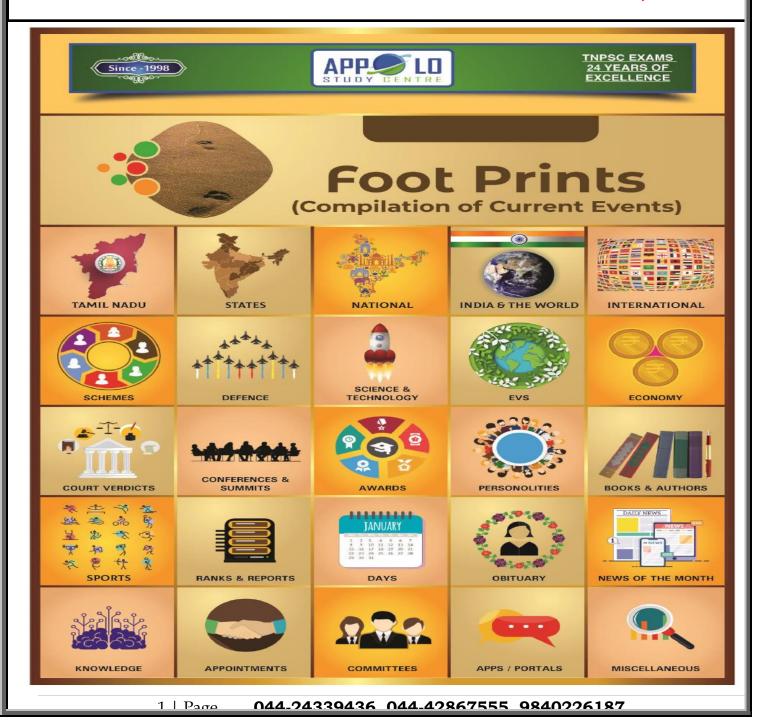


EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-OCTOBER 1-15,2022



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TAMIL NADU

Model Schools

- ✓ The Greater Chennai Corporation has planned to set up model schools to equip students to face competitive entrance exams of premier educational institutions in the country such as IITs.
- ✓ The idea of model schools is said to be the brainchild of principal secretary to chief minister T Udhayachandran.
- ✓ To begin with, the corporation school in Nungambakkam will be upgraded as a model with necessary facilities and labs to train students in biology, physics, chemistry and maths.

> PE-VC Companies

- ✓ PE-VC companies invest \$156 mn in T.N. firms in 3rd quarter.
- ✓ Private equity and venture capital companies invested \$156 million across 10 deals in Tamil Nadu-based companies during the third quarter of 2022.

➤ Konthagai Excavation Site

✓ An iron sword measuring 40 cm in length, the longest sword found so far, was unearthed at Konthagai, which is a part of the Keeladi cluster near Madurai, on Thursday.

Jal Jeevan Mission - TN

- ✓ Tamil Nadu has emerged topper in the country in its performance under Union government's Jal Jeevan Mission.
- ✓ The Jal Jeevan mission aims to provide safe and adequate drinking water to all rural households.
- ✓ On October 2, state municipal administration minister K N Nehru and the department secretary Shiv Das Meena received the first prize in the functionality assessment for 2021-22 from President Droupadi Murmu at a function in Delhi.
- ✓ The state bagged the award in the category of states that have provided individual drinking water pipelines to less than 60 % of the households.

➤ National Cooperative Consumers' Federation (NCCF)

- ✓ A new player in paddy procurement in non-delta region is gaining farmers' attention.
- ✓ The presence of relatively a new player in paddy procurement in Tamil Nadu is gaining the attention of farmers.

✓ For the 2022-23 procurement year (the Kharif marketing season), which began this year in September, the National Cooperative Consumers' Federation (NCCF), a body under the jurisdiction of the Department of Consumer Affairs at the Centre, has procured about 10.3% of paddy.

India's First 4.20-MW Wind Turbine Generator

- ✓ India's first 4.20-MW wind turbine generator ready for commissioning.
- ✓ The single unit with the largest wind power generation capacity has been installed at Vadalivilai near Valliyoor in Tirunelveli district by Brazil-based WEG at a cost of 88 crore.
- ✓ The country's first 4.20-MW wind turbine generator, a single unit with the largest wind power generation capacity, has been installed at Vadalivilai near Valliyoor in Tirunelyeli district.

➤ Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Online Gambling and Regulation of Online Games Ordinance, 2022

- ✓ Tamil Nadu government has promulgated an ordinance banning online gambling and playing of online games of chance, rummy and poker with money or other stakes.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu governor R N Ravi gave assent to the ordinance on October 1, the day when the government forwarded the draft approved by the cabinet last month.
- ✓ Following his nod, the Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Online Gambling and Regulation of Online Games Ordinance, 2022 came into effect.

> Daksha Unmanned Systems Private Limited

- ✓ The Director-General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has approved the country's first petrol-operated drones designed and manufactured by the students' start-up unit 'Daksha Unmanned Systems Private Limited'.
- ✓ Daksha is developed by the MIT aerospace department initiated by the aerospace research students.
 - Daksha is setting up an exclusive manufacturing unit of these drones at Ambattur.

➤ Parambikulam-Aliyar Project (PAP)

- ✓ Celebrations on Oct. 7 every year to mark launch of water project.
- ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin has announced that October 7, which marks the launch of the Parambikulam-Aliyar Project (PAP), will be celebrated every year to help

create awareness on water resources, water management and the need for creating the necessary infrastructure.

Liquefied Compressed Natural Gas (LCNG)

- ✓ CM launches first-of-its-kind liquefied compressed natural gas station in State.
- ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Monday inaugurated AG&P Pratham's liquefied compressed natural gas (LCNG) station near Manthangal village at Walajah Taluk in Ranipet district.

➤ Mobility Park

- ✓ SIPCOT signs MoU with British High Commission on mobility park.
- ✓ A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu Ltd. (SIPCOT) and the British Deputy High Commission in Chennai on Monday to provide technical assistance on developing a master plan for a Future Mobility Park at Shoolagiri in Krishnagiri district.

Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)

- ✓ The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Mandapam has released 1.2 million green tiger shrimp seeds into the sea at Maraikayarpattinam in the Gulf of Mannar on October 11.
- ✓ This is done as part of the sea ranching programme under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).
- ✓ A total of 19.44 million green tiger shrimp seeds were sea ranched in Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar since the inception of the project in February this year.

Organ Donations

- ✓ Organ donations in State surpass 2021 figures within 10 months this year.
- ✓ Within 10 months, the number of organ donations has exceeded the previous year's figures in Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ From 60 deceased donors in 2021, the State has registered 115 donors so far this year, with August having the highest number of donations 21 in the last four years.

Slender Loris

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government has notified the first Indian sanctuary for the endangered Slender Loris in Karur and Dindigul districts.
- ✓ The announcement came after the approval of Chief Minister MK Stalin on October 12.

✓ A total of 11,806 hectares in the forest areas of the Karur and Dindigul districts will be merged to form the 'Kadavur Slender Loris Sanctuary'.

Greenfield Universities

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government has approved the setting up of six Greenfield Universities in the state, which can offer any course and fix their own fees.
- ✓ This was announced by the higher education minister K Ponmudy on October 12.
- ✓ The greenfield university is a private university established under the Tamil Nadu Private Universities Act, 2019.
- ✓ A trust with 100 acres of land and Rs.50 crore deposit can apply to the government for establishing a Greenfield University.

> Oonjal, Thensittu, and Kanavu Aasiriyar Magazines

STUDY

- ✓ CM releases magazines for government school students and teachers.
- ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Wednesday released 'Oonjal', 'Thensittu' and 'Kanavu Aasiriyar' magazines from the School Education Department for encouraging the habit of reading and writing in Tamil and English among school students and teachers.
- ✓ 'Oonjal' and 'Thensittu', both bimonthly magazines, are for students in Class IV and V and those in Classes VI-IX respectively, while 'Kanavu Aasiriyar' monthly magazine is for teachers.

STATE

> Right to Freedom of Religion Bill

- ✓ On September 30, the Karnataka government enacted the Karnataka Protection of Right to Freedom of Religion Bill, 2021.
- ✓ The government had tabled the bill in the legislative assembly in the winter session in Belagavi last year.
- ✓ But the controversial bill was passed in the legislative council only last month during the monsoon session, since the BJP did not have a majority in the Upper House.

> Ranipur Wildlife Sanctuary (RWS)

- ✓ The Uttar Pradesh (UP) cabinet approved the notification of the state's fourth tiger reserve in the Ranipur Wildlife Sanctuary (RWS) in Chitrakoot district under the Wild life (Protection) Act of 1972.
- ✓ The Ranipur Tiger Reserve will be the fourth in UP, after Dudhwa, Pilibhit and Amangarh (buffer of Corbett Tiger Reserve).
- ✓ It will also be the first in the state's portion of the Bundelkhand region, which it shares with neighbouring Madhya Pradesh.

> Encyclopedia of Tribes in Odisha

- ✓ Odisha became the first state in the country to release an encyclopaedia on tribal communities and document their historic and unique traditions.
- ✓ The 'Encyclopedia of Tribes in Odisha' was released by Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik.
- ✓ The five volumes of encyclopaedia were published by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Research and Training Institute (SCSTRTI) and Odisha State Tribal Museum.

Swachh Survekshan Gramin, 2022 Award

- ✓ Telangana scoops Swachh Survekshan Gramin, 2022 award.
- ✓ Telangana was ranked first for the cleanliness of its villages in the Swachh Survekshan Gramin (SSG), 2022, which looked into the sanitation status of rural areas.
- ✓ After Telangana, Haryana was placed second followed by Tamil Nadu in the Large States category.

➤ World Green City Award 2022′

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- ✓ Telangana's Hyderabad city won the overall 'World Green City Award 2022' at the International Association of Horticulture Producers (AIPH) World Green City Awards 2022 held in Jeju, South Korea on 14th Oct 2022.
- ✓ It also won the 'Living Green for Economic Recovery and Inclusive Growth' award.
- ✓ Hyderabad beat cities like Paris, Mexico City, Montreal & Fortaleza to be adjudged the winner.



NATIONAL

> 5G Services

- ✓ On October 1, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 5G services in the country at the 6th edition of annual India Mobile Congress (IMC) at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.
- ✓ The 5G high-speed network boasts of minimum speeds of at least 100 mbps.
- ✓ India now joins a select set of countries the US, Korea, UK, Japan, China, and nations across Europe that offer 5G telephony.
- ✓ While Airtel has launched the service in eight cities, Jio will begin from Diwali
 and Vodafone Idea is also planning to launch soon.

Make in India

- ✓ The Government's flagship programme 'Make in India' completed eight-years on September 25, 2022.
- ✓ The initiative seeks to promote investment, encourage innovation, improve skill development, and create the best manufacturing infrastructure possible to encourage businesses to manufacture in India.
- ✓ The country has made significant progress in the scheme in 27 sectors, including strategic manufacturing and service sectors.

Sign Learn

- ✓ The Centre has recently launched an Indian Sign Language (ISL) dictionary mobile application called 'Sign Learn'.
- ✓ Pratima Bhoumik, minister of state for social justice and empowerment, launched the app on the eve of International Day of Sign Languages on September 23.
- ✓ The new App is based on the Indian sign language dictionary of the Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC) which contains 10,000 words.

> Kisan Sampark Yatra

- ✓ The Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) organised the 'Kisan Sampark Yatra' recently from September 27 to 29 in the rice growing region of Haryana and Punjab.
- ✓ The main objective of the Yatra is to get feedback on the 3 new varieties of IARI Basmati varieties Pusa Basmati 1847, Pusa Basmati 1885 and Pusa Basmati 1886.

'herSTART' Initiative

✓ On October 4, President Droupadi Murmu - launched 'herSTART' initiative, aimed at supporting women-led startups in Gujarat.

- ✓ The 'herSTART' platform will boost innovation and start-up efforts of women entrepreneurs and also help them connect with various government and private enterprises.
- ✓ The initiative will include a digital platform to provide resources and training modules free of cost to aspiring women entrepreneurs, a digital community for them, and a digital publication to spread their success stories.

"IInvenTiv"

- ✓ For the first time, all the 23 Indian Institutes of Technology in the country will come together for a mega Research and Development fair called "IInvenTiv".
- ✓ The two-day fair will be held during October 14-15, 2022 at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi premises.
- ✓ It is being organized in commemoration of the 75th year of India's Independence in line with the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsay initiative.

> Ambedkar Circuit

The government – to introduce a special train for the proposed Ambedkar Circuit that covers various places associated with B.R. Ambedkar

- ✓ The Tourism Ministry has drawn up an action plan for various circuits under its Swadesh Darshan scheme.
- ✓ The concept of Ambedkar Circuit was first proposed in 2016.
- ✓ It covers Madhya Pradesh's Mhow, Ambedkar's birthplace; Nagpur, where he converted to Buddhism; the residence in Delhi where he lived during his last years; and Dadar in Maharashtra, where his body was cremated.

> Saarthak

- ✓ To mark UN 'International Day of Older Persons', HelpAge India launched 'Saarthak', a community-based initiative for the mental wellbeing of elderly.
- ✓ The initiative has been launched in collaboration with the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) and the National Programme for Health Care of Elderly, which will provide technical support.
- ✓ The aim of this initiative is to provide psychiatric support to senior citizens suffering from depression and dementia across the country.

➤ Modhera - Solar Powered village

- ✓ On October 9, Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared 'Modhera' in Gujarat as the country's first 24x7 "solar powered" village.
- ✓ During his address, PM Modi said that Modhera will now be known as Suryagram.

✓ The Modhera village is located 25 km from the Mehsana district of Gurajat, and about 100 km from the state capital of Gandhinagar.

Betiyan Bane Kushal

- ✓ The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) to organize a National Conference on Skilling in Non-Traditional Livelihood (NTL) for Girls under the title "Betiyan Bane Kushal".
- ✓ The conference will be organized under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) initiative on the occasion of the International Day of the Girl Child on October 11, 2022
- ✓ The conference will focus on capacity building and skill development of girls.

> Space Economy - 13 Billion \$ by 2025

- ✓ India's space economy is likely to be worth nearly \$13 billion by 2025, with the satellite launch services segment set to witness the fastest growth due to increasing private participation, according to a report released.
- ✓ India's space economy was pegged at \$9.6 billion in 2020 and is expected to touch \$12.8 billion by 2025, according to the report titled 'Developing the Space Ecosystem in India: Focusing on Inclusive Growth'.

> PM-DevINE

- ✓ On October 12, the Union cabinet approved a new scheme Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region (PM-DevINE) for the remaining four years (2022-23 to 2025-26) of the 15th Finance Commission.
- ✓ This 100% Centre-funded scheme will be implemented by the ministry of development of North Eastern region (DoNER).
- ✓ It will focus on creation of infrastructure, support industries, social development projects and livelihood for youth and women.
- ✓ The infrastructure projects will be funded in line with the priorities laid down under the PM Gati Shakti program.

PowerEX

- ✓ Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) and Power-CSIRTs (Computer Security Incident Response Teams in Power sector) have jointly hosted a cyber-security exercise called 'PowerEX'.
- ✓ The objective of the exercise was to "Recognize, Analyse & Respond to Cyber Incident in IT & OT Systems"
 The exercise was held under the theme "Defending Cyber induced disruption in

IT & OT infrastructure".

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INTERNATIONAL

➤ King Charles III

- ✓ King Charles III will be crowned at Westminster Abbey on May 6, 2023 alongside The Queen Consort Camilla.
- ✓ King Charles III, son of the late Queen Elizabeth II, acceded to the throne after the queen passed away on September 8.
- ✓ He also took over as head of state of 14 Commonwealth countries, including Australia, Canada and New Zealand.

INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

- > Foreign Ministers' Framework Dialogue
- ✓ External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar held the 13th Foreign Ministers' Framework Dialogue with his Australian counterpart Penny Wong in Canberra on October 10, 2022.
 - They discussed the progress of India-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, including important Ministerial visits in recent months.

SCHEMES

- > Yuva 2.0
- ✓ Pradhan Mantri Yojana to mentor young writers. YUVA 2.0 (Young, Upcoming and Versatile Authors) scheme has been launched on 2 October.
- ✓ It is an author mentorship program to train young and budding authors below the age of 30 to promote reading, writing, and book culture in the country.
- ✓ Keeping in view the significant impact of the first edition of YUVA, the Ministry of Education launched the YUVA 2.0 scheme.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

National SC-ST Hub Conclave

- ✓ The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises organized a 'National SC-ST Hub Conclave' at Ahmedabad, Gujarat on 28th September 2022.
- ✓ The conclave was organized to spread awareness about the National SC-ST Hub
 (NSSH) Scheme and other Schemes of the Ministry.
- ✓ The conclave provided a platform to the aspiring and existing SC-ST entrepreneurs to interact with Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs), lending institutions among other stakeholders.

US-India Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (USISCEP)

- ✓ Union minister for petroleum and natural gas, Hardeep Singh Puri and US Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm co-chaired a ministerial dialogue on US-India Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (USISCEP) on October 7, 2022.
- ✓ The updated USISCEP has launched in 2021 following the announcement of US-India Climate and Clean Energy Agenda 2030 partnership.
- ✓ The Agenda 2030 partnership focuses on 5 pillars responsible oil and gas pillar, power and energy efficiency pillar, renewable energy pillar, sustainable growth pillar and emerging fuels and technologies pillar.

> 4th Heli-India Summit 2022

- ✓ Minister of Civil Aviation Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia inaugurated the 4th Heli-India Summit 2022. The civil enclave will be built in Jammu for Rs 861 crore and Srinagar's present terminal will be expanded three times from 20,000 square meters to 60,000 square meters for Rs 1500 crores.
- ✓ The 4th Heli-India Summit 2022 is inaugurated with the theme of 'Helicopters for Last Mile Connectivity' at Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre, Srinagar.

DEFENCE

➤ Very Short Range Air Defence System' (VSHORADS)

- ✓ The DRDO successfully flight tested the 'Very Short Range Air Defence System' (VSHORADS) missile in Chandipur off the coast of Odisha recently on September 27, 2022.
- ✓ The VSHORADS is a Man Portable Air Defence System (MANPAD) designed and developed indigenously by Hyderabad-based Research Centre Imarat of the DRDO in collaboration with other DRDO facilities and various Indian industry partners.

> Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) - Prachand

- ✓ The first indigenously developed LCH inducted into Indian Air Force by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh at Jodhpur in Rajasthan on October 3, 2022.
- ✓ India's first indigenous light combat helicopter (LCH) 'Prachand' was inducted into the Indian Air Force.
- ✓ Defence minister Rajnath Singh named the helicopter 'Prachand' (means 'fierce') during the ceremony.

Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) - Prachand

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- ✓ Defence minister Rajnath Singh named the helicopter 'Prachand' (means 'fierce') during the ceremony.

> IBSAMAR VII

- ✓ INS Tarkash participated in the 7th IBSAMAR, a joint multinational maritime exercise among Indian, Brazilian and South African Navies from 10-12 Oct 22.
- ✓ The previous edition of IBSAMAR was conducted in South Africa from 1-13 Oct 2018.
- ✓ The Indian Navy was represented by INS Tarkash, a Chetak helicopter and the personnel from the Marine Commando Force (MARCOS).

> Prasthan

- ✓ 'Prasthan' an Offshore Security Exercise was conducted by the Eastern Naval Command in the Offshore Development Area (ODA) off Kakinada.
- ✓ 'Prasthan' is a half-yearly exercise that was conducted in the KG basin to validate SOPs, address various contingencies and strengthen the command and control organization toward Maritime security.

✓ Prasthan was a two-day offshore security exercise.



ECONOMY

GST Revenue - September

- ✓ The gross GST revenue collected in September totalled Rs 1.47 lakh crore, as per the finance ministry.
- ✓ This is the seventh month in a row in which receipts have been more than Rs 1.4 lakh crore.
- ✓ The September revenue was 26% higher than the GST receipts in the same month last year.

➢ GDP Growth Forecast for 2022-23

- ✓ On October 7, the World Bank downgraded India's GDP growth forecast for 2022-23 to 6.5% from its earlier estimate of 7.5% in its latest South Asia Economic Focus Update.
- ✓ The reasons cited include the impact of the on-going war in Ukraine, rising global interest rates and high inflation.
- ✓ This is the third time that the World Bank has revised the GDP growth estimation for India for the FY2023.

> India's Net Direct Tax Collections

- ✓ At 7.45 lakh crore, direct tax receipts cross half the target.
- ✓ India's net direct tax collections till October 8 in the financial year 2022-23 have risen to 7.45 lakh crore, more than half of the Budget targets, the Union Finance Ministry said on Sunday.
- ✓ It is an increase of 16.3% over the tax inflows during the corresponding period a year ago.

AWARDS

Nobel Prize in Physiology - 2022

- ✓ On October 3, Swedish geneticist **Svante Pääbo** was awarded the 2022 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine category.
- ✓ The winner was announced by the Nobel Assembly of Sweden's Karolinska Institute.
- ✓ The award was given to Pääbo, 67, "for his discoveries concerning the genomes of extinct hominins and human evolution".

> SASTRA Ramanujan Prize 2022

- ✓ Yunqing Tang bags SASTRA Ramanujan Prize 2022 for her contribution in maths.
- ✓ The SASTRA Ramanujan Prize for 2022 will be awarded to Yunqing Tang, Assistant Professor with the University of California, Berkeley, U.S.A.

> Lifetime Achievement Award in US

✓ Vivek Lall, an Indian-origin General Atomic Global Corporation Chief Executive is honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award by US President Joe Biden with the citation of 'With Grateful Recognition'. This citation was given to Vivek Lall, who has done a Ph.D. in Aerospace Engineering.

➤ Nobel Prize in Physics

- ✓ On October 4, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences awarded the 2022 Nobel Prize in Physics to three scientists Alain Aspect, John F. Clauser and Anton Zeilinger for their work on quantum mechanics.
- ✓ They have won the award "for experiments with entangled photons, establishing the violation of Bell inequalities and pioneering quantum information science".

> UNHCR Nansen Award

- ✓ Former German chancellor Angela Merkel has been named as the winner of the prestigious UNHCR Nansen Award.
- ✓ The Geneva-based UN refugee agency has chosen Merkel for its highest award to acknowledge her efforts in offering asylum to over 1.2 million refugees, mostly from Syria into Germany, despite criticism both at home and abroad.

➤ Nobel Prize for Chemistry

- ✓ On October 5, the Nobel Prize for Chemistry for the year 2022 was awarded to Carolyn R Bertozzi, Morten Meldal and K Barry Sharpless jointly for the development of two technologies click chemistry and bioorthogonal chemistry.
- ✓ The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said Sharpless and Meldal laid the foundation for a functional form of chemistry click chemistry 'in which molecular building blocks snap together quickly and efficiently'.

➤ Nobel Prize in Literature

- ✓ On October 7, the Nobel Prize in Literature was awarded to the French novelist Annie Ernaux, who becomes the first French woman to win the prize.
- ✓ Ernaux, 82, becomes only the 17th female writer to have won the prize since it was formed in 1901.
- ✓ She has written more than 20 books, most of them very short, chronicling events in her life and the lives of those around her.

Nobel Peace Prize

- ✓ On October 7, the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to jailed Belarusian activist Ales Bialiatski, Russian rights group 'Memorial' and Ukraine's 'Center for Civil Liberties'.
- ✓ The winners of the peace awards were announced by the Norwegian Nobel Institute in Oslo.
 - Human rights advocate, Ales Bialiatski was one of the initiators of the democracy movement that emerged in Belarus in the mid-1980s.

➤ List of all Nobel Prize winners for 2022

- ✓ Physics: Alain Aspect, John F. Clauser, Anton Zeilinger.
- ✓ Chemistry: Carolyn Bertozzi, Morten Meldal, Barry Sharpless.
- ✓ Medicine: Svante Pääbo.
- ✓ Literature: Annie Ernaux.

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- ✓ Peace: Ales Bialiatski, Memorial and Center for Civil Liberties.
- ✓ Economics: Ben Bernanke, Douglas Diamond, Philip Dybvig.

SCIENCE, ENVIRONMENT, & TECHNOLOGY

> AVGAS 100 LL

- ✓ The government launched the indigenously-developed AVGAS 100 LL, a special aviation fuel meant for piston engine aircrafts and unmanned ariel vehicles.
- ✓ Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri launched the fuel at Hindon air base recently on September 26, 2022.
- ✓ The fuel has been developed by Indian Oil Corporation at Vadodara, Gujarat and it has been tested and certified by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).
- ✓ AVGAS 100 LL is a higher-octane Aviation fuel meeting the product specifications with superior performance quality standards, as compared to imported grades.

➤ Khosta-2

- ✓ A team of researchers at Washington State University (WSU) in the US have detected a new Covid-like virus named Khosta-2 in Russian bats.
- ✓ The virus was first identified in 2020 but the scientists thought that this virus would not pose a threat to humans.
- ✓ However, according to a recent study by researchers of WSU, the Khosta-2 virus can infect human cells.

> Rashid

- ✓ The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is planning to launch its maiden moon mission 'Rashid' in November this year.
- ✓ The Rashid rover, named after Dubai's ruling family, will be launched between November 9 and 15 from the Cape Canaveral spaceport in Florida.
- ✓ The probe will be launched onboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket and will be put into lunar orbit by a Japanese ispace lander in March.

> Vyommitra

- ✓ 'Can read, talk': Vyommitra's skills get a lift-off with digital grey matter.
- ✓ Vyommitra, the humanoid designed and developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to fly aboard unmanned test missions ahead of the Gaganyaan human space-flight mission, is undergoing pre-flight ground tests at the ISRO Inertial Systems Unit (IISU) here.

> Optimus

- ✓ Elon Musk, the CEO of Tesla recently unveiled a humanoid robot prototype called "Optimus" at the annual Tesla AI Day presentation in Palo Alta, California.
- ✓ During the event, Musk has announced that the robots will be mass-produced, costing less than \$20,000 and will be available in three to five years.
- ✓ He also presented a video of Optimus performing simple tasks, such as watering plants, carrying boxes and lifting metal bars.

> DART Mission

- ✓ NASA announced the results of its Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) mission on 11 October 2022.
- ✓ Terming the test successful, the agency said, the DART spacecraft succeeded in changing the asteroid's motion in Space.
- ✓ DART is a spacecraft designed to impact an asteroid as a test of the technology. This is the first time humanity has altered the motion of a celestial body.

➤ World's First Space Tourist

- ✓ World's first space tourist, **Dennis Tito** has signed up with SpaceX, owned by Elon Musk, to fly around the Moon aboard the Starship rocket.
- ✓ According to SpaceX, the rocket will take Tito, 82, and his wife, Akiko, within 200 km of the far side of the Moon without landing on its surface.
- ✓ Dennis Tito, an American engineer and entrepreneur became the first human space tourist to visit the International Space Station in 2001.

> World's First Intestinal Transplant

- ✓ A13-month old baby girl received the world's first intestinal transplant in a hospital in Madrid, Spain.
- ✓ The baby received the organ via asystolic donation, from a donor at the end of their life.
- ✓ This method of donation means "the organ to be transplanted does not deteriorate".
- ✓ Spain is a world leader in organ transplants, as per figures from the Global Observatory on Donation and Transplantation.

> Trapping Zone

- Scientists have recently discovered a 'Trapping Zone' in the Indian Ocean Island of Maldives.
- ✓ This Trapping Zone is a new ecosystem, which was discovered around 500 meters beneath the sub-sea surface.

- ✓ It was discovered by scientists who are working under the Nekton Maldives Mission.
- ✓ Nektons are animals living in the open seas away from the shore that are capable of swimming independently of wind and water currents.



SPORTS

> Rosy Meena Paulraj

- ✓ Pole vaulter Rosy Meena Paulraj of Tamil Nadu broke the national record to win gold medal in the National Games.
- ✓ The 24-year-old Rosy cleared 4.20m to go past VS Surekha's earlier national mark of 4.15m set in 2014.

Kanjuruhan Stadium in Indonesia

- ✓ At least 170 people have died and 180 others are injured in a stampede at a football match in Kanjuruhan stadium in Indonesia`s Malang in East Java province.
- ✓ The riots erupted during the Indonesia Premier League match between Persebaya Surabaya and Arema Malang after Persebaya Surabaya won the match 3-2 at the Arema's home stadium on October 1.

> FIBA Women's Basketball World Cup

- ✓ The United States defeated China (83-61) to win the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) Women's Basketball World Cup at the Sydney Superdome, Australia.
- ✓ The Americans bagged their fourth title in a row and 11th in total and have also sealed a spot at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

> Formula One World Championship

- ✓ Red Bull driver, Max Verstappen retained his Formula One World Championship on October 9.
- ✓ The Dutch driver won a dramatic rain-shortened Japanese Grand Prix at Suzuka, giving him an unassailable 113-point lead in the 2022 championship.

> FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup

- ✓ The 7th edition of FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup to be held from October 11 to 30, 2022.
- ✓ Kalinga stadium will have the honour of hosting all the group stage matches featuring India.
- ✓ This is the second time that India hosts a FIFA tournament after the men's 2017 FIFA U-17 World Cup and first time that the country hosts a FIFA women's football tournament.

36th National Games

- ✓ On October 12, the 36th National Games held in Gujarat came to a conclusion, with Services Sports Control Board (SSCB) finishing on top of the medal tally with 61 gold medals.
- ✓ 14-year old Harshika Ramachandran (6 gold and 1 bronze) from Karnataka won the Best Female Player of the 36th National Games & Sajan Prakash (5 gold, 2 silver, 1 bronze) of Kerala won the Best Male Player of the Games award.

> ISSF World Championships

- ✓ Indian shooting star, Rudrankksh Patil became the new world champion in the men's 10m air rifle event at the ISSF World Championships in Cairo, Egypt.
- ✓ In the process, Rudrankksh also won a berth for the 2024 Paris Olympics.
- ✓ Rudrankksh became the second Indian world champion in the 10m air rifle category after Abhinav Bindra, who won the gold in 2006.

OBITUARY

➤ Mulayam Singh Yadav

- ✓ Samajwadi Party (SP) founder and former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Mulayam Singh Yadav passed away at the age of 82 in Gurgaon on October 10, 2022.
- ✓ Yadav was one of the most influential and powerful leaders in Uttar Pradesh who shaped the policies of the largest state of India for decades.

> Subbu Arumugam

- ✓ Celebrated Villupaatu exponent, storyteller and cultural icon, Subbu Arumugam passed away at the age of 95 in Chennai on October 10 due to age-related ailments.
- ✓ The Padma Shri awardee is survived by wife Mahalakshmi, son Gandhi and daughters Bharathi Tirumagan and Subbulakshmi.
- ✓ Villupattu is an ancient form of musical story-telling, which is performed mostly during temple festivals.

REPORT

> Living Planet Report

The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) in association with Zoological Society of London - released the 'Living Planet Report' for the year 2022 on October 13.

- ✓ The report is a comprehensive study of trends in global biodiversity and the health of Earth.
- ✓ There has been a 69% decline in the wildlife populations of mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles and fish, across the globe in the last 50 years, indicated the report.
- ✓ The highest decline (94%) was in the Latin America and the Caribbean region, while Africa recorded a 66% fall in its wildlife populations and the Asia Pacific showed 55% decline from 1970-2018.



RANKING

Swachh Survekshan Grameen (SSG) 2022

- ✓ On October 2, Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat released Swachh Survekshan Grameen (SSG) 2022 report and handed over the first copies to the President of India, Droupadi Murmu.
- ✓ During this event the Union Minister of Jal Shakti also announced Swachh Survekshan Grameen (SSG) 2023 and Jal Jeevan Survekshan (JJS) 2023.
- ✓ Telangana, Haryana and Tamil Nadu emerged the cleanest among all large states on parameters of rural sanitation, according to the Swachh Survekshan Grameen (SSG) 2022.

Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index - CRI Index

India - has moved up six places to rank 123 out of 161 countries in terms of reducing inequality, according to the 2022 Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index or CRI Index.

- ✓ The index measures government policies and actions in three areas of inequality public services (health, education, and social protection), taxation and workers' rights
- ✓ As per the report, India features among the lowest performers on health spending again after dropping to 157th, the 5th lowest in the world.
- ✓ India's health spending is 3.64% of total spending, which is the lowest out of all BRICS and neighbouring countries.

➤ Global Hunger Index 2022

- ✓ India ranks 107 out of 121 countries on the Global Hunger Index in which it fares worse than all countries in South Asia barring war-torn Afghanistan.
- ✓ India's score of 29.1 places it in the 'serious' category. India also ranks below Sri Lanka (64), Nepal (81), Bangladesh (84), and Pakistan (99). Afghanistan (109) is the only country in South Asia that performs worse than India on the index.
- ✓ The Global Hunger Index is a peer-reviewed annual report, jointly published by Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe, designed to comprehensively measure and track hunger at the global, regional, and country levels.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Vegetarian Day: October 1

- ✓ Every year on 1 Oct, World Vegetarian Day is celebrated to highlight the benefits of vegetarianism.
- ✓ The aim is to bring awareness to the environmental & health benefits of a vegetarian lifestyle.

➤ International Day of Older Persons - October 1

- ✓ The day is observed every year to raise awareness about the contributions of elderly people and focus on the issues faced by them.
- ✓ Theme 2022 "Resilience of Older Persons in a Changing World."

➤ International Day of Non-Violence: October 2

- ✓ International Day of Non-Violence is observed every year on 2nd October, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi.
- ✓ Mahatma Gandhi, one of the tallest leaders of Indian independence movement, was the pioneer of the philosophy of non-violence.

> Swachh Bharat Diwas - October 2

- ✓ Department of Drinking water and sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Shakti celebrated Swachh Bharat Diwas (SBD) on 2nd October 2022.
- ✓ The Swachh Bharat Diwas is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- ✓ The Swachh Bharat Diwas is inspired by one of the quotes of the father of the nation, "Cleanliness is next to godliness".

➤ World Habitat Day: October 3

- ✓ World Habitat Day is a UN initiative that is observed on the first Monday of every October, annually. In 2022, it is being observed on the 3rd of October.
- ✓ The day is observed to acknowledge the state of our towns and cities, and the basic right of all to adequate shelter.
- ✓ 2022 Theme: "Mind the Gap. Leave No One and Place Behind".

World Animal Day: October 4

World Animal Day is celebrated every year on the 4th of October to raise awareness about improving the welfare standards of animals across the globe.

➤ World Teachers' Day: October 5

- ✓ World Teachers' Day, also known as International Teachers' Day, is celebrated on 5th October every year.
- ✓ This is a day to celebrate, thank & honour teachers for their contributions to their students.
- ✓ Oct 5 was proclaimed as World Teachers' Day by UNESCO in 1994. 2022 Theme: "The transformation of education begins with teachers".

➤ World Cerebral Palsy Day: October 6

- ✓ World Cerebral Palsy Day (WCPD) is observed on 6th October every year & it was started by the Cerebral Palsy Alliance in 2012.
- ✓ To draw worldwide attention to cerebral palsy and find ways to help this condition.
 - Cerebral palsy refers to a group of neurological disorders that appear in infancy or early childhood and permanently affect body movement and muscle coordination.

➤ World Cotton Day - October 7

- ✓ The day is observed every year to recognize the importance of cotton and the people who work in the cotton industry.
- ✓ Theme 2022 "Weaving a better future for cotton".
- ✓ The first World Cotton Day was proposed by the World Trade Organization (WTO) on October 7, 2019.

➤ Indian Air Force Day - October 8

- ✓ The day is observed annually to pay tribute to the Indian Air Force (IAF) personnel who defend the nation by securing the Indian airspace and conduct rescue operations during natural calamities.
- ✓ The President of India is the Commander-in-chief of the IAF.

➤ World Migratory Bird Day - October 8

- ✓ Since its creation in 2006, World Migratory Bird Day has been commemorated twice a year. It is supposed to be celebrated on the second Saturday of May and the second Saturday of October.
- ✓ This year, it was previously celebrated on 14 May and for the second time, the world marks this day again today, 8 October.

➤ World Post Day: October 9

- ✓ World Post Day is celebrated every year on 9 October. It marks the establishment of the Universal Postal Union in 1874 in Switzerland.
- ✓ The theme for World Post Day 2022 is 'Post for Planet'.

The Indian Post Office Act 1898 was passed by the legislature on March 22, 1898.

➤ World Mental Health Day - October 10

✓ The day is observed every year to raise awareness about the significance of mental health issues and mobilise efforts and support towards it.

Theme 2022 - "Make mental health and well-being for all a global priority".

> International Day of Girl Child - October 11

- ✓ The day is observed every year to raise awareness about the gender inequality and to empower them on their rights.
- ✓ International Day of the Girl Child was first observed in October 11, 2012 by the United Nations with the theme "Ending child marriage."
- ✓ This year commemorates the 10th anniversary of the International Day of the Girl. Theme 2022 "Our time is now—our rights, our future".

➤ World Arthritis Day: October 12

- ✓ World Arthritis Day (WAD) is celebrated every year on 12th October to spread awareness about the existence and impact of rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases.
- ✓ This day was first observed in 1996 by Arthritis & Rheumatism International (ARI).

2022 Theme: "It's in your hands, take action".

➤ International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction - October 13

- ✓ The day is observed every year to raise awareness about the progress made in preventing the loss of lives, livelihoods, and infrastructure during various natural disasters.
- ✓ Theme 2022 'Substantially increase the availability and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessment for people by 2030.'

World Sight Day - October 13

- ✓ The day is observed every year to raise awareness about eye health, the issue of blindness and vision impairment among people.
- ✓ Theme 2022 "Love Your Eyes".
- ✓ World Sight Day was also an initiative towards the World Health Organization's "VISION 2020".

➤ World Standards Day - October 14

- ✓ The day is observed annually to acknowledge the importance of international standards and their role in our lives.
- ✓ The standards help ensure the safety of products and services, facilitate global trade, and promote efficiency and quality.
- ✓ Theme 2022 "Shared Vision for a better World".

➤ International E-Waste Day: October 14

- ✓ International E-Waste Day is held on 14 October every year.
- ✓ The day was launched in 2018 by the WEEE Forum to raise the public profile of waste electrical and electronic equipment recycling and encourage consumers to recycle.
- ✓ The theme for 2022 is: 'Recycle it all, no matter how small'.

➤ World Student's Day 2022 - October 15

- ✓ October 15 is celebrated as World Students' Day to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, a celebrated Aerospace scientist and former President of India.
- ✓ The day is marked to acknowledge his efforts toward students and education. Dr Kalam was born on October 15, 1931.
- ✓ He served as an inspiration to many students to achieve and do something remarkable.

> International Day of Rural Women 2022 - October 15

- ✓ October 15 is celebrated as the International Day of Rural women across the world. The day focuses to promote gender quality and highlight the important role played by women in rural areas.
- ✓ The theme for the International Day of Rural Women (15 October), "Rural Women Cultivating Good Food for All", highlights the essential role that rural women and girls play in the food systems of the world.

