



FVF RYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS - October

NATIONAL

- On October 17, Prime Minister Narendra Modi - launched a scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Jan Urvarak Pariyojana', also known as "One Nation One Fertiliser" during the two-day PM Kisan Samman Sammelan 2022



- ✓ Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar and Chemicals & Fertilisers Minister Mansukh Mandaviya were also present at the event
- ✓ The PM Kisan Samman Sammelan 2022, organised jointly by agriculture and fertiliser ministries, was held at Indian Agricultural Research Institute in Pusa complex, New Delhi.
- ✓ More than one crore farmers virtually joined the event, which will be held on October 17 and 18
- ✓ Under the new scheme, it is mandatory for all fertiliser manufacturing and marketing companies to market all subsidised fertilisers under a single brand 'Bharat'.
- ✓ The uniform design of bags across the country will now mention them as 'Bharat urea', 'Bharat DAP', 'Bharat MOP', 'Bharat NPK' and so on.

- ✓ Accordingly, all subsidised soil nutrients - urea, di-ammonium phosphate (DAP), Muriate of Potash (MoP), and NPK - will be marketed under the single brand Bharat across the nation
- ✓ The concept of 'One Nation, One Fertiliser' will help farmers overcome their confusion over brand-specific choices as there is no product differentiation among different brands for each type of fertilizer
- ✓ The rationale is that all fertilizers of a particular category must meet the nutrient-content specifications of the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO), whether it is produced by one company or another.
- ✓ The One Nation One Fertiliser scheme will prevent the criss-cross movement of fertilisers and reduce high freight subsidies.
- ✓ Besides, the prime minister also launched Indian Edge, an e-magazine on fertilizers
 - ✓ The magazine will provide information on domestic and international fertilizer scenarios, including recent developments, price trends analysis, availability and consumption, and success stories of farmers, among others.
- ✓ Further, PM Modi also inaugurated 600 PM Kisan Samruddhi Kendras (PM-KSK) that will act as a one-stop-shop for farmers who can buy products and avail multiple services related to the agriculture sector.
 - ✓ The Centre intends to convert more than 3.3 lakh fertiliser retail shops in the country into PM-KSK in a phased manner
 - ✓ At present, fertiliser retail shops in the country are company-managed, cooperative shops or retailed to private dealers.
 - ✓ The PM-KSK will supply agri-inputs like seeds, fertilisers and farm implements.
 - ✓ It will also provide testing facilities for soil, seeds and fertilisers.
 - ✓ Information about government schemes will also be provided through these centres
- ✓ The PM also released the 12th instalment of Rs 16,000 crore Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi through direct benefit transfer to farmers
 - ✓ Under the PM-KISAN scheme, eligible farmer families will be provided Rs.6,000 each year in three equal instalments.
- ✓ The Agri Startup Conclave and Exhibition was also inaugurated during the event
- **On October 17, Prime Minister Narendra Modi - distributed Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana-Ma Amrutam (PMJAY-MA) scheme Ayushman cards in Gujarat.**
 - ✓ PM Modi joined the programme organised in Gujarat capital Gandhinagar in the presence of Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel via video conference
 - ✓ Ayushman PVC cards, made of easy-to-carry polyvinyl chloride material, will be distributed to over 50 lakh beneficiaries under the Gujarat PMJAY-MA scheme

- ✓ Mukhyamantri Amrutam was a health scheme launched by PM Modi in 2012 as then Gujarat chief minister to protect poor citizens from high medical treatment costs.



- ✓ In 2014, the Mukhyamantri Amrutam Yojana was extended to cover families with an annual income limit of 4 lakh.
 - ✓ In 2019, the centre's PMJAY program for providing healthcare services to economically backward areas was merged with Mukhyamantri Amrutam (MA) and Mukhyamantri Amrutam Vatsalya (MAV) health programs in Gujarat.
 - ✓ Since the integration of the two schemes, co-branded PMJAY-MA cards have been issued to 1.58 crore beneficiaries in Gujarat.
 - ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) in 2018
 - ✓ It the largest health insurance scheme in the world providing coverage of up to Rs. 5 lakh per family per year for primary, secondary and tertiary care hospitalization.
- **On October 17, India - detected its first case of Omicron's BQ.1 sub-variant in a patient sample from Pune during the latest genome sequencing run**
- ✓ BQ.1 is a descendant of Omicron's BA. 5, which is the dominant version of SARS-CoV-2 in the US at present.
 - ✓ BA.5 has been found in more than 60% of the recent cases in the US
 - ✓ BA.5 and its sub-lineages currently account for less than 5% of Covid cases in India.
 - ✓ Earlier, BF.7 — another Omicron sub-variant first reported in Mongolia — was also detected in Gujarat.
 - ✓ Both BQ.1 and BF.7 pack mutations that could make them good at being contagious and at immune evasion.
 - ✓ Besides, Maharashtra has reported Covid XBB, a new sub-variant of the Omicron variant of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which has been detected in parts of India, including Kerala.
 - ✓ XBB, a recombinant lineage between two Omicron sublineages BJ.1 and BA.2.75, is a fast-spreading variant, which was seen to have caused a spike across Singapore recently

- **The National Network of Women-Focused CSOs - was launched in Chennai on October 17.**
- ✓ The new initiative was launched with the support of European Union
- ✓ It is being implemented by Tiruchirappalli Regional Engineering College – Science and Technology Entrepreneurs Park (TRECSTEP).
- ✓ The newly launched network will reach-out to the most vulnerable people and women of the society for delivering unique services
- ✓ It will involve Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) Community, Policy Makers, Women Entrepreneurs, Financial Players, and other Women empowerment Institutions.

INTERNATIONAL

- **UN secretary general Antonio Guterres - will begin a three-day visit to India on October 17**



- ✓ He will start the visit by paying tributes to the victims of the 26/11 terror attacks at the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel in Mumbai.
- ✓ This will be UNSG's first visit to India, since he commenced his second term in office in January, 2022.
- ✓ On October 17, in Gujarat, Guterres will join PM Narendra Modi at the launch of the Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) booklet, logo and tagline.
- ✓ The concept of LiFE was introduced by PM during COP26 at Glasgow in November 2021.
- ✓ Mission LiFE will be India's signature initiative at the UN and other international platforms for showcasing climate action and early achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **On October 18, Prime Minister Narendra Modi - will address the 90th General Assembly of the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) to be held between October 18-21 in New Delhi**
- ✓ Delegations from 195 member countries, comprising ministers, police and intelligence chiefs of countries and senior police officers will attend the event.



- ✓ Interpol secretary-general Jürgen Stock is in Delhi for the 90th General Assembly of Interpol
- ✓ He said that a specialised team had been formed in Singapore to help countries combat crimes involving virtual assets and develop a legal framework whilst also devising instruments to track and seize digital currencies.
- ✓ The purpose of the Interpol general assembly is to work out the principles for the organization to achieve its objectives

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **The Indian Institute of Technology-Madras (IIT-M) researchers - have developed a new touchscreen display technology 'iTad'**
- ✓ Using the new technology, a user can feel the textures of images on their smartphone with the swipe of a finger.

FOR A BETTER USER EXPERIENCE

<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ iTad Can create crisp edges, switches and textures ranging from smooth to gritty while browsing➤ Special layer added to the existing touchscreen display to create friction		<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ In-built multi-touch sensor detects the movement of the finger and surface friction is adjusted via software➤ Can be used for consumer electronics, digital signage, home automation, medical, industrial and gaming
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- ✓ Current touchscreens can only sense the position of one's fingers, but offer no feedback.
- ✓ However, 'iTad', which stands for interactive touch active display, has hardware and software that can create crisp edges, switches and textures ranging from smooth to gritty.
- ✓ According to the researchers, a new special layer is added to the existing touchscreen display to create friction through the software.
- ✓ An in-built multi-touch sensor detects the movement of the finger and surface friction is adjusted via software.

- ✓ Merkel Haptics, a startup incubated at IITM Research Park, has been working with TouchLab researchers to take the technology forward.
- ✓ iTad could be used in the fields of consumer electronics, digital signage, home automation, medical, industrial and gaming.
- **Garuda Aerospace - have signed a MOU with Lockheed Martin Canada CDL Systems**
- ✓ The agreement seeks to integrate Garuda Aerospace's Made-In-India drones with Lockheed Martin Canada CDL Systems' advanced Uncrewed Aerial Systems (UAS) software solutions for defence and commercial purposes.



- ✓ The companies will develop joint algorithms that will cater to a wide range of drones and various drone-based service applications in sectors such as defence, agriculture, mining, large scale mapping and industrial inspection.
- ✓ Garuda Aerospace recently commenced its \$30 million Series A round at \$250 million valuation.
- ✓ The company is backed by Indian cricket team captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni as an investor, and he is also the brand ambassador of the company.
- ✓ Garuda Aerospace consists of a drone fleet of 400 drones and a team of over 500 pilots across 26 different cities.

APPOINTMENTS

- **On October 17, President Droupadi Murmu - designated Dhananjaya Yeshwant Chandrachud the 50th Chief Justice of India with effect from November 9**

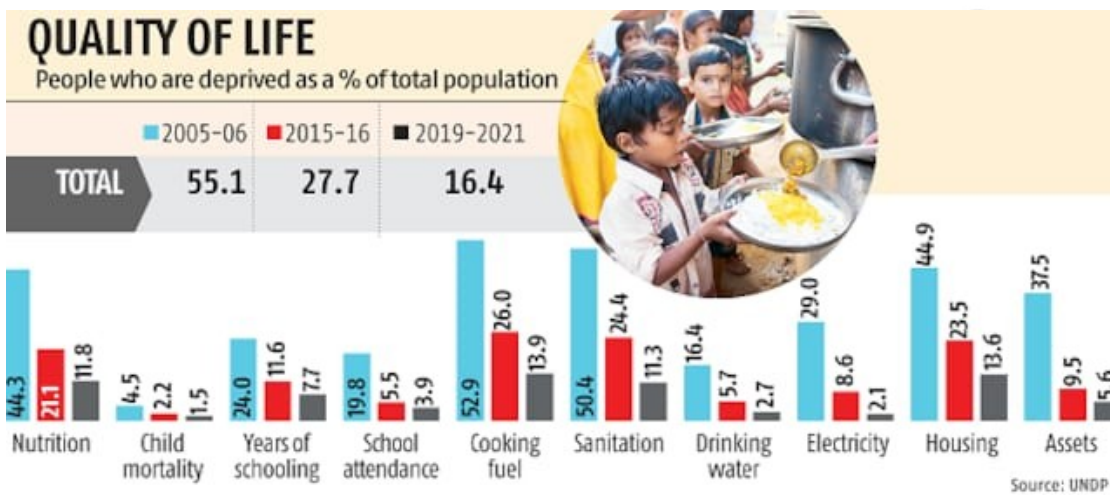


- ✓ He will take oath after current CJI U U Lalit, who is due to retire on November 8, 2022 after a brief tenure of 74 days
- ✓ Justice Chandrachud will have tenure of two years and two days, till 10 November 2024, as CJI.
- ✓ This will be the CJI longest tenure in almost a decade.
- ✓ This is also the first time a father and son will hold the CJI position.
- ✓ Justice Chandrachud's father Justice YV Chandrachud was the 16th and the longest serving CJI of India at seven years and four months from February 22, 1978 to July 11, 1985
- ✓ A Law graduate from Delhi University, Justice Chandrachud got his LLM degree and a Doctor of Juridical Science from Harvard Law School
- ✓ He practised law at the Bombay High Court and Supreme Court and was designated a senior advocate by the Bombay High Court in June 1998 at a young age of 39.
- ✓ During his time as a lawyer, he also taught International Law at Oklahoma University and was a visiting professor in Comparative Constitutional Law at the University of Bombay.
- ✓ He served as Additional Solicitor General from 1998 until his appointment as a judge of Bombay High Court on March 29, 2000.
- ✓ He was also director of the Maharashtra Judicial Academy.
- ✓ Justice Chandrachud took over as the Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court on October 31, 2013, and was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court on May 13, 2016
- ✓ During his tenure in SC, he penned crucial verdicts, including the landmark Constitution Bench rulings recognising privacy as a fundamental right, decriminalising homosexuality, and decriminalising adultery, among others.
- ✓ On September 7, he said that the Constitution Bench headed by him will be a 'green Bench' and asked lawyers not to submit any papers or physical documents.

RANKINGS

- **The new Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) – was released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) at the University of Oxford on October 17**
- ✓ The MPI 2022 was released under the title “Unpacking deprivation bundles to reduce multidimensional poverty”.
- ✓ As per the report, the number of poor people in India fell by about 415 million between 2005-06 and 2019-21 – a 15 year period – with the incidence of poverty showing a steep decline from 55.1% to 16.4%

- ✓ Based on 2020 population data for India, the report has highlighted that India has the largest number of poor people worldwide (228.9 million), followed by Nigeria (96.7 million projected in 2020).
- ✓ The report states that across states and Union Territories the fastest poverty reduction in relative terms was in Goa, followed by Jammu and Kashmir, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan.
- ✓ West Bengal is the only state of the 10 poorest states in 2015/16 to move out of this category in 2019/ 2021.
- ✓ The rest — Bihar, Jharkhand, Meghalaya, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan — remain among the 10 poorest.
- ✓ However, Bihar, the poorest state in 2015/16, saw the fastest reduction in MPI value in absolute terms.
- ✓ There were still 97 million poor children in India in 2019/21 more than the total number of poor people, children and adults combined, in any other country



covered by
the global
MPI

- ✓ The 2019-2021 data show that about 16.4% of India's population live in poverty, with an average intensity of 42%
- ✓ According to the report, India is the only country in South Asia where female-headed households are poorer than male-headed households.
- ✓ For the first time, South Asia has moved to the second place with the highest number of poor people, at 385 million, compared with 579 million in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- ✓ Around 45.5 million poor people do not have access to cooking fuel, housing, sanitation, and nutrition, of which a majority of them live in India and the rest are in Bangladesh and Pakistan
- ✓ The report said the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on poverty in India cannot be fully assessed

- ✓ According to recent estimates by the World Bank, around 56 million Indians might have plunged into extreme poverty in 2020 as a result of the pandemic, contributing to the 71 million increase in the global tally
- ✓ The report assesses poverty by considering various deprivations experienced by people across 3 parameters, which includes health, education, and standard of living – which are further divided into 10 indicators.
- ✓ The data used to estimate the 2022 global MPI values were gathered from across 111 countries and was first launched in 2010

INTERNATIONAL DAY

➤ International Day for the Eradication of Poverty - October 17



- ✓ The day is observed every year to raise awareness about the global issue of poverty and the violation of the rights and dignity of human beings.
- ✓ Theme 2022 - “Dignity For All in Practice”
- ✓ This year marks the 35th anniversary of the World Day to Overcome Extreme Poverty and the 30th anniversary of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty
- ✓ On December 22, 1992, the United Nations General Assembly, through resolution 47/196 declared October 17 as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty
- ✓ On October 17, 1987, an assembly was called in Trocadéro in Paris, where the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was written in 1948 to honour the victims of extreme hunger, violence, and poverty.
- ✓ During this event, more than 100,000 people came out to pay their tributes to those who had died from poverty and hunger.
- ✓ In India, Tendulkar Committee, headed by economist Suresh D. Tendulkar, was appointed to estimate poverty in 2005
- ✓ As per the committee’s recommendations, households having consumption expenditure less than Rs 816 per head per month (Rs 27 per day) in the rural areas and Rs. 1,000 per head per month (Rs 33 per day) in urban areas are said to be living below the poverty line.

