CMP)**
- ✓ An integrated transport authority, TFL will offer technical guidance in creation of the CMP and introduction of the common ticketing facility.
- ✓ This would help Cumta to seamlessly integrate all transport modes, promote public and non-motorised transport and improve the pace at which the CMP is designed.
- ✓ TFL manages all forms of transport in London —buses, the underground, trains, trams and the roads.
- ✓ It strives to achieve the target of making 80% of all journeys in London on foot, cycle or using public transport by 2041.

## STATES

- **On November 27, Bihar CM Nitish Kumar - inaugurated the first phase of the country's first-of-its-kind water supply project 'Ganga Jal Aapurti Yojana' at Rajgir town.**

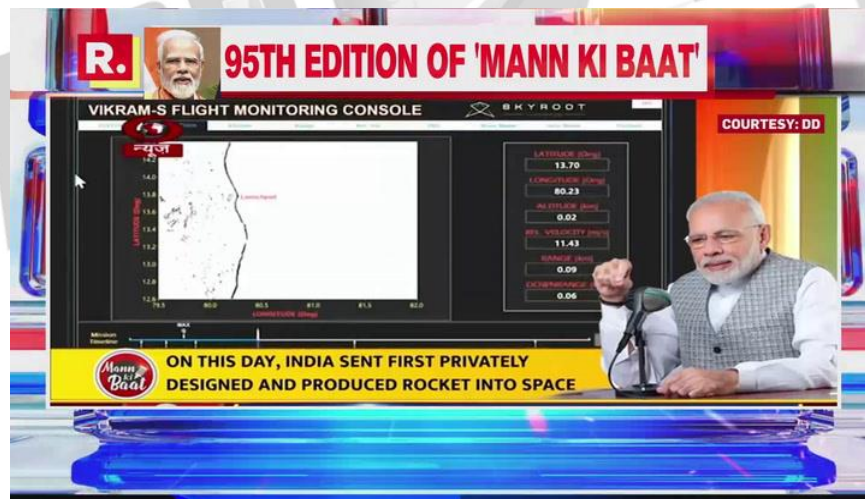


- ✓ The first phase of the scheme will ensure uninterrupted drinking water supply to Rajgir, Bodh Gaya and Gaya towns, which have long relied on tankers from nearby districts for drinking water source during the dry season.
- ✓ The popular tourist destinations of Rajgir, Gaya, and Bodh Gaya are known collectively as the 'Buddhist circuits'
- ✓ The project, initiated under the Jal Jeevan Hariyali mission, is the "dream project" of the Chief Minister.
- ✓ It is also Bihar's first, and largest drinking water programme

- ✓ The project will store, treat, and supply the floodwaters of River Ganga received by the state during the monsoon months.
- ✓ The initiative has two objectives - first, it conserves floodwater, preventing wastage, and second, it transforms this into safe, drinkable water.
- ✓ According to the CM, the project developed at a cost of Rs. 4,000 crore was necessitated because of groundwater depletion in the affected areas.
- ✓ As per the scheme, floodwater from the Ganga will be drawn from Hathidah in Patna district and transported in a special pipeline to the dry districts
- ✓ There, the floodwater will be stored in huge reservoirs, treated in state-of-the-art water treatment plant and supplied as potable water to households and institutions in these cities.
- ✓ According to the CM, around 135 litres of Ganga water per person per day would be supplied to each household in Rajgir town.
- ✓ Megha Engineering & Infrastructures Limited (MEIL) has executed the entire first phase of the project

## NATIONAL

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi – addressed the 95th edition of his monthly radio programme 'Mann Ki Baat' on November 27**



- ✓ During his address, PM Modi stressed that taking over the ‘powerful’ G20 presidency is a "huge opportunity" for India to showcase the country’s soft power and diverse culture to the world
  - ✓ He also highlighted India’s capability to provide solutions to the various challenges being faced by the world, especially those related to peace, unity, environment and sustainable development.
  - ✓ The PM added that the theme India has given - “One Earth, One Family, One Future” - shows the country's commitment to Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam.
  - ✓ India would be taking over the presidency of G20, which comprises two-thirds of the world’s population and 85% of its GDP, on December 1.

- ✓ India will host several programmes related to G20 in different parts of the country in the next one year.
- ✓ Then, PM Modi spoke of the launch of Vikram-S rocket on November 18, marking the first such launch by the Indian private sector
  - ✓ Hailing the launch of a Bhutan satellite by India, the PM said the “satellite is a testament to our special relationship with the people of Bhutan”
  - ✓ He also commended the department of information technology, Telecom Bhutan and Isro on the successful liftoff of the satellite
- ✓ The PM added that drones were being used in Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh to transport apples to remote areas
- ✓ PM Modi also talked about Manav mandir in Himachal Pradesh, run by the Indian Association of Muscular Dystrophy, which has been creating awareness about Muscular Dystrophy and treating the disease.
  - ✓ Along with Physiotherapy, Electrotherapy, and Hydrotherapy, diseases are also treated in Manav mandir with the help of Yoga and Pranayama.
- ✓ The Prime Minister later spoke about a Greek singer Konstantinos Kalaitzis who had sung Gandhiji’s favourite bhajan, Vaishnava Jan To, during the 150th birth anniversary celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi.
- ✓ Prime Minister Modi also mentioned about a unique gift ‘G20 logo woven with hands’ received by him from a weaver - Yeldhi Hariprasad Garu- based at Rajanna Sircilla district of Telangana.
- ✓ He remembered the great sage poet Bhartrihari who wrote 'Niti Shatak'.
- ✓ Later, the PM played an audio clip of bhajan kirtan performed in Guyana and added that in Phagwa or Holi of Guyana, there is a special tradition of singing wedding songs called ‘Chautal’ associated with Bhagwan Rama and Bhagwan Krishna.
- ✓ Prime Minister also praised an effort made in Nagaland to preserve traditions and traditional knowledge.
  - ✓ In this regard, he mentioned about an organization - 'Lidi-Cro-U' - which has undertaken the work of reviving beautiful facets of Naga culture, like its music, which were on the verge of being lost
- ✓ The PM mentioned that India is now exporting musical instruments to the US, Germany, France, Japan, UK among other countries.
- ✓ Speaking about the importance of education, Prime Minister mentioned Jatin Lalit Singh from a village in UP's Hardoi, who had started a 'Community Library and Resource Centre' two years ago.
- ✓ Prime Minister also mentioned Sanjay Kashyap of Jharkhand who has become the 'Library Man' for children in many districts of Jharkhand.
- ✓ PM Modi’s ‘Mann Ki Baat’ will be held on the last Sunday of every month, through which the Prime Minister will interact with the nation.
- ✓ The show is aired on All India Radio and Doordarshan’s entire network, as well as on the AIR News website and newsonair mobile app.



- ✓ It will also be broadcast live on the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, AIR News', DD News', PMO's, and YouTube channels
- ✓ The first show of the programme was aired on October 3, 2014.
- **Egypt's President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi - will be the chief guest at the Republic Day celebrations on January 26, 2023.**



- ✓ This was announced by the ministry of external affairs on November 27.
- ✓ This is the first time that the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt will be the Chief Guest at the Republic Day celebrations
- ✓ Earlier, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had sent a formal invitation to al-Sisi which was handed over to the Egyptian president by external affairs minister S Jaishankar on October 16.
- ✓ Both countries are celebrating the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations this year.
- ✓ Egypt is one of the nine 'guest' countries invited by India to the G20 summit under India's presidency in 2023
- ✓ India has not invited any foreign dignitary as the chief guest for the Republic Day celebrations in 2021 and 2022 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
  - ✓ In 2021, the then British Prime Minister Boris Johnson was invited as the chief guest but his visit had to be cancelled due to the rising Covid-19 cases in Britain.
  - ✓ In 2022, India had invited leaders of the five Central Asian Republics, who were to visit Delhi for the India-Central Asia Summit, as chief guests for the Republic Day celebrations.
    - ✓ However, the visit was cancelled due to rising Covid-19 cases in India and the India-Central Asia Summit was held in the virtual format.
- ✓ Before Covid-19 pandemic, former Brazilian president Jair Bolsonaro was the chief guest and participated in the 2020 Republic Day celebrations.
- ✓ In 2018, the entire Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) leadership comprising 10 heads of state were present at the Republic Day parade.
- ✓ Leaders of friendly nations have graced the Republic Day celebrations since 1950, when Indonesian President Sukarno was invited as the chief guest

- ✓ In 1952, 1953 and 1966, the Republic Day celebrations were held without a foreign leader as chief guest
- ✓ Former US President Barack Obama (2015), Russian President Vladimir Putin (2007), former French presidents Nicholas Sarkozy (2008) and Francois Hollande (2016) have also been chief guests at the earlier Republic Day celebrations.

## SPORTS

- **Legendary sprinter PT Usha - is set to become the first woman president of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) in the sports body's 95-year-long history.**



- ✓ Usha will also be the first Olympian and an international medallist to head the national Olympic committee, which goes to polls on December 10.
- ✓ The 58-year-old multiple Asian Games gold medallist emerged as the lone candidate to file the nomination for IOA president's post.
- ✓ Usha, who will be elected unopposed, is also one of the eight 'Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit' (SOMs) selected by the M C Mary Kom-led Athletes Commission of IOA.
- ✓ Usha was nominated by the BJP to the Rajya Sabha in July this year.
- ✓ Fondly known as the 'Payyoli Express', Usha will be the first sportsperson to have played for the country at the highest level to become the IOA chief since Maharaja Yadavindra Singh, who featured in a cricket Test match in 1934.
- ✓ Usha retired in 2000 after dominating the Indian and Asian athletics for close to two decades.

