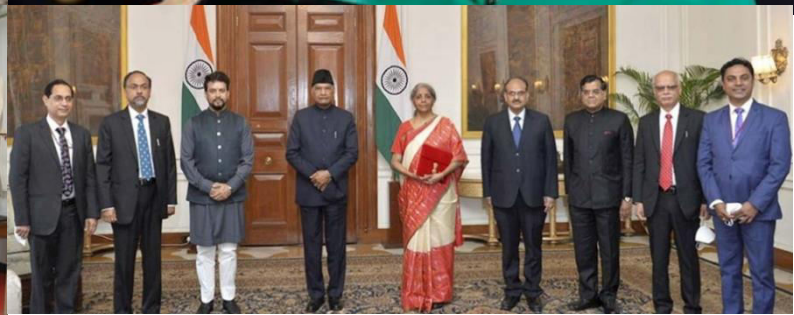


ARUL IAS ACADEMY

TNPSC CURRENT AFFAIRS - ENGLISH FEBRUARY-2021





S.NO	INDEX	PAGE NO
1.	TAMILNADU NEWS	2
2.	SPECIAL NEWS (February-2021)	19
3.	IMPORTANT EVENTS	31
4.	IMPORTANT PERSON	38
5.	ECONOMIC EVENTS	42
6.	SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	46
7.	NATIONAL IMPORTANCE	49
8.	INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE	58
9.	OTHER STATE NEWS	62
10.	SPORTS	69



1. TAMIL NADU NEWS

65.52 lakh children get polio drops in State

- A total of 65.52 lakh children aged under five were administered the polio vaccine under the pulse polio immunisation campaign in Tamil Nadu. This was 93% of the 70.27 lakh children targeted, according to the figures released by the Health Department.
- Tamil Nadu is entering the 17th polio-free year

Prince of Arcot receives Thirukural Arabic audio CD

- Prince of Arcot, Nawab Mohammed Abdul Ali, received the 'Thirukkural' Arabic Audio CD, which was released by Chief Minister Edappadi Palaniswami, at the Secretariat.
- A press release said, the CD was produced by International Institute of Tamil Studies, government of Tamilnadu and the event was organised by Tamil Language Development and Tamil Culture Department, under the Directorship of Dr G Vijayraghavan and the Arabic translation, recitation and coordination by Dr A Jahir Husain, Arabic Department, University of Madras.

T.N. given 773.24 crore under COVID-19 emergency package

- Tamil Nadu has been provided ₹773.24 crore in financial support under the India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Package, according to information provided in the Rajya Sabha.
- Under the package, ₹6,309.9 crore had been released to the States and the Union Territories, through the National Health Mission as on January 15.
- In all, 18.66 lakh N-95 masks and 5.39 lakh PPE kits had been procured centrally and distributed in Tamil Nadu. Besides, 3,625 oxygen cylinders had been distributed in the State as on January 24.
- Tamil Nadu was given 1,52,700 Truenat COVID cartridges and 14,000 Xpert COVID cartridges as on January 24.

Naruvi Hospitals to be inaugurated

- Naruvi Hospitals, a state-of-the-art multi-speciality hospital in Vellore, to be inaugurated by Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami through video conference.
- "This is a ₹600 crore project and we want to give international standard healthcare to people at affordable cost, with the strong ethical value pivoted on the patient-first-principle."
- The hospital, which specializes in cardiology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, intestinal and liver diseases, is the third hospital in the country to import state-of-the-art 'Rosa Robot' equipment from France for the treatment of epilepsy.

Centre announces ESI hospitals in six cities in Tamil Nadu

- Union Labor and Employment Minister Santosh Kangwar told the state assembly that permission has been granted to start new labor insurance hospitals in six cities in Tamil Nadu, including Tiruppur, Vaniyambadi, Dindigul and Thoothukudi.
- The Consumer Price Index for the Industrial Sector has been modified according to the new version (from 2001 = 100 to 2016 = 100). It has been implemented since last 2020, September.
- The hospitals will be located in **Tiruppur, Sriperumbudur, Dindigul, Vaniyambadi, Thoothukudi and Nagercoil.**
- There are currently 74 ESI hospitals in Tamil Nadu.

Four more airports for Tamil Nadu under regional scheme

- Union Minister for Civil aviation Hardeep Singh Puri told Rajaya Sabha (February 3) that five airports in Tamil Nadu – Salem, Neyveli, Vellore, Ramnad and Tanjore – are being built under the ‘Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik’ (UDAN) programme of the Modi government.
- The Salem airport has got ₹35 crore of which Rs 15.97 core has been spent to build capacities by the Airport authority of India (AAI).

TN CM announces ₹12,110 crore crop loan waiver

- Ahead of the upcoming Assembly polls, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami announced that the State government would waive crop loans outstanding in cooperative banks to the tune of ₹12,110 crore. The move will benefit over 16.43 lakh farmers across the State.
- During the assembly session (Feb. 05), Chief Minister Palanisamy issued a notification on agricultural credit under Rule 110 of the Assembly.
- The CM said that his government has disbursed relief of about ₹1,717 crore to over 16.43 lakh farmers, whose crops were affected by the heavy rains during 2019-20.

Karaikal-Peralam railway line project gets an impetus

- Rail link to be restored after a gap of over 30 years
- With the Central government making a sizeable allocation of ₹88.9 crore to the 23.5-km Karaikal - Thirunallar-Peralam railway line, the rail link will be restored after a gap of over 30 years.
- The Karaikal-Peralam stretch will have three manned level crossings and 23 subways - eight of which in Tiruvarur district.
- The entire project is scheduled for completion by March 2024.

Police hospitals to be upgraded

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi Palanisamy has announced in the Assembly that the Police Hospital will be upgraded to include all major medical departments and the Police Hospitals will be operational 24 hours a day.
- Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami announced that police hospitals in Coimbatore, Madurai, Tiruchi and Avadi with inpatient facilities, and those in Chennai, Salem and Tirunelveli with outpatient facilities would be upgraded that will work 24X7.

Palani panchamritham at your doorstep soon

- Soon, you can get Palani panchamritham at your doorstep, with the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (HR and CE) Department tying up with India Post for deliver.
- The pack would contain half a kilo of panchamritham, 10 gm of vibhuthi and a 6x4 inch picture of Sri Dhandayudhapani in Raja Alankaram. Each pack would be would be priced at ₹250.

Elephants arrived for Thekkampatti annual rejuvenation camp

- This year the 13th Elephant Special Welfare Camp starts on the 8th of next month. In turn, preparations for the camp are in full swing.
- Temple and mutt elephants from across the State will start arriving at Thekkampatti, near Mettupalayam for the annual rejuvenation camp.
- 28 elephants participate in the 48-day camp, which was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The elephants will arrive at the camp site on the banks of River Bhavani near the Vanabadrakali Amman temple.

Srivilliputhur–Megamalai Tiger Reserve in TN approved

- The proposal seeks to declare 1.48 lakh hectares of land for the reserve, which will be the fifth for the big cats in TN.
- The Central government has given its approval for the creation of **a fifth tiger reserve in Tamil Nadu**.
- For nearly a decade now, environmental activists have been seeking a tiger reserve linking these two sanctuaries, adjoining the Periyar Tiger Reserve in Kerala, and then to connect it with the Tirunelveli Wildlife Sanctuary, and then to Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve to make it a contiguous corridor where the big cats can thrive.
- India presently has 50 tiger reserves and the latest addition in Tamil Nadu will become the country's 51st reserve.

- The first tiger reserve in Tamil Nadu – Kalakkad Mundanthurai – was formed around 1988-89, which was followed by Anamalai and Mudumalai in 2008 and 2009.
- Tamilnadu's The fourth reserve – Sathyamangalam – was created around 2013-14.

Tiger reserves in TN	
Name	Area (In hectares)
Mudumalai	32,100
Kalakad Mundanthurai	70,654
Anamalai	95,859
Satyamangalam	79,349
Srivilliputhur-Megamalai	1,01,657.13
TN tiger population	
Census	No. of tigers
2006	76
2010	163
2014	229
2018	264

Other Four Tiger reserves in Tamil Nadu

- Mudumalai (2008–09)
- Anamalai (2008–09)
- Sathyamangalam (2013–14)
- Kalakad-Mundanthurai (1988–89)

Edappadi K Palaniswami inaugurates 7 new power substations in Tamil Nadu

- CM Palanisamy inaugurated 7 new substations in Tamil Nadu through a visual display at the Secretariat.
- In this regard, the Government of Tamil Nadu announced that a substation of Rs. 23.81 crore has been set up at Vedaranyam in Nagapattinam district.
- In addition, new substations have been set up at \
- **Chengalpattu District - Thiruporur**
- **Dharmapuri District - Pommidi**
- **Thiruvannamalai District - Karapattu**
- **Villupuram District - Pothamedu**
- **Thanjavur, Karur District - S. Vellalapatti.**

Coimbatore Wetlands Record a Drop In Migratory Birds

- Survey by the Coimbatore Nature Society finds a 65% decline in their numbers in the last five years
- Wetlands in Coimbatore district registered a 65% decline in the number of migratory birds in the last five years, according to surveys conducted by the Coimbatore Nature Society (CNS) for the Asian Waterbird Census.
- CNS recorded 2,592 migratory birds of 35 species in the wetlands of Coimbatore district in 2017.
- This year, 18 birders of CNS recorded just 978 migratory birds of 31 species in 28 wetlands in the district between January 15 and 17. In 2020, birders of CNS had sighted 1,380 migratory birds of 39 species in 26 wetlands in the district.
- The number of resident birds in waterbodies increased from 4,487 of 92 species in 2017 to 6,091 birds of 103 species this year.
- Ukkulam, with 67 bird species, topped the list of wetlands for diversity of species, while the Singanallur tank stood first with the highest number of bird counts – 486.

- Important sightings recorded this year included that of the northern shoveler, northern pintail, temminck's stint, small pratincole, and the whiskered tern.

Voting time in Tamil Nadu polls to be extended by 1 hour, polling centres to be increased: EC

- Voting time: Considering what some parties have said, we have decided to increase the voting time to one hour. An official announcement will be made soon. There were 68,324 polling stations. The total number of polling stations due to corona infection has risen to 93,000. Thus, the manpower and the number of machines is to increase.

An allocation of Rs. 2 crore for the maintenance of 94 ancient and historical monuments

- "In the field of archeology, 94 ancient and historical monuments have been declared and preserved as protected monuments.
- Allocated to carry out reconstruction, protection and maintenance work on protected monuments Rs.1 crore There is an inability to carry out the maintenance work required for the protected symbols with crores of funds.
- 2 crore from the financial year 2020-2021, which has already been allocated as a continuing expenditure in the budget, in order to better preserve the protected monuments of the Department of Archeology in accordance with archeological protocols and to pass on its historical significance to future generations, taking into account the special nature of the work. Only) has been elevated and ordered by the government.

Parliament proceedings | Bill tabled in Lok Sabha to classify 7 SC groups as Devendrakula Velalars

- Union Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment Krishan Pal Gurjar introduced the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2021, to group seven Scheduled Caste communities in certain districts of Tamil Nadu under 'Devendrakula Velalars'.
- As per the statement of objects and reasons, the Tamil Nadu government proposed certain modifications to the list of the Scheduled Castes by grouping seven castes, which exist as separate entries. The communities are to be grouped in the following way: "Devendrakula Velalar [Devendrakulathan, Kadaiyan (excluding in the coastal areas of Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, Ramanathapuram, Pudukottai, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur and Nagapattinam districts), Kalladi, Kudumbam, Pallan, Pannadi, Vathiriyar] and Kadaiyan (in the districts of Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, Ramanathapuram, Pudukottai, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur and Nagapattinam)".
- **Any change in the lists of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes requires a constitutional amendment.**



- The Bill may likely be taken up for consideration and passage in the second part of the Budget session, which will begin on March 8.
- The demand for the grouping had been raised several times, with members of the community having met Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2015.
- Mr. Modi had said at a public meeting in the State that his government was sensitive to the demands of the community.
- Last December, Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami announced that he would write to the Centre to group the seven communities as 'Devendrakula Velalars', accepting the recommendation of the Hansraj Varma Committee established by his government.

Prime Minister Modi opens IIT-Madras satellite campus

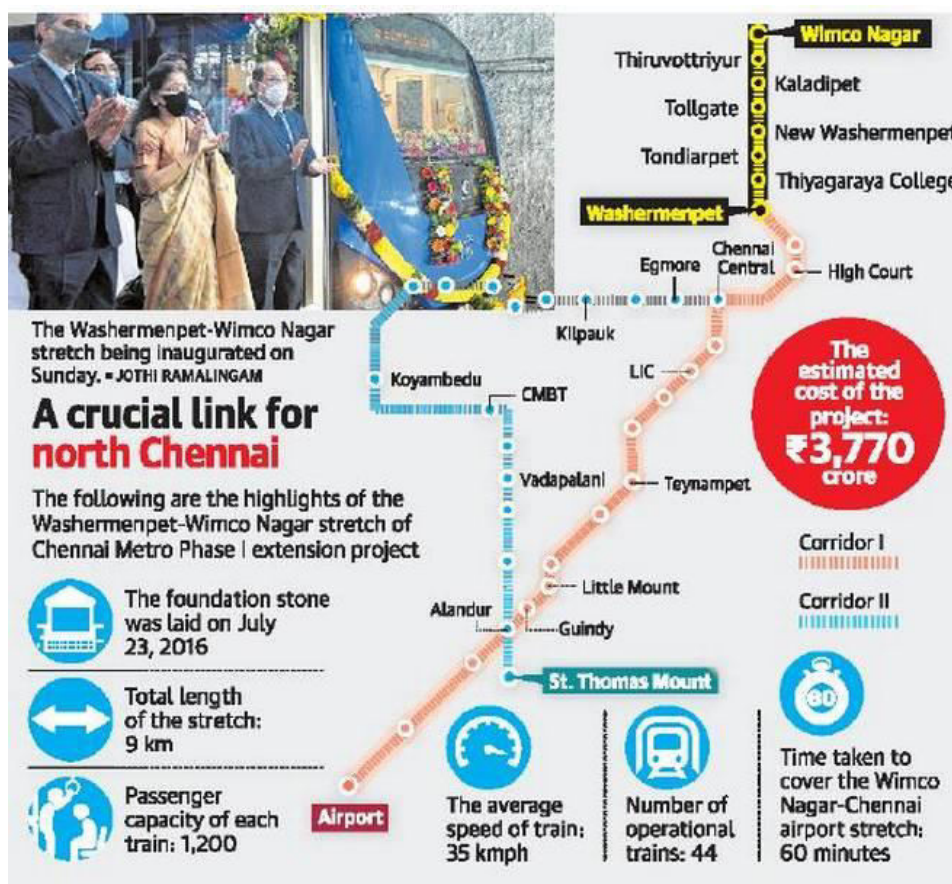
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the satellite campus of the Indian Institute of Technology-Madras coming up at Thaiyur in Chengalpattu district.

CM lays foundation stone for 57 PWD projects, opens new buildings

- Among the total 57 projects, the project to lay new canals and to supply water to drier areas in Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri districts at an estimated cost of Rs 320.58 crore is one of the key projects. The new canals will be laid and excess water from nearby lakes will be drawn to the canal.
- As far as supplying water to drier parts is concerned, a new canal will be established by drawing excess flood water from Thenpennai river in Krishnagiri district. Other projects include constructing check dams, infrastructure to increase ground water, canal repair works and so on.
- The Chief Minister also inaugurated 10 bridges, a foot over bridge and a bypass road, constructed at the total cost of Rs 110.04 crore. All the projects were attached to state highways department.
- The Chief Minister further inaugurated a new Panchayat union primary school in Pappathikadu village in Edappadi constituency and also inaugurated an upgraded higher secondary school in Moolakadu village, also in Edappadi constituency.

5 years on, Metro reaches Wimco Nagar

- As the first service of Metro train started from Washermenpet to Wimco Nagar, several excited commuters entered the trains to take the journey they have been waiting for the past five years.
- The cost of the entire project under phase I is Rs 19,058 crore. Centre has provided the state with Rs 3,770 crore under Phase I extension.



135-foot-tall Murugan statue to come up near Kovilpatti

- Using 95% concrete, three% bricks and two% cement plastering, a 135-foot-tall Lord Murugan statue, at a cost of ₹9 crore, would come up in the foothills of the sprawling Sornamalai Sri Kadirvel Temple near Kovilpatti here. When completed, it will be one among the tallest Murugan statues in Asia.

'Veeran Pollan's birth anniversary a State event'

- Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami announced that Veeran Pollan's birth anniversary would be celebrated as a State event. A manimandapam would be constructed in honour of the freedom fighter, he said.

Tamil Nadu CM unveils Industrial, MSME policy 2021

- The objective of the industrial policy is to achieve an annual growth rate of 15% in the manufacturing sector and attract investments worth ₹10 lakh crore and create employment opportunities for 20 lakh people by 2025.
- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami unveiled the State's new industrial policy 2021 and MSME (micro, small and medium enterprises) policy, 2021
- The objective of the industrial policy is to achieve an annual growth rate of 15% in the manufacturing sector and attract investments worth ₹10 lakh crore and create employment opportunities for 20 lakh people by 2025. The

industrial policy also hopes to increase the contribution of the manufacturing sector to 30% of the State's economy by 2030.



OBJECTIVES OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY 2021:

- Achieving an annual growth rate of **15%** in the manufacturing sector
- Attracting investments worth **₹10 lakh crore** and create 20 lakh jobs by 2025

OBJECTIVES OF MSME POLICY 2021:

- Attracting new investments worth **₹2 lakh crore** in the sector by 2025
- Creating employment opportunities for **20 lakh people**

- 28 MoUs signed, entailing investments worth **₹28,053 crore with the potential for creating 68,775 jobs**. These investments would be spread across sectors like electric vehicles, wind energy, auto components, city gas and textiles

- Foundation stones laid for four Sipcot industrial parks at Manapparai, Maanallur, Oragadam and Dharmapuri, with the aim of creating one lakh jobs
- Foundation stones laid for six industrial estates of the Tamil Nadu Small Industries

Development Corporation Limited, with the aim of generating 13,300 jobs

- TICEL Bio Park inaugurated in Coimbatore

- Completed projects worth ₹3,469 crore inaugurated by the CM

- The Chief Minister also inaugurated 8 completed projects at an investment of ₹3,377 crore and employment potential for 7,139 persons. He also laid the foundation stone for 10 new industrial parks and estates.
- In total, 46 projects with an investment of ₹33,465 crore providing employment opportunities for 2,19,714 persons were launched, according to an official release.

Amazon Manufacturing Unit in Chennai

- Amazon announced that it will start a manufacturing unit in Chennai.
- It will start producing of Amazon Fire TV Stick devices.
- The manufacturing unit will be set up in partnership with Foxconn's subsidiary, Cloud Network Technology.

Synchronised bird census begins

- A two-day synchronised bird census began in all bird and wildlife sanctuaries in the central region on February 17.



- Wildlife and bird sanctuaries at Point Calimere on the east coast near Vedaranyam, Vaduvur and Vijayamarthandapuram in Tiruvarur district, Karaivetti in Ariyalur district were among those protected areas in Tiruchi zone, where the bird census is being undertaken.

PM Modi dedicates natural gas pipeline

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated to the nation the 144-km-long Ramanathapuram-Thoothukudi natural gas pipeline, which will transport the fuel to a fertilizer manufacturing and petrochemical units near the coastal town from the gas fields in Ramanathapuram.
- The project has been executed at a cost of ₹700 crore to bring 8 million metric standard cubic meter per day to Thoothukudi with the compressor station at Valantharavai village in Ramanathapuram district.
- The pipeline is part of a mega natural gas pipeline project being implemented in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and the Union Territory of Puducherry. A 1,445-km-long Ennore-Tiruvallur-Bengaluru-Puducherry-Nagapattinam-Madurai-Thoothukudi natural gas pipeline is being established for evacuation of gas from the liquified natural gas import terminal of 5 million metric tonnes per annum capacity at Kamarajar Port, near Chennai.

Ranipettai Railway Station will become a freight hub after 25 years

- The railway line between Chennai and Ranipettai is one of the oldest railways in India. This railway was built in 1858.
- The railway line between Walaja Road and Ranipettai was closed in 1995. Back in 2012, the railway tracks were rebuilt under the Tindivanam-Nagari new railway line project. However, the railway line remained unused.
- In November last year, the Chennai Railway Division started the work of repairing the track. The final phase of work such as gravel filling, packing and welding was expedited and trains were ready to run again. After 25 years, Ranipettai railway station is once again becoming a hub for freight traffic.

CM Palaniswami to lay foundation stone for Cauvery-Vaigai-Gundar Link scheme

- Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami will lay the foundation stone for the Cauvery-Vellaru-Vaigai-Gundar Link scheme. He will be inaugurating the Rs 6,941 crore-first phase of the project at Kunathur in Viralimalai.
- The project will increase the irrigation capacity by 20%.

Chennai Book Fair with over 700 halls starts on Feb.24:

- The 44th Chennai Book Fair on behalf of the South Indian Booksellers and Publishers Association will be held grandly with 700 halls. It will be inaugurated by Deputy Chief Minister O. Panneerselvam Nandanam on February 24 at the YMCA playground

Over 136 species recorded during census in Karaivetti bird sanctuary

- Total 136 inland and water bird species were spotted during the two-day long annual synchronized bird census 2021 on February 17-18 in Karaivetti bird sanctuary of Ariyalur district. Western reef Egret and Woolly-necked stork bird species were recorded for the first time in the last three years in the bird sanctuary.
- Professor Sivasubramanian, chairman of the Bird Survey Committee, said that endangered species such as pelicans, painted storks, Darter and white ibis are now abundant in the sanctuary.
- Similarly, in the Ladakh region, a large number of Bar-headed Goose are found here.

Woolly-necked stork spotted at Karaivetti Bird Sanctuary



- A woolly-necked stork, a vulnerable wading species, has been spotted and recorded at the Karaivetti Bird Sanctuary in Ariyalur district.

Bird census held at Point Calimere

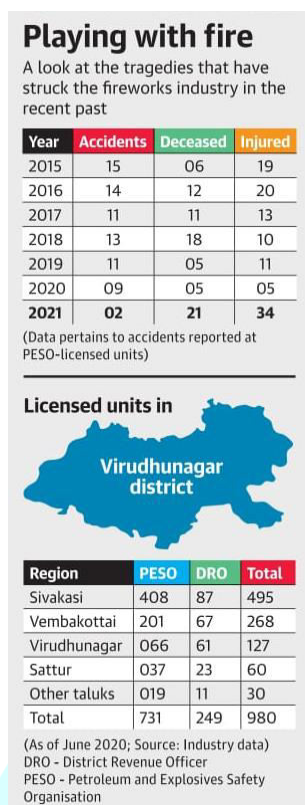
- The two-day annual synchronised bird census carried out at Point Calimere Bird and Wildlife Sanctuary in Nagapattinam district recorded 79 species of water birds and 39 of terrestrial variety within the sprawling premises. The water birds totalled 54, 647 and the land birds 2,153.
- Water bird species recorded at Point Calimere included Little Stint, Black Headed Gul, Pied Kingfisher, White breasted Waterhen, Greater Flamingo, Lesser Flamingo, Black-bellied tern, Lesser Crested tern, Eurasian Curlew, Black headed Ibis, Slender Billed Gull, Purple Heron, Garganey, River Tern, Kentish Plover and Eurasian spoonbill.

Sitting on a powder keg of violations

- 21 people lost their lives and several others suffered grievous injuries, in an accident at a fireworks unit at Sattur. But this will by no means be the last such accident, caution industry watchers as they point to blatant, unchecked violations that continue in the factories in and around Sivakasi.

Playing with fire

- A look at the tragedies that have struck the fireworks industry in the recent past



CM lays foundation for river-link project

- Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami laid the foundation stone for the first phase of the Cauvery-South Vellar-Vaigai-Gundar intra-State river-link project.
- He also laid the foundation for the renovation of irrigation infrastructures under the Extension, Renovation and Modernisation of Cauvery Sub-basin Project, at a function in Kunnathur, near Viralimalai.
- Terming the Cauvery-Gundar river linking a momentous project, he said it would be implemented at a cost of ₹14,400 crore.
- Under the first phase of the intra-State river-link project, a canal will be built from the Mayanur barrage on Cauvery river to the South Vellar – a distance of about 118.45 km – at an estimated cost of ₹6,941 crore.

U. V. Swaminatha Iyer Birthday, Poetry Book Launch Ceremony

- Perambalur Sangam Literary Research Center and Nam Tamar Ooran Literary Research Center, Singapore held a grand ceremony in Perambalur to mark the birthday of Tamil grandfather U. V. Swaminatha Iyer, the U.V.S. Award Ceremony and the Poetry Book Launch Ceremony.

TN CM inaugurates Asia's biggest Rs 1,022-crore cattle park

- Inaugurating the Veterinary Science College and buildings for Asia's biggest Advanced Institute for Integrated Research in Livestock and Animal Science in (AIIRLAS) Thalavasal.
- The AIIRLAS, which also accommodates the State's fifth veterinary college, was constructed at a cost of Rs 1,022 crore on 1,100 acres at Thalavasal.

TN CM unveils portraits of three freedom fighters in Legislative Assembly

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K Palaniswami unveiled the portraits of freedom fighters V O Chidambaram, P Subbarayan and Omandur Ramasamy Reddiyar in the state Assembly.
- Below the picture of V O Chidambaram, Kappalottiya Thamizhan; Below the picture of Dr. P Subbarayan, Generosity Discrimination Ambition; Below Omandur Ramasamy Reddiyar's picture, the words "Honesty, Simplicity, Purity" are engraved.

TN CM attends "bhoomi pooja" of Balaji shrine in Ulundurpet

- Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh), Feb 22 (PTI) Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami took part in the "bhoomi pooja" for a replica of Lord Venkateswara temple at Tirumala that is coming up in Ulundurpet in Tamil Nadu, an official of the temple said.


17,000 trees face axe for Chennai-Bengaluru Expressway

- Around 17,000 trees and plantations will be cut down and 5.4 hectares of reserve forest will be taken over in Kancheepuram, Vellore and Ranipet for laying the Chennai-Bengaluru Expressway (BCE).

Govt. hospitals set to resume transplants

Saving lives
A summary of the transplants performed since April 2020

Item	North zone	South zone	West zone
No. of donors	7	10	3
Organ transplants			
Kidney	9	12	5
Liver	6	9	2
Heart	18	0	0
Heart and lung combined	1	0	0
Dual lung	18	0	0



- With a long waitlist for organ transplants, government hospitals are taking steps to put transplant services back on track after they came to a halt during



the pandemic. A number of hospitals are planning to resume transplant activities in March.

Tamil Nadu's debt is Rs 4,56,660 crore. Increase in debt by Rs 60,000 crore in a single year

- Tamil Nadu budget for the year 2021-22, presented, has estimated that the overall outstanding debt as on March 31, 2022 will be Rs 5,70,189.29 crore.
- Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister O Panneerselvam, while presenting his 11th budget, said that the overall outstanding debt as on March 31, this year, is estimated to be Rs 4,85,502.54 crore.
- Though the rising debt of the state is a cause of concern, Panneerselvam said that the debt-Gross State Development Product (GSDP) ratio of Tamil Nadu is well within the norms set by 15th Finance Commission.

'273 of 413 suggestions of panel implemented'

- The Tamil Nadu government has so far implemented 273 recommendations and observations made by the Dr. C. Rangarajan Committee, constituted to advise the State government on medium-term policy responses to the economic impact of COVID-19, Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister O. Panneerselvam.
- As a result of these actions, Tamil Nadu is expected to register a positive growth rate of 2.02% at 2011-12 constant prices in 2020-21. This is against an all-India negative growth of 7.7% in 2020-21, Mr. Panneerselvam said.

Athikadavu - Avinashi project to be completed by Dec. 2021: Chief Minister

- The interim financial plan states that the Athikadavu-Avinashi project will be completed by December 2021.
- Tamil Nadu has bagged the first place under the 'Best State' category under the National Water Awards (NWAs) 2019, presented by the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.
- The Rs 2,639 crore Kallanai Dam extension, reconstruction and modernization project was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Funding for the project is expected from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank

143 National Awards for Tamil Nadu in 10 Years - Rural Development Leads!

- Every year, the Central Government presents awards to the best performing local bodies across the country. According to this, during the 10 years of AIADMK rule from 2011 to 2021, the Home Department alone has received 143 national awards. In addition, 122 nationals have been received on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Rural Development Department.
- These awards include the National Awards for 18 States, the National Awards for 23 Districts, the National Awards for 17 Panchayat Unions and the awards



for 64 Village Panchayats for their outstanding implementation of rural development projects.

- ❖ Municipal Administration Department-12 National Awards
- ❖ Metropolitan Corporation of Chennai - 5 National Awards
- ❖ Department of Municipality - One National award
- ❖ Chennai Metro Water Board - 2 National Awards
- ❖ 1 National Award - The **Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board** (TWAD Board) has received 21 National Awards from the Tamil Nadu Municipal Administration.

The foundation for the formation of a 'sub-city' in the renovation

- In Mullur near Pudukkottai town Rs. 56.31 crore to lay the foundation stone for setting up a 'sub-city' planted by the Ministry of Public Welfare. Vijayabaskar.
- It was announced at the MGR centenary celebrations that a 'sub-city' would be set up near the Government Medical College in the Pudukkottai district.

CM lays foundation stone for food park in Gangaikondan

- Edappadi K. Palanisamy laid the foundation stone for the new food park to be set up in Gangaikondan, Tirunelveli District.
- **Awards: Bharat Ratna Dr. MGR Traditional Paddy Conservation Award** is given to three persons to encourage farmers to conserve and cultivate traditional paddy varieties.
- The award was given to Sakthiprakadish from Namakkal district, Velmurugan from Salem district and U. Sivaraman from Sivagangai district.

Foundation laid for govt. dental college in Pudukottai

- The foundation stone for a new government dental college and hospital, to be established at Pudukottai Government Medical College campus, was laid.
- Health Minister C. Vijayabaskar, who laid the foundation stone, said the institution would come up in an area of 10.14 acres and the college and hospital buildings would be built at a cost of ₹63.41 crore.

Retirement age of TN government staff increased to 60 years

- Chief Minister K Palaniswami who raised the retirement age of government employees by a year, made an announcement in the Assembly under rule 110 that the increase will apply to all serving government employees including government and aided educational institutions, PSUs and local bodies, and those who retire on May 31, 2021.
- In May last year, the CM had increased the retirement age of government employees to 59 from 58 years.

TN CM inaugurates ₹565 crore Mettur surplus water scheme

- Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami announced that 24-hour three-phase power supply for agricultural pumpsets would be provided from April 1.
- Mr. Palaniswami said that only 0.5 tmc of water is required to fill water in all the lakes and 214 cusecs of water would be lifted for 30 days.
- Mr. Palaniswami also said that to prevent pollution in the Cauvery river and its branch rivers, the government has sent a Detailed Project Report for the Centre's proposal at a cost of ₹10,711 crore under the scheme of 'Nadanthai Vazhi Cauvery.'

Internal quota for Vanniyars

- The Government of Tamil Nadu on February 26 passed a Bill temporarily providing an internal reservation of 10.5 per cent to the community under the category Most Backward Classes (V).
- It has received the assent of Governor on February 26th itself.
- It is shortly called Special Reservation Act of 2021.
- It has created two more groups – one covering 25 MBCs and 68 DNCs and another covering the remaining 22 MBCs.
- The Vanniya kula kshatriya community includes vanniyar, vanniya, vannia gounder, gounder, padayachi, palli and agnikula kshatriya.
- The Bill also provides an internal quota of 7% to Denotified Communities and the Most Backward Classes communities having similarity with Denotified Communities.
- Other Most Backward Classes, not included in the above category, are provided with 2.5% quota.
- This is only a temporary arrangement.
- Changes will be made after the Justice A Kulasekaran Commission make its recommendations
- It was set up to collect quantifiable data on castes, communities and tribes of Tamil Nadu.

Quota Bill based on the 1989 formula

Understanding the quota bill
The State government has arrived at the figures for the three categories of MBC and DNCs based on the 1989 formula

Community	Break-up (%)	Quantum of reservation (%)
Backward Classes	-----	26.5
Backward Class Muslims	-----	3.5
Most Backward Classes (MBC) / De-notified Communities (DNC)		
Vanniakula Kshatriya*	10.5	
MBCs & DNCs**	7	
MBCs***	2.5	
Total		20
Scheduled Castes	-----	18
Scheduled Tribes	-----	1
Grand Total	-----	69

*Includes Vanniyar, Vanniya, Vannia Gounder, Gounder or Kander, Padayachi, Palli and Agnikula Kshatriya
relates to 25 MBCs and 68 DNCs *relates to 22 MBCs

GHCL to expand textile capacities in Tamil Nadu

- GHCL(Gujarat Heavy Chemicals), which has two textile mills in Tamil Nadu, plans to invest ₹150-₹200 crore in the State in FY22.
- The levy of import duty on cotton, as announced in the Budget, would affect the growth of textiles exports.

VOC Port signs 45 MoUs for Rs. 27,000 crores investment

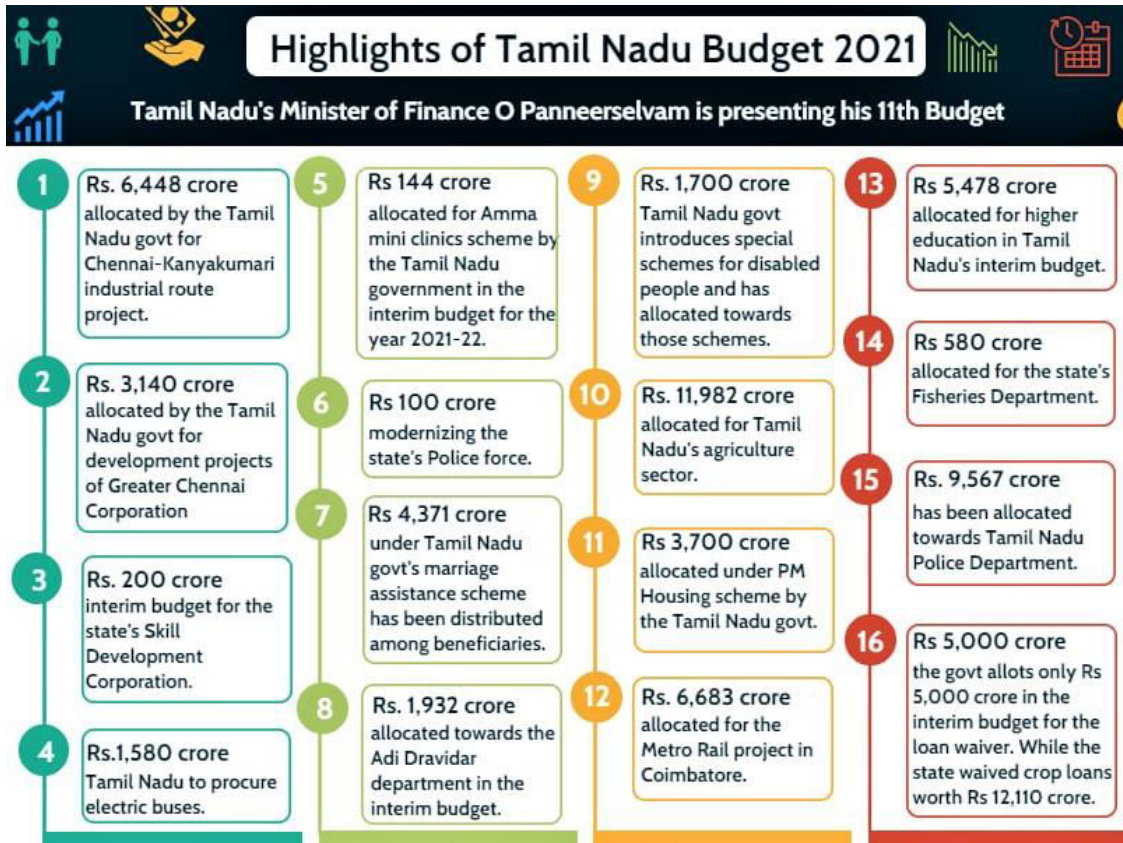
- The flagship initiative of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Government of India, Maritime India Summit-2021 is being organized on a virtual platform from 2nd to 4th March 2021, showcasing the global investment opportunities in the Indian Maritime Sector.

Free Accident Insurance for 56 Lakh Poor Families: Interim Financial Statement - TamilNadu

- The total revenue receipts for 2019-20 are estimated to be Rs 1,97,721 crore, an increase of 9.5% over the revised estimate of 2018-19. Of this, Rs 1,38,140 crore (70% of the revenue receipts) will be raised by the state through its own resources. Rs 59,581 crore (30% of the revenue receipts) will be devolved from the centre in the form of grants and the state's share in central taxes.
- In 2019-20, own revenue and central transfers are expected to be 10.6% and 6.9% higher than the revised estimates of 2018-19, respectively.
- **(In crore rupees)**
- Revenue Receipts: Rs.1,33,530.30
- Revenue Expenses: Rs.2,46,694.69
- Revenue Deficit: Rs.65,994.69

Highlights

- Rs. 19.42 crore allocated to health sector, after playing a robust role in containing the spread of COVID-19 in Tamil Nadu since the outbreak of the pandemic in the state in March last year
- Rs 5,478 crore allocated for higher education. School education sector allocated Rs. 34,181 crore
- Rs. 1738 crore allocated towards the state's agriculture sector. Additional Rs. 5000 crore allocated towards crop loan waiver. Relief provided for loss of paddy due to natural disasters hiked from Rs. 13,000 per hectare to Rs. 20,000 per hectare
- Tamil Nadu police department allocated Rs. 9567 crore. Additional Rs. 100 crore allocated towards modernisation
- Rs. 3700 crore allocated under PM housing scheme. Subsidy for roofing hiked to Rs. 70,000
- Rs. 1953.98 crore allocated for nutrition programme



- Adi Dravidar department allocated Rs. 1932 crore. Additionally, Rs. 100 crore allocated to improve the residential accommodations of the community with basic amenities. Rs. 1276 crore also allocated towards the Tribal sub-project in the State.
- Rs. 1700 crore allocated towards special schemes for the disabled to provide them with ease of access and other facilities.
- Amma mini clinics, launched in December last year to provide essential healthcare services to the downtrodden allocated Rs. 144 crore in the budget.
- Rs. 4371 crore distributed to beneficiaries under the state marriage assistance scheme. Further, gold worth Rs. 1791 crore distributed to 12.5 lakh people over the last 10 years under the state marriage financing scheme
- 40 lakh households to be provided with drinking water connection at a cost of Rs 3,016 crore, with Rs. 6,453 allocated to the Water Resources Department
- Rs. 5171 crore allocated for Phase 2 of road development project. Rs. 6448 crore allocated for Chennai-Kanyakumari industrial route project
- Tamil Nadu receives Rs. 1492 stimulus from the World Bank to finance the state's housing sector
- Rs. 3140 crore allocated for development projects by the Greater Chennai Corporation
- 62 investment projects worth Rs. 39,941 crore granted approval
- Rs 1 crore will be provided by the Government of Tamil Nadu to create a Tamil seat at the University of Toronto in Canada, Finance Minister O.K. Panneerselvam said.



2. SPECIAL NEWS (February-2021)

Budget 2021: 10 most important highlights

- The Centre is on track to push the **2021 Census** to 2022 on account of the country's continuing preoccupation with the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **1. An Expenditure Budget:** Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has found space for imparting a fiscal impulse in 2021-22. Compared with a capex of Rs 4.12 lakh crore in Revised Estimate (RE) of 2020-21, she has hiked it 34.46 per cent to Rs 5.54 lakh crore in 2021-22.
- **2. A Reform Signal:** Two public-sector banks and one state-owned general insurance company to be lined up for disinvestment. FDI in insurance to be hiked to 74% from 49% now. LIC IPO
- **3. No Populism, But Focus on Growth:** Despite being a tough year for the aam admi, the FM has avoided giving any income tax relief. No increase in standard deduction, no raise in the tax slabs.
- **4. Health Gets Its Due:** In a year when the world was ravaged by the Covid-19 pandemic, FM gives health the attention it merited. Health allocation jumped 137% to Rs 2,23,846 crore in 2021-22 compared with Rs 94,452 crore in 2020-21. She provided Rs 35,000 crore for the Covid-19 vaccine, and promised to provide further funds, if required.
- **4. Health Gets Its Due:** In a year when the world was ravaged by the Covid-19 pandemic, FM gives health the attention it merited. Health allocation jumped 137% to Rs 2,23,846 crore in 2021-22 compared with Rs 94,452 crore in 2020-21. She provided Rs 35,000 crore for the Covid-19 vaccine, and promised to provide further funds, if required.
- **5. Bad Bank - A Good Idea:** After dithering for almost six years, the government has finally decided to set up an asset reconstruction company that will take over the bad loans of banks, giving them flexibility to finance the economic recovery.
- **6. Development Finance Institutions (DFI) Reborn:** The idea was dead with most earlier DFIs including IDBI and ICICI turning into banks. To provide debt to long gestation projects, a new DFI with a capital of Rs 20,000 crore. It will have statutory backing, but will be professionally managed. Lending portfolio of Rs 5 lakh crore within three years.
- **7. Asset Monetisation - Will it Gather Pace:** This is an ongoing exercise, where the government hasnt done much to inspire confidence. National Monetisation Pipeline of potential assets of NHAI, PGCIL, Railways, airports, warehouses, sports stadiums.
- **8. Eye on Elections - Not Unexpected:** Four poll-bound states get major highway projects: Tamil Nadu (3,500 km - Rs 1.03 lakh crore), Kerala (1,100 km - Rs 65,000 crore), West Bengal (675 km - Rs 25,000 crore) and Assam (1,300 km - Rs 34,000 crore).



- **9. Strategic Disinvestment – Again, Needs Political/ Bureaucratic Push:** NITI Aayog asked to short list non-core PSUs for strategic sale. After a poor show in 2020-21, the government has estimated disinvestment receipts at Rs 1,75,000 crore.
- **10. Growth Vs Prudence – Tilting Towards Growth:** Fiscal deficit estimated at 6.8 per cent of GDP in 2021-22; it is estimated to touch 9.5% in 2020-21. It will be brought down to 4.5 per cent of GDP by 2025-26.

2020- People have a place in their minds

Award-winning medical woman!

- According to Forbes, the property value of Biocon founder Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw (67), who is proud to be the richest woman in India, is worth Rs. 34,310 crore.
- With Devi Shetty of Narayana Hrudayalaya Hospital, Mazumdar-Shaw has supported the development of Arogya Raksha Yojana (Disease Protection Program/Health Help).
- In January 2020, Kiran became the fourth Indian citizen to be honoured with Australia's highest civilian honour in recognition of her prowess in the production of enzymes, the raw material for life-saving drugs.

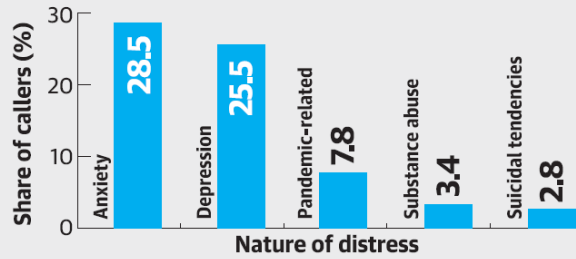
Trying to save the people of the world

- Sudhamurthy (70), founder of Infosys (70), used the Infosys Foundation's assets of Rs 2,500 crore to donate about Rs 1 lakh worth of ration bags, Rs 24 lakh worth of health care medicine packs and millions of liters of sanitizers to clean hands as soon as the global corona spread began. He has provided a kitchen to prepare food for school children, 200 ventilators in Mysore and the necessary assistance for a 250-bed Kovai specialty hospital.
- "This is the 14th disaster I have ever faced," said Sudha Murthy, who worked 10 to 12 hours a day at home during the general strike and wrote a collection of children's short stories.

Men access mental health helpline more

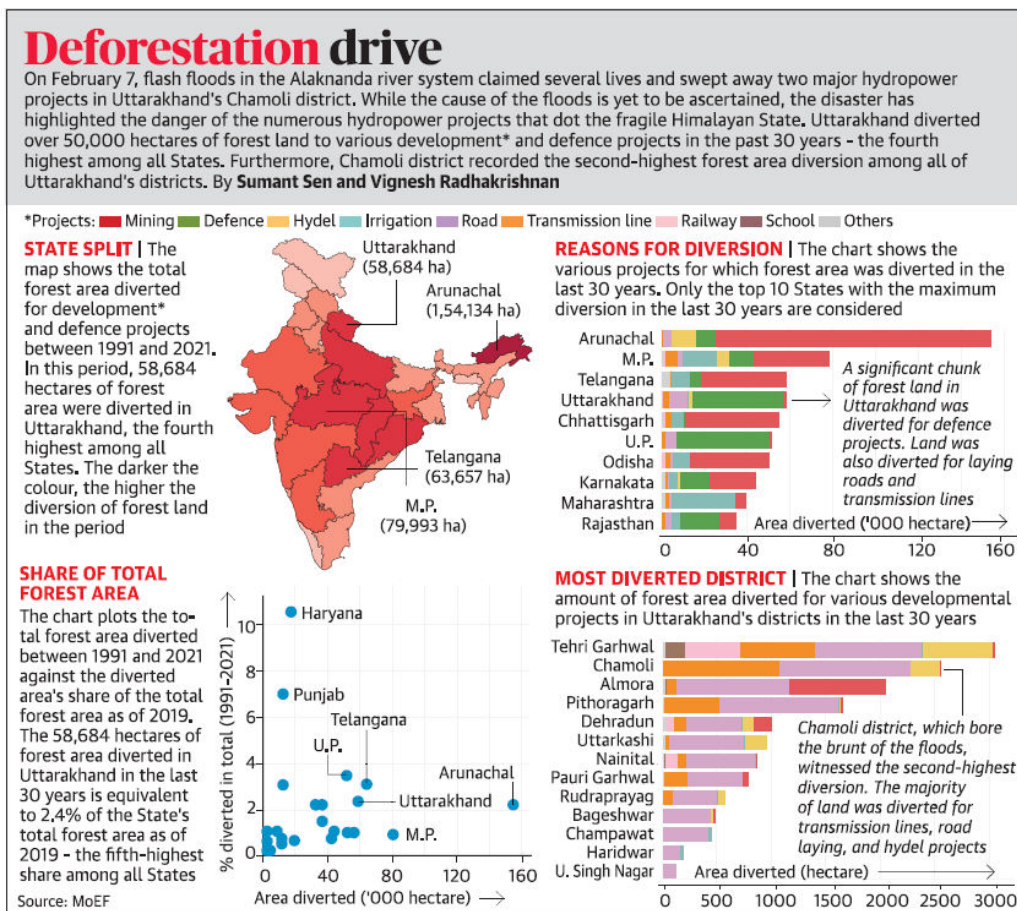
- Seventy per cent of callers to a mental health rehabilitation helpline launched, in September 2020 by the Social Justice and Empowerment (SJE) Ministry, were men according to an internal report of the Ministry accessed by The Hindu. About 32% of those who reached out were students.
- The Kiran helpline (1800-599-0019) of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) of the Ministry was launched on September 7 by SJE Minister Thaawarchand Gehlot. From September 16, 2020 to January 15, the helpline received 13,550 new calls, of which 70.5% were from males and 29.5% from females, the report said.

Reaching out | Anxiety and depression were the top concerns of callers to the mental health rehabilitation helpline launched in September 2020 by the Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry



- A total of 1,618 follow-up calls were fielded by the mental health professionals of the helpline, it said.
- The majority of callers (75.5%) were in the age group of 15 to 40 years, while 18.1% were older, in the 41 to 60 age group, it said.
- Most of the calls were from the North zone (40.32%), followed by West (27.08%), South (16.99%), East (11.28%) and North East (4.33%), the report said.

DATA POINT



Declining Rainfall in Cherrapunji

- A recent study that looked at the rainfall pattern in the past 119 years found a decreasing trend at Cherrapunji (Meghalaya) and nearby areas.

- ❖ The village of Mawsynram in East Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya has beaten Cherrapunji to become the **wettest place in the world**. Mawsynram receives over 10,000 millimetres of rain in a year.
- ❖ Mawsynram is located around **81 km by road from Cherrapunji** however the straight line distance between the two is **15.2 km**.

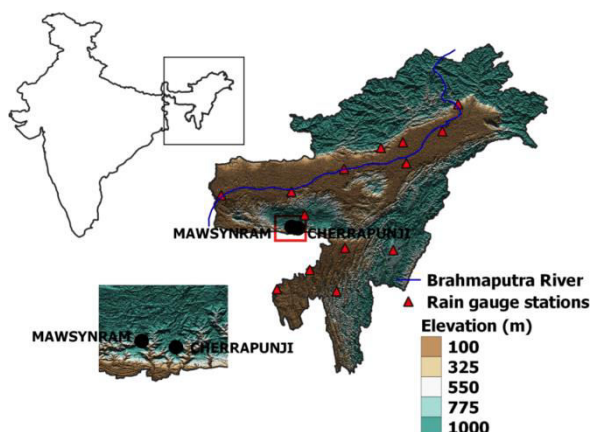


Reduction in Rainfall:

- The **annual mean rainfall** for the period 1973–2019 showed **decreasing trends** of about **0.42 mm per decade**.
- It was statistically significant along seven stations (**Agartala, Cherrapunji, Guwahati, Kailashahar, Pasighat, Shillong and Silchar**).

Rising Temperature:

- The **changes in the Indian Ocean temperature** have a **huge effect** on the rainfall in the region.
- Increasing sea surface temperatures in the tropical Indian Ocean region was pointed out by the **first climate change assessment report** published by the Union Ministry of Earth Sciences in June 2020.
- The satellite data showed that there was a **reduction in the vegetation area** in northeast India in the past two decades, implying that human influence also plays an important role in the changing rainfall patterns.



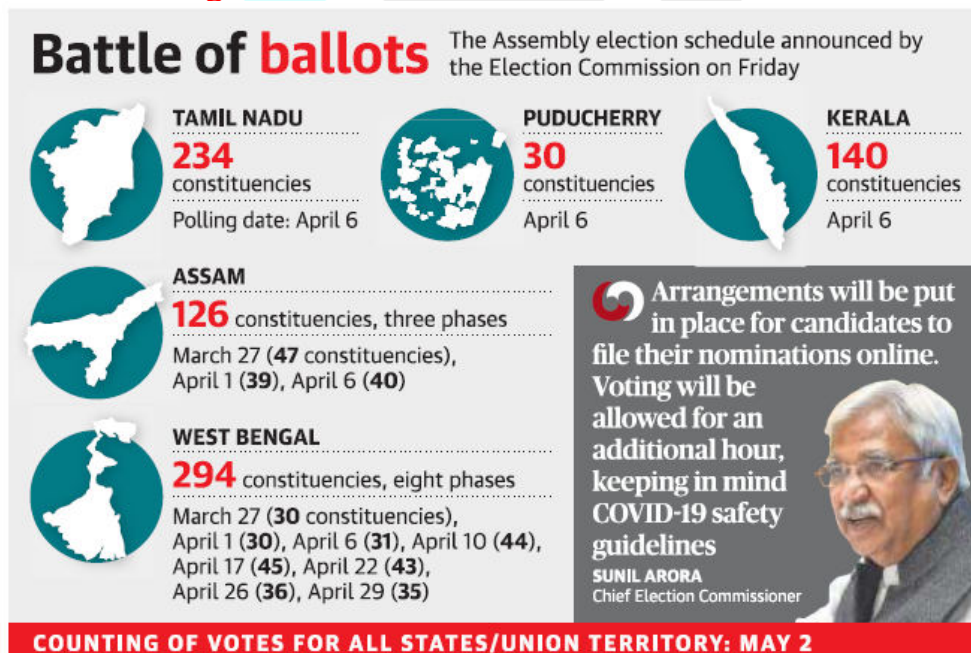
Intensified Mission Indradhanush 3.0 Scheme

- Recently, the **Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 3.0** scheme has been rolled out to cover children and pregnant women who missed routine immunisation during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- To reach the unreached population with all the available vaccines under **Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP)** and thereby accelerate the full immunization and complete immunization coverage of children and pregnant women.
- It will have **two rounds this year** which will be **conducted in 250 pre-identified districts/urban areas** across 29 States/UTs.
- **Objective:**
- To fully immunize more than 89 lakh children who are either unvaccinated or partially vaccinated under UIP.
- Targets children under 2 years of age and pregnant women for immunization.

NHAI contractor creates world record by laying maximum concrete in 18 hours

- The National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has achieved a rare feat by completing a single lane of the four-lane stretch of 25.54 km being developed between **Vijaypur-Solapur (NH 52)** in a record time of 18 hours.
- This quick work will be added to the **Limca Book of Records**.

Kerala, TN, Puducherry to go to polls on April 6; 3 phase polling for Assam, 8-phase elections for Bengal



- This second Assembly election to be conducted amid COVID-19 pandemic.
- The counting of votes will be on May 2.

Tiger Reserves of India

- There are 51 tiger reserves in India which are governed by Project Tiger which is administrated by the **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)**.
- India is home to 80 percent of tigers in the world. In 2006, there were 1,411 tigers which increased to 1,706 in 2010, 2,226 in 2014 and **2967 in 2018**.
- The Indian increase played a big role in driving up global populations as well; the number of wild tigers globally rose from 3,159 in 2010 to 3,890 in 2016 according to World Wildlife Fund and Global Tiger Forum.
- Project Tiger was launched by the Government of India in the year 1973 to save the **endangered species** of tiger in the country.
- The Status of Tigers, Co-Predators and Prey in India, 2018' summary report published by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) and Wildlife Institute of India (WII) based on the fourth cycle of the National Tiger Census in 2018 has set a Guinness World Record as the Largest Camera Trap Wildlife Survey in the World.

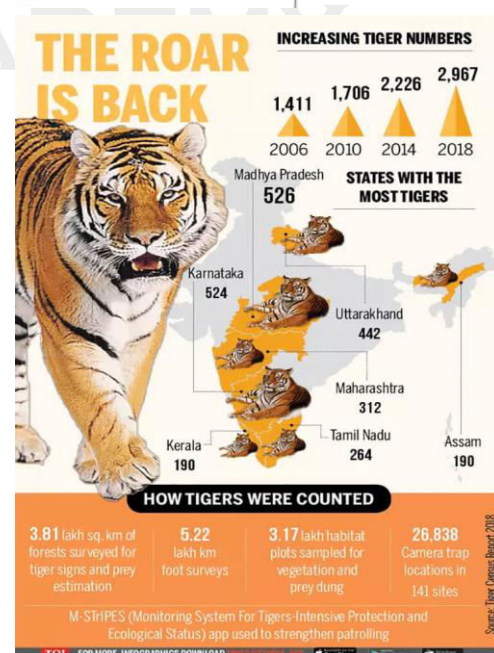
Tigers in India



- Madhya Pradesh has the maximum number of tigers at 526.
- Tamil Nadu has 264 tigers.
- Starting from nine reserves in 1973-74 the number is grown up to fifty one. A total area of 72043.67 km² is covered by these project tiger areas.
- The existing tiger reserves represent around **one-third of India's high density forest area**.

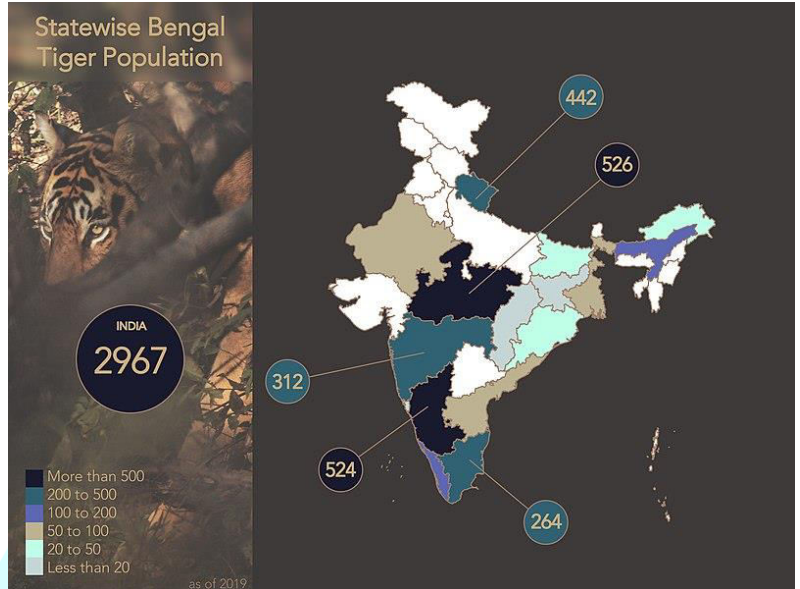
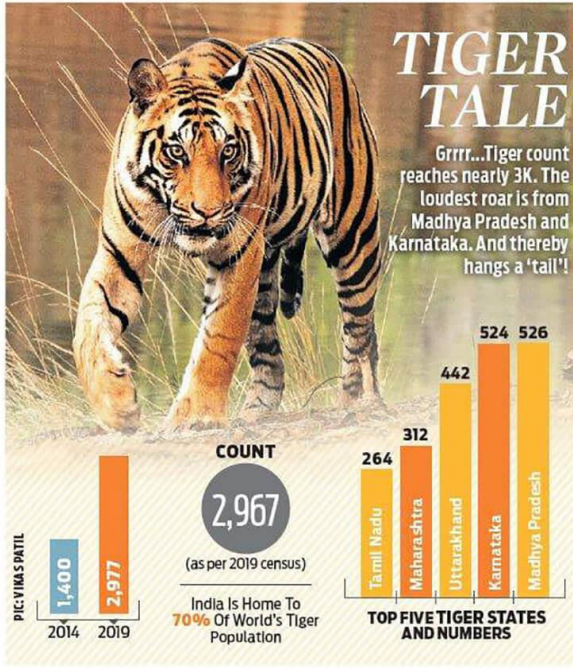
Why is International Tiger's Day celebrated?

- International Tiger's Day is held every year on 29th July to raise public awareness and support regarding several issues related to tiger



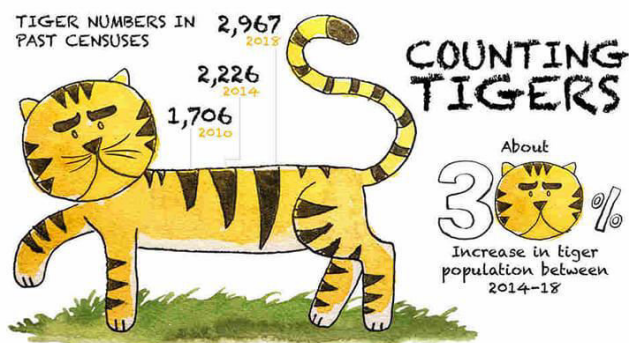
conservation. The idea behind such an event came up at the St. Petersburg Tiger Summit in 2010.

- It was also decided that 29th July would also be known as Global Tiger Day. During the summit, a panel of experts declared a goal towards tiger conservation, which was to double its population by 2022.



Economic value of tiger reserves

- The government had also conducted a study to understand the economic value of tiger reserves to the country. After analysing 10 of them, it reached the conclusion that the benefits, both from the environmental and socio-economic point of view, amounted to almost 4,200 crores to 16,000 crores annually.





Tiger Reserves of India

S.No	Name of Tiger Reserve	State	Area of the core / critical tiger habitat (In Sq. Kms.)	Area of the buffer peripheral / (In Sq. Kms.)	Total area (In Sq.Kms.)
1.	Bandipur	Karnataka	872.24	584.06	1456.3
2.	Corbett	Uttarakhand	821.99	466.32	1288.31
	Amangarh (buffer of Corbett TR)	Uttar Pradesh		80.60	80.60
3.	Kanha	Madhya Pradesh	917.43	1134.361	2051.791
4.	Manas	Assam	840.04	2310.88	3150.92
5.	Melghat	Maharashtra	1500.49	1268.03	2768.52
6.	Palamau	Jharkhand	414.08	715.85	1129.93
7.	Ranthambore	Rajasthan	1113.364	297.9265	1411.291
8.	Similipal	Odisha	1194.75	1555.25	2750.00
9.	Sunderbans	West Bengal	1699.62	885.27	2584.89
10.	Periyar	Kerala	881.00	44.00	925.00
11.	Sariska	Rajasthan	881.1124	332.23	1213.342
12.	Buxa	West Bengal	390.5813	367.3225	757.9038
13.	Indravati	Chhattisgarh	1258.37	1540.70	2799.07
14.	Namdapha	Arunachal Pradesh	1807.82	245.00	2052.82
15.	Dudhwa	Uttar Pradesh	1093.79	1107.9848	2201.7748
16.	Kalakad-Mundanthurai	Tamil Nadu	895.00	760.542	1601.542
17.	Valmiki	Bihar	598.45	300.93	899.38
18.	Pench	Madhya Pradesh	411.33	768.30225	1179.63225



19.	Tadoba-Andhari	Maharashtra	625.82	1101.7711	1727.5911
20.	Bandhavgarh	Madhya Pradesh	716.903	820.03509	1598.10
21.	Panna	Madhya Pradesh	576.13	1021.97	1578.55
22.	Dampa	Mizoram	500.00	488.00	988.00
23.	Bhadra	Karnataka	492.46	571.83	1064.29
24.	Pench	Maharashtra	257.26	483.96	741.22
25.	Pakke	Arunachal Pradesh	683.45	515.00	1198.45
26.	Nameri	Assam	200.00	144.00	344.00
27.	Satpura	Madhya Pradesh	1339.264	794.04397	2133.30797
28.	Anamalai	Tamil Nadu	958.59	521.28	1479.87
29.	Udanti-Sitanadi	Chattisgarh	851.09	991.45	1842.54
30.	Satkosia	Odisha	523.61	440.26	963.87
31.	Kaziranga	Assam	625.58	548.00	1173.58
32.	Achanakmar	Chattisgarh	626.195	287.822	914.017
33.	Dandeli-Anshi	Karnataka	814.884	282.63	1097.54
34.	Sanjay-Dubri	Madhya Pradesh	812.571	861.931	1674.502
35.	Mudumalai	Tamil Nadu	321.00	367.59	688.59
36.	Nagarahole	Karnataka	643.35	562.41	1205.76
37.	Parambikulam	Kerala	390.89	252.772	643.662
38.	Sahyadri	Maharashtra	600.12	565.45	1165.57
39.	Biligiri Ranganatha Temple	Karnataka	359.10	215.72	574.82
40.	Kawal	Telangana	893.23	1125.89	2019.12



41.	Sathyamangalam	Tamil Nadu	793.49	614.91	1408.40
42.	Mukandra Hills	Rajasthan	417.17	342.82	759.99
43.	Nawegaon-Nagzira	Maharashtra	653.674	-	653.674
44.	Nagarjunsagar Srisailam (part)	Andhra Pradesh	2595.72	700.54	3296/31
45.	Amrabad	Telangana	2166.37	445.02	2611.39
46.	Pilibhit	Uttar Pradesh	602.7980	127.4518	730.2498
47.	Bor	Maharashtra	138.12	-	138.12
48.	Rajaji Tiger Reserve	Uttarakhand	255.63	819.54	1075.17
49.	Orang Tiger Reserve	Assam	79.28	413.18	492.46
50.	Kamlang Tiger Reserve	Arunachal Pradesh	671.00	112.00	783.00
51.	Srivilliputhur- Megamalai Tiger Reserve	Tamil Nadu	641.86	374.70	1016.57
TOTAL			40981.98	31061.68	72043.67



State and Number-wise List of Tiger Reserves in India

S.No	State	No. of Tiger reserves	Tiger Reserve
1.	Assam	04	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kaziranga Tiger Reserve• Manas Tiger Reserve• Nameri Tiger Reserve• Orang Tiger Reserve
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	03	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Namdapha Tiger Reserve• Pakke Tiger Reserve• Kamlang Tiger Reserve
3.	Andhra Pradesh	01	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nagarjunsagar-Srisaillam Tiger Reserve
4.	Bihar	01	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Valmiki Tiger Reserve
5.	Chhattisgarh	03	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Achanakmar Tiger Reserve• Indravati Tiger Reserves• Udanti & Sitanadi Tiger Reserve
6.	Jharkhand	01	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Palamau Tiger Reserve
7.	Karnataka	05	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bandipur Tiger Reserve• Nagarhole (extension) Tiger Reserve• Bhadra Tiger Reserve• Anshi Dandeli Tiger Reserve• Biligiri Rangaswamy Temple Wildlife Sanctuary
8.	Kerala	02	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Periyar Tiger Reserve• Parambikulam Tiger Reserve
9.	Madhya Pradesh	06	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve• Satpura Tiger Reserve• Kanha Tiger Reserve• Panna Tiger Reserve• Pench Tiger Reserve• Sanjay Dubri Tiger Reserve
10.	Maharashtra	06	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Melghat Tiger Reserve• Pench Tiger Reserve• Tadoba Andhari Tiger Project• Shahayadri Tiger reserve• Nagzira-Navegaon Tiger Reserve• Bor Tiger Reserve



11.	Mizoram	01	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dampa Tiger Reserve
12.	Odisha	02	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Satkosia Tiger Reserve• Simlipal Tiger Reserve
13.	Rajasthan	03	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve• Sariska Tiger Reserve• Mukundara Hills Tiger Reserve
14.	Tamil Nadu	05	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve• Anamalai Tiger Reserve• Mudumalai Tiger Reserve• Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve• Srivilliputhur-Megamalai Tiger Reserve
15.	Telangana	02	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kawal Tiger Reserve• Nagarjunsagar-Srisaillam Tiger Reserve
16.	Uttar Pradesh	02	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dudhwa Tiger Reserve• Pilibhit Tiger Reserve
17.	Uttarakhand	02	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Corbett Tiger Reserve• Rajaji Tiger reserve
18.	West Bengal	02	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Buxa Tiger Reserve• Sunderbans Tiger Reserve



3. IMPORTANT EVENTS

Thyagaraja aradhana begins

- The pandakaal ceremony for the 174th Thyagaraja Aradhana festival took place in Tiruvaiyaru Thyagarajar ashram. The festival, which is usually celebrated for five days, has been cut short to two days (February 1 and 2), owing to Covid restrictions. This was disclosed by trustee of Sri Thygabrahma Mahotsava Sabha G Chandrasekara Moopnar.

PM Modi to inaugurate Chauri Chaura centenary celebrations on 4 February

- The day marks 100 years of the 'Chauri Chaura' incident, a landmark event in the country's fight for independence.
- The Prime Minister also released a postal stamp dedicated to the Chauri Chaura centenary during the event, according to a press release.

Parliament House: 100 Years Ago, Foundation Stone Was Laid

- One hundred years ago, when the nation was still in the making and Independence 26 years away, Britain's Duke of Connaught laid the foundation stone of Parliament House and said it would stand "as the symbol of India's rebirth to yet higher destinies".
- A century from that February 12, 1921 day, as parliamentarians from various parties sat in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha for the budget session and work continued on a new parliament building close by, the milestone was a blip in history unnoticed by many.
- The building, with a diameter of 560 ft and circumference of one-third of a mile, was designed by **Sir Herbert Baker**, who along with **Sir Edwin Lutyens** was chosen to design the new imperial capital in Delhi on a site in the Raisina Hill area.
- The architectural masterpiece, which was originally called Council House, was inaugurated six years later in 1927, 20 years before India attained its freedom on August 15, 1947, by then Viceroy **Lord Irwin**

PM addresses at NASSCOM Technology and Leadership Forum

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will address the NASSCOM Technology and Leadership Forum (NTLF) on 17th February 2021 at 12:30 PM via video conferencing.

About NTLF

- The 29th edition of NTLF is organised from 17th to 19th February 2021. It is the flagship event of the National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM).



- The theme of this year's event is 'Shaping the future towards a better normal'. The event will host 1600 participants from more than 30 countries and more than 30 products will be showcased during the three-days of talks.

Kalaimamani awards for 2019, 2020

2019 List Recipients Details:

- T. Muthukrishnan - Author
- Vaigaichelvan - Literature
- Avadikumar - Writer
- V. Satyanarayanan - Writer
- Anil Srinivasan - Piano
- K. Krishnakumar, Binny Krishnakumar - Vocals
- Sikkil Gurucharan - Vocals
- S. Subalakshmi and S. Suvarnalatha - Violin
- S. Yukarajan - Miruthangam
- Achalpuram S. Chinnathambi - Nadaswaram
- D.S.T Selvaratnam - Nagaswaram
- D. A. Subramanian - Thavil
- Jolly Abraham - Melody
- Sai Sharavanam - Music Sound Recorder
- R. Abhishek Raghuram - Vocals
- M.V Muthu, T. Rajendran, Ramesh, T Srinivasan (Drama Actors)
- R. Muralitharan, Maya Siam Sundar, Parvathi Balasubramanian (Bharata dance teachers)
- D.M Sridevi (Bharatanatyam Artist)
- Aarumugam - Street theatre
- SB Muthulakshmi - Villu Paatu
- Manjunathan - Pambai drums artist
- A. Muthukumar - Tholpavakoothu
- K.M. Ganesan - Naiyandi Melam
- V. Lakshmi Ammal - Village Singer
- M. Pathirappan - Valli Gummi - Oyilattam
- Thangavelu - Themmangu Singer
- P. Chandramohan - Vikadam
- A. Mohan - Marakkal Attam
- K.S Krishnappa, B.S Muthukrishnan (Musicals)
- M.P Jothi - Musical Drama Actress
- Ramarajan - Film Actror
- Yogibabu - Comedian
- Devadashini - Film Actress
- Liaquat Ali Khan - Film director
- Dhina - Composer



- Kamkodiyan - Movie Songwriter
- Raghunath Reddy - Cinematographer
- Anand - Singer
- Sujatha - Singer
- V.L Prasad - Tabla Artist
- Momagan - Melody Artist
- Kalaipuli Thanu - Producer
- Anthony - Editor
- S. Rajendran - Movie Costume
- Commander Dinesh - Fight Coach
- Sivasanga - Choreographer
- Singaravelu - Public Relations Officer
- Manojkumar - Director
- Shanmugam - Cosmetic artist
- Nandakumar - Actress
- Shanti Williams - Actress
- KN Ramasamy, M. Murali - Cultural art propagator

2019 List Recipients Details:

- K. Kalyanaraman - Religious Speaker
- Tamarai Senthupandi - Storyteller
- Panappakkam Sukumar - Author of the book
- Arasuparameswaran, M.S. Perumal - Writer
- Ratnakumari Kalyanasundaram - Vocals
- S. Karthik - Ghatam
- V. Janmohan - Harmonium
- Murugapoopati - Miruthangam
- Sairam Sundaram - Miruthangam
- SNO Krishnamurthy - Nathaswaram
- S.Marimuthu - Thavil
- MS Martin - Keyboard
- Shanmugasundaradesika - Thevaram
- Ranjani and Gayatri-vocals
- AG Govindarasu - Saxophone
- SV Usha - Vocals
- D. A. Sundaresan - Miruthangam
- Nirmala Rajaseka - Veenai
- Jayalakshmi Sehwag - Veenai
- Mangalam Natarajan - Drama Actress
- Palani - Drama Actror
- Poovai Mani - Drama Actror
- Janarthanan, Kavita Charles (Bharata Natya Artist)



- Srilatha Vinod - Bharata Natya teacher
- Vijayalakshmi Bhupathi, Apna Ramesh (Bharata Natya Artist)
- T.Kanniyappan - Therukkuthu
- V. MuthuPerumaal - Kaniyan koothu
- A. Palaniyammal - Karakattam
- M.S.P Thangavel - Dappatta Artist
- A.M.P Nago - Poikkaal Kuthirai Aattam
- Valliyoor Saasukutty - Nayandi Mela Nagthaswaram
- Palaniappillai - Rural Singer
- Dr. Thamaraj - Oyilattam
- Amalapushpam - Village singer
- Govindaraj - Marakkaal Aaatam
- Dhandapani - Street drama
- Dhurai - Street drama
- M. Sekar - Street drama
- Gothandraman - Nathaswaram
- Murugappa - Musical Drama Actror
- K.R.M. Indira - Musical Drama Actress
- Thara Kadarkhan - Musical Drama Actress
- Prasad V.C Rajendran - Musical Drama Actror
- Sivakarhikeyan - Actror
- Aishwarya Rajesh - Actress
- Madhumitha - Comedian
- D.Imman - Composer
- Kaadhal Madhi - Lyricist
- S. Balesh and Krishna Balesh - Shenoy Artists
- Ishri Ganesh - Producer
- V. Prabhakar - Vasanakartha
- Jaguar Thangam - Stunt Choreographer
- Sreedhar - Choreographer
- Sangeetha - Actress
- Sabita Joseph - Film journalist
- Chitrarasu - Photographer
- Sabri Grison - Makeup artist
- Gautham Vasudev Menon - Director
- S.Ravi Maria - Actor-Director
- Y. Prabhu, J. Balasubramanian - Cultural art propagator

Bharati Award for Seeni Viswanathan

- Noted artistes Vani Jayaram and S. Rajeswari have been named for receiving the all-India award – the M.S. Subbulakshmi Award (Music) for 2019 and 2020 respectively.



- Artistes Alarmel Valli and Chandra Dhandayuthapani, too, are to receive the all-India award – the Balasaraswathi Award (Dance) for 2019.
- Veteran cine actors B. Saroja Devi and Sowcar Janaki, noted playback singers P. Susheela and Jamuna Rani and Bharatanatyam artistes Ambika Kameshwar and Parvathi Ravi Ghantasala have been named for the Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalithaa Special Kalaimamani Awards for 2019 and 2020 by the Tamil Nadu government.

Quad Ministers' meeting | India, U.S. call for rule of law in Myanmar

- India joined Australia, Japan and the United States for a ministerial meeting under the quadrilateral grouping.
- The third meeting of the foreign ministers of the group that includes India, Australia, Japan and the US is being held less than five months after the last meeting in Tokyo in October, signalling the Biden administration's commitment to the Quad as a key formation in the Indo-Pacific.
- The meeting will "provide an opportunity to continue the useful exchange of views from their last meeting in Tokyo" on October 6, 2020, the external affairs ministry said in a brief statement.

Niti Aayog meet: J&K to make its entry as PM Modi leads talks

- The sixth meeting of the Niti Aayog Governing Council will also witness the entry of the two Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh with their new status as independent UTs. This time other Union Territories headed by administrators have also been invited to join the meeting.
- Jammu and Kashmir is also shifting from state to Union Territory status.

National Technology Awards 2020!!!

- **12 companies chosen for National Technology Awards 2020!!!** Technology Development Board (TDB) has chosen 12 companies for National Technology Awards 2020 for commercialization of innovative indigenous technologies.

This award is given under three categories namely:

- ❖ Indigenous Technologies
- ❖ MSME
- ❖ Startups
- SVP Laser Technologies Private Limited, Chennai- **MSMES**
- AlgalR NutraPharms Private Limited, Thanjavur- **MSMES**

Chennai International Film Festival

- *Endravadhu oru Naal*, directed by Vetri Duraiswamy, was given the best Tamil feature film award in the Tamil film competition held as part of the 18th Chennai International Film Festival (CIFF).
- The French film *The Girl with the Bracelet* was screened as the opening film.

- *Chiyangal*, directed by Vaigarai Balan, won the second best Tamil feature film award. Actress Aishwarya Rajesh received a special mention award for her role in the film *Ka Pae Ranasingham* and cinematographer Shanmuga Sundaram was given the special jury award for his work in the film *Endravadhu Oru Naal*.
- PVR Cinemas hosts 18th Chennai International Film Festival in partnership with Indo Cine Appreciation Foundation (ICAF).
- Around 91 films from 53 countries were screened over the last seven days as part of the film festival organised by the Indo Cine Appreciation Foundation (ICAF) in association with PVR Cinemas.
- Tamil film competition held as part of the 18th Chennai International Film Festival (CIFF)

ISRO places Brazil's Amazonia-1, 18 other satellites in orbit



- ISRO successfully launched Brazil's optical earth observation satellite, Amazonia-1, and 18 co-passenger satellites from India [5] and the U.S.A. [13] from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SHAR) at Sriharikota.
- The Amazonia-1 was injected into its precise orbit of 758 km in a sun-synchronous polar orbit.
- 'Sindhu Netra' was part of the satellites launched.



- Five satellites belong to India including the **Satish Dhawan** SAT (SDSAT) built by Space Kidz India, a nano-satellite intended to study the radiation levels, space weather and demonstrate long range communication technologies.
- A photo of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been engraved on the top panel of this spacecraft.
- It is also sending up “Bhagavad Gita” in SD (secured digital) card.
- Sri Shakthi Institute of Engineering and Technology’s PICO satellite also launched from ISRO, Sriharikota



ARUL IAS ACADEMY



4. IMPORTANT PERSON

Senior IAS officer Rajeev Ranjan is new Tamil Nadu Chief Secretary

- Rajeev Ranjan will be replacing K Shanmugam, who will be retiring from the post but will continue as an advisor to the government for a year.
- Ranjan belongs to the 1984 batch of IAS cadre and has held several posts in his 35 years of service.
- His last posting in the state was as Additional Chief Secretary (Highways) between 2013 and 2018. He was Principal Secretary in the same department before that and had worked directly under Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami who has held the post of Highways Minister since 2011.
- Before that, he had been the Principal Secretary (Industries) and Chairman of the Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation.

1998 Gujarat IPS cadre officer Praveen Sinha appointed interim director of CBI

- The decision was announced by the government as incumbent director Rishi Kumar Shukla's tenure came to an end.
- The government notification stated that Sinha will take over the duties of Shukla with immediate effect until the appointment of a new CBI director. RK Shukla joined the agency on February 4, 2019.

Amazon's Bezos to step down as CEO; Andy Jassy to take over the role

- Amazon.com Inc said founder Jeff Bezos would step down as CEO and become executive chairman, as the company reported its third consecutive record profit and quarterly sales above \$100 billion for the first time.
- Net sales rose to \$125.56 billion as consumers turned to the world's largest online retailer for holiday shopping, beating analyst estimates of \$119.7 billion, according to IBES data from Refinitiv.
- Amazon, the world's largest online retailer, instead recruited over 400,000 more workers and posted consecutive record profits.

Amazon.com

- Amazon.com, online retailer, manufacturer of electronic book readers, and Web services provider that became the iconic example of electronic commerce. Its headquarters are in Seattle, Washington.
- Its Web services business includes renting data storage and computing resources, so-called "cloud computing," over the Internet.
- Its considerable online presence is such that, in 2012, 1 percent of all Internet traffic in North America traveled in and out of Amazon.com data centres.
- The company also makes the market-leading Kindle e-book readers.
- In 1994 Jeff Bezos, a former Wall Street hedge fund executive, incorporated Amazon.com

Bharathidasan University gets new V-C

- Mr. Selvam will hold office for a period of three years from the date of his assumption of charge, according to a press release issued by the Raj Bhavan.
- Mr. Selvam, who retired from service about three years ago, serves as the Accreditation Ambassador under the UGC's Paramarsh Scheme. He has a rich academic experience of about 36 years.

Statue of warrior Palani at Allahabad Army Center

- A memorial building and his bronze statue were unveiled at the Allahabad Army Center where he served Palani, a Ramanathapuram district soldier who died fighting the enemy to defend the country's borders.
- Havildar Palani, 40, of Kadugalur, Thiruvananthapuram taluka, Ramanathapuram district, was killed in a clash between Chinese troops on June 15 in the Kalwan valley in the Ladakh region of India. The 'Veer Chakra', one of the three highest awards of the Army, has been announced for Palani, who died a heroic death for the country on the occasion of Republic Day.

Kanchipuram Throat Zone Aadheenam 233rd Abbot -elected

- The 232nd Abbot of the Kanchipuram Thondai Mandala Aadheena Monastery, headquartered in Kanchipuram, passed away on October 2 last year.
- Following this, Natarajan (76), a retired Public Works Engineer, who was heading to Kovilpatti for spiritual work, was unanimously elected as the 233rd Abbot of Athena in the presence of the Seeds and Trustees of the Throat Zone Athena in all the districts.
- He was named as The 233rd Kurumaka Sannidhanam Tiruchirambala Dhesika Gnanaprakasa Paramacharya Swami.

Centenary celebration for Tagore's 1921 visit to Houston

- The centenary celebration of Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore's visit here in February 1921 was held amidst freezing temperatures at the Tagore Grove memorial in Ray Miller Park, followed by a virtual concert the next day with presentations of the poet's music and recitation.
- The two-day event, organised by the Tagore Society of Houston (TSH), was attended by Consul General of Houston Aseem Mahajan, a few invited guests and TSH members, keeping in mind the pandemic restrictions.

Indian-American scientist Swati Mohan played key role in NASA Mars rover landing

- An Indian-American scientist, Swati Mohan, played a pivotal role in landing NASA's historic Perseverance rover on the Martian surface. She leads the guidance, navigation, and control operations of the US space agency's Mars 2020 mission.



- Swati Mohan was also the first to confirm that the rover had successfully touched down on the Martian surface after surviving a particularly tricky plunge through the atmosphere of the Red Planet.

"Touchdown confirmed!"

- The announcement was from Indian-American scientist Swati Mohan who leads the guidance, navigation, and control operations of NASA's Mars 2020 mission.

Young Ayesha Aziz gives wings to Kashmir women's dreams

- Ayesha Aziz, 25, became the country's youngest pilot when she acquired her flying license at the age of 16. She now flies GoAir planes and is emerging as a role model among women in the Kashmir valley, who too are eager to break the social barriers of a conservative society to join professions otherwise dominated by men.
- Ms. Aziz, procured her pilot's license in 2011.

Mehbooba Mufti re-elected PDP president

- Mufti's name was proposed by senior leader Ghulam Nabi Lone Hanjura and seconded by Khurshid Alam, a party spokesperson said after the election.
- Former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Mehbooba Mufti was unanimously re-elected as president of the PDP for a three-year term. Mufti's name was proposed by senior leader Ghulam Nabi Lone Hanjura and seconded by Khurshid Alam, a party spokesperson said after the election.
- The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) was formed in 1998 by Mufti Mohammad Sayeed as a regional alternative to the National Conference.

U.S. Senate confirms Linda Thomas-Greenfield as U.N. ambassador

- The US Senate on February 23, 2021 confirmed Linda Thomas-Greenfield as US ambassador to the United Nations. Greenfield's name was nominated for the post by US President Joe Biden.
- Thomas-Greenfield, 68, is a 35-year veteran of the Foreign Service who has served on four continents, most notably in Africa.

Poet Vishnu Narayanan Namboothiri passes away

- Vishnu Narayanan Namboothiri, the eminent poet and academic whose verses reflected a serene blend of tradition and modernity, passed away. He was 81.
- For some time now, the poet had been confined to 'Sreevalli' - his home on a narrow by-lane at Thycaud in Thiruvananthapuram city - owing to failing health.
- His important poetical works include *Swathantryathe Kurichoru Geetham*, *Pranaya Geethangal*, *India Enna Vikaram*, 'Ujjayiniyile Raappakalukal,' 'Aranyakam,' Parikramam,' 'Aparajitha,' "Bhoomigeethangal," and

'Mukhamevide.' Other works include 'Asaahitheeyam,' 'Kavithayude DNA,' and 'Alakadalum Neyyambalukalum,' 'Rithu Samharam' and 'Kuttikalude Shakespeare.'

- The nation honoured him with the Padma Shri in 2014.

Indian economist Ligia Noronha appointed as UN Assistant Secretary-General

- UN chief Antonio Guterres has appointed leading Indian economist **Ligia Noronha** as Assistant Secretary-General and Head of the New York Office of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- Noronha is an economist with over 30 years of international experience in the field of sustainable development.
- She has worked since 2014 as Director of UNEP's Economy Division based in Nairobi, leading UNEP's work on climate mitigation and energy transitions; on inclusive green economies, sustainable consumption and production, as well as on trade and sustainable finance, and the nexus of environment, pollution and health, the statement said

Saint Ravidas' birthday (27 February 2021)

- Ravidas, also called Raidas, of 15th or 16th century, was a mystic and poet who was one of the most renowned of the saints of the North Indian bhakti movement.



5. ECONOMIC EVENTS

T.N. to get ₹15,475 crore as GST compensation for FY2020-21

- '₹5,229.92 cr. released through its special-borrowing window'
- The provisional GST compensation due to Tamil Nadu for FY2020-21 (till November) stands at ₹15,475 crore, according to information provided in the Rajya Sabha.
- Responding to a question on GST dues to States, Anurag Singh Thakur, Minister for State Finance, said in a written reply that GST compensation for financial years 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 had already been paid to the States.
- However, only part GST compensation had been released to the States for the bi-monthly compensation period of April and May 2020, due to short cess collection in the GST Compensation Fund, he said
- The balance GST compensation for April-May 2020 and GST compensation for the full period June-November 2020 was pending for all States, he said.
- Responding to another question by DMK MP Tiruchi Siva on GST compensation to Tamil Nadu, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said a total of ₹12,073 crore compensation had been paid to the State for FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20.
- An official statement from the Finance Ministry said ₹5,229.92 crore had been released to Tamil Nadu through its special-borrowing window, to meet the resource gap due to the non-release of GST compensation, on account of inadequate balance in the Compensation Fund.

HAL gets contract for 83 LCAs in ₹48,000 cr. deal

- At the 13th edition of Aero India in Bengaluru, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) was awarded the contract to manufacture 83 Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas for the Indian Air Force (IAF) at an estimated cost of ₹48,000 crore while India showcased a range of indigenous military platforms to the world.
- We plan to spend \$130 bn on military modernisation in the next 7-8 year". He urged global defence companies to set up manufacturing units. - Defence Minister Rajnath Singh
- Mr. Singh will hold an Indian Ocean Region (IOR) Defence Ministers' conclave during the show, which has been restricted to three business days due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- On the LCA contract, he said, "This contract is the biggest Make in India defence contract till date." The contract includes 73 LCA Tejas Mk-1A fighter aircraft and 10 LCA Tejas Mk-1 trainer aircraft at a cost of ₹45,696 crore along with design and development of infrastructure sanctions worth ₹1,202 crore.

28.9 Crore domestic LPG Consumers in the Country

- As on 01.01.2021, total domestic Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) consumer is 28.90 crore in the country. Apart from LPG, 70.75 lakh domestic consumers are also using Piped Natural Gas (PNG). At present, national LPG coverage is 99.5%.
- In April / May last year, when crude oil prices were low, petroleum warehouses across the country were bought and filled to full capacity. This resulted in savings of about Rs.5000 crore.

An allocation of Rs 339.78 crore to Tamil Nadu as GST compensation

- The central government allocated Rs 6,000 crore to the states as the 14th tranche of GST compensation.
- Of this, Rs 339.78 crore has been allocated for Tamil Nadu.
- The central government has allowed states to borrow up to Rs 1.10 lakh crore under the special window due to revenue shortfall due to the implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST).
- The central finance ministry approved Rs 6,000 crore for 23 states and three union territories for the 14th time.
- Out of this, Rs. 5,516.60 crore to three Union Territories of Delhi, Jammu and Kashmir and Pondicherry. 483.40 crore has been disbursed. Of this, Rs. 339.70 crore has been disbursed.
- So far, the revenue shortfall caused by the implementation of the GST, along with a total of Rs 76,616.16 crore to the property states and Rs. 7,383.84 crore for a total of Rs. 84,000 crore has been disbursed. Of this, Rs 5,033.57 crore has been sanctioned to Tamil Nadu so far on special window basis.

₹7,000-cr. special package for Wayanad

- Describing the highlights of the package, the statement issued by Kerala Chief Minister's Office stated that the package mainly focused on schemes for the development of crops including pepper, banana, ginger and tea.
- Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan announced a five-year economic package of ₹7,000 crore for the development of Wayanad district which focused to double the income of coffee farmers.
- The government aims to brand "Wayanad coffee" and to sell it which will help coffee farmers to increase their income. The product of Wayanad brand coffee is underway. For this ₹20 crore has been allotted to Kudumbasree which will soon launch 500 office vending machines and 100 kiosks for the marketing of the coffee.

Highest quantum of farm loan waiver

Relief for farmers
The State government has not made any distinction among farmers but has chosen to cover only short-term crop loans, unlike in the previous occasions (in 2006 and 2016) when medium-term and long-term agricultural loans, too, were covered

*(₹ in crore)

Year	Policy measures	Cost to the exchequer*
1996	Waiver of penal interest rate on agricultural loans	20
1999	Interest waiver for prompt payment within due date for crop loans taken from July 1, 1999, to June 30, 2000	36
2001	Waiver of interest and penal interest for farmers who paid their dues before November 30, 2001, with respect to overdue outstanding as on June 30, 2000	311
2003	Waiver of interest on crop loans	61
2004	Waiver of interest on crop loans	62
2004	Rescheduling of crop loans as on March, 2004	645
2006	Waiver of all farm loans and interest thereon outstanding with the cooperatives, as on March 31, 2006	7,000
2009	Full interest waiver for prompt payment of all crop loans	140
2016	Waiver of outstanding farm loans (short-term crop loans, medium-term agriculture and long-term farm loans) issued to small and marginal farmers as on March 31, 2016	5,318.73
2021	Waiver of existing outstanding crop loans issued to all types of farmers	12,110

SOURCE: A PAPER TITLED "AGRICULTURAL LOAN WAIVER: A CASE STUDY OF TAMIL NADU'S SCHEME," BY DEEPA S. RAJ AND EDWIN PRABU A., PUBLISHED IN VOL. 39, NO. 1&2, 2018, OF THE RESERVE BANK OF INDIA OCCASIONAL PAPERS, AND TAMIL NADU GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

PM Modi launches several developmental projects in Tamil Nadu

- The message was clear, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation for new projects worth a massive ₹8,126 crore in Chennai – the Centre has kept its word on delivering development in TN. The top projects launched by the PM are, inauguration of the Chennai Metro extension from **Washermanpet to Wimco Nagar**, beginning of works on the **fourth railway line from Chennai Beach to Attipattu**, and laying of foundation to renovate the **Grand Anicut**.
- Besides the development projects, he also handed over the indigenously designed and manufactured 'Main Battle Tank Arjun Mark 1A'.
- He also laid the foundation stone for the Discovery Campus of IIT Madras. The Campus is to be built at Thaiyur near Chennai at an estimated cost of 1000 crore rupees in the first phase, over an area of 2 lakh sqm.

'Indian smartphone market fell 1.7% in 2020'

- While the Indian smartphone market declined by 1.7% in 2020, it is expected to witness high single-digit growth in the current year, mainly driven by customers upgrading their devices, according to a report by the International Data Corporation (IDC).

Adani Ports completes acquisition of Dighi Port Ltd in India

- Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ) has completed the acquisition of 100% stake of Dighi Port Ltd (DPL) in the Indian state of Maharashtra for \$97m.
- DPL will now become the twelfth port to join APSEZ's growing list of economic gateways across the eastern and western coast of India.

Telcos deposit ₹13,475 cr. for spectrum auction

- Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea have submitted a total earnest money deposit (EMD) of ₹13,475 crore for the spectrum auction scheduled to start from March 1, according to information disclosed by the Department of Telecom.
- The total EMD amount is close to one-fourth of the amount required to be eligible for buying all spectrum, worth a base price of ₹3.92 lakh crore, put on the block.
- The richest player Reliance Jio with net worth of ₹1.79 lakh crore has submitted an EMD of ₹10,000 crore, which indicates that the company will bid for spectrum in select spectrum bands. This is perhaps the highest EMD submitted by a telecom player for any spectrum auction held in the country till date.



6. SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Pakistan Conducts Second Test of Babur-3 Nuclear-Capable Submarine-Launched Cruise Missil

- Pakistan announced the second successful flight test of its Babur-3 nuclear-capable submarine-launched cruise missile (SLCM). The missile was tested from a submerged platform off Pakistan's coast in the Arabian Sea and flew to strike a target at an undisclosed location.
- According to a statement released by Pakistan's Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the test met "all the flight parameters." The release described the launch platform as an "underwater dynamic platform." The SLCM has a range of 450 kilometers, according to ISPR. It was first tested in January 2017.
- Pakistan has successfully test-fired surface-to-surface ballistic missile 'Ghaznavi', capable of delivering multiple warheads up to 290 kms, the Army said, amid fresh Indo-Pak tensions after India revoked Jammu and Kashmir's special status.

Smartphone sales reach 10 crore in India

- Smartphone sales in the Indian market have reached a record 10 crore in the second half of 2020, according to a Cybmedia study.
- Samsung tops the overall mobile market in 2020 with 19 percent share.
- However, Xiaomi gained 27 per cent market share in the October-December period alone. Samsung's share during this period was 20 percent. In addition, Vivo, Realme and Oppo had market share of 14.11 and 10 per cent, respectively.
- The market share of the feature phone segment was 20 percent in the December quarter. Samsung, Lava, Nokia and Carbon accounted for 19,17,13 and 5 per cent of the phone market, respectively.
- The smartphone market is expected to grow by 10 percent in the current fiscal; Sales of smartphones with 5G technology are expected to increase 10 times to reach 3 crore.
- OnePlus accounts for a maximum of 58 percent of 5G smartphone sales. Apple came in second with a 20 percent share, according to the research firm.

UAE publishes first photo from Mars probe

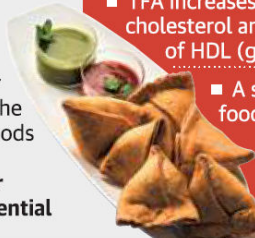
- The UAE's "Hope" probe sent back its first image of Mars, the national space agency said, days after the spacecraft successfully entered the Red Planet's orbit.
- The picture "captured the largest volcano in the solar system, Olympus Mons, emerging into the early morning sunlight," it said in a statement.
- Hope became the first of three spacecraft to arrive at the Red Planet this month after China and the U.S. also launched missions in July, taking advantage of a period when the Earth and Mars are nearest.

- It is expected to begin transmitting more information back to Earth in September 2021, with the data available for scientists around the world to study.

After oils, FSSAI caps transfats in foods

What are trans-fatty acids?

- Industrially produced trans-fatty acids (TFA) are found in **baked and fried foods**, pre-packaged snacks, cooking oils
- They cost less than animal fats such as butter and increase the shelf life of foods and oils by **lowering their oxidation potential**
- TFA is said to increase risk of **coronary heart disease**
- Globally, increased TFA intake is estimated to be responsible for more than **5,00,000 deaths** per year
- TFA increases levels of LDL (bad) cholesterol and decreases levels of HDL (good) cholesterol
- A survey of street food in Delhi and Haryana found that **25% of snacks** had high levels of TFA



SOURCE: WHO

- Slaps limit on use of TFAs in processed foods from January 2022.
- “Food products in which edible oils and fats are used as an ingredient shall not contain industrial trans fatty acids more than 2% by mass of the total oils/fats present in the product, on and from 1st January, 2022,” said the revised regulations notified recently and made public on February 5.
- In December, the FSSAI had capped TFAs in oils and fats to 3% by 2021, and 2% by 2022 from the current levels of 5%.

India has launched 328 satellites from 33 different countries till date: Dr. Jitendra Singh

- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh said that Rs. 900 crore (US\$ 123.54 million) was allocated to ISRO for F.Y. 2020-21 for developing capacity for launching of satellites.
- In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha, he said that the Department of Space has been involved in launching satellites of foreign countries since long. Total number of satellites launched till date is 328 from 33 different countries and the revenue earned till date is US\$ 25 million and EUR 189 million.
- Government of India has established NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), a PSU under Department of Space to commercially launch satellites and become financially self-reliant.

Arjun Mk-1A Tank

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi handed over the indigenous main battle tank Arjun Mk-1A to the Army in a function at the Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium in Chennai.
- Chief of the Army Staff General Manoj Mukund Naravane received the model of the tank, designed and developed by Chennai-based Combat Vehicles Research & Development Establishment (CVRDE), a unit of the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO).

India successfully test fires Helina, Dhruvastra anti-tank guided missiles

- **Defence Research and Development Organisation** has successfully carried out joint user trials of indigenously developed **Helina** and **Dhruvastra Anti-Tank Guided Missiles (ATGM)** from the Advanced Light Helicopter at the **Pokhran deserts in Rajasthan**. Helina is the Army version and Dhruvastra is the Air Force version of the ALH. The missile systems have been designed and developed indigenously by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- Defence Research and Development & Chairman DRDO: Dr. G. Satheesh Reddy.
- DRDO Headquarters: New Delhi.
- DRDO Established: 1958.

L&T delivers 100th K9 Vajra howitzer to Army

- Army Chief Gen Manoj Naravane flagged off the 100th K9 Vajra tracked self-propelled howitzer built by Larsen & Toubro (L&T) at its armoured system complex at Hazira in Gujarat.
- With this, L&T had completed the delivery of all the howitzers under the contract awarded in May 2017 ahead of schedule, the company said in a statement.
- Defense Minister Rajnath Singh had launched the 51st Vajra Tank in January last year.

7. NATIONAL IMPORTANCE

Centre likely to postpone Census to 2022

- The Centre is on track to push the **2021 Census** to 2022 on account of the country's continuing preoccupation with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Background:

- The Census exercise was to be conducted in two phases – House Listing and Housing Census from April to September 2020 and Population Enumeration from February 9 to February 28, 2021.
- The first phase of the Census and the updating of the National Population Register (NPR) were initially to be rolled out in some States on April 1, 2020, but were postponed due to the pandemic.

Census:

- The census provides information on size, distribution and socio-economic, demographic and other characteristics of the country's population.
- The Census was first started under British Viceroy Lord Mayo in 1872. It helped in framing new policies, government programs to uplift areas of improvement in the community.
- The first synchronous census in India was held in 1881. Since then, censuses have been undertaken uninterruptedly once every ten years.

Who conducts census?

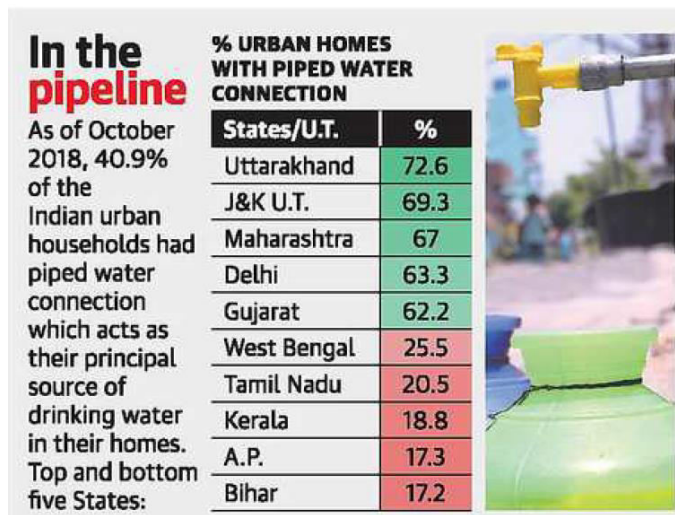
- The responsibility of conducting the decennial Census rests with the Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India under Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.
- The Census is one of the most credible sources of information on the following:
 - i. Demography.
 - ii. Economic Activity.
 - iii. Literacy and Education.
 - iv. Housing & Household Amenities.
 - v. Urbanization, Fertility, and Mortality.
 - vi. Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
 - vii. Language.

Historical Significance:

- 'Rig-Veda' reveals that some kind of population count was maintained during 800-600 BC in India.
- Arthashastra by 'Kautilya' written in the 3rd Century BC prescribed the collection of population statistics as a measure of state policy for taxation.

- During the regime of the Mughal king Akbar, the administrative report 'Ain-e-Akbari' included comprehensive data pertaining to population, industry, wealth and many other characteristics.

Jal Jeevan Mission to revive urban water bodies



- The urban water supply mission announced in the Budget would include rejuvenation of water bodies as well as 20% of supply from reused water, the Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry said.
- In a statement, the Ministry said there was an estimated gap of 2.68 crore urban household tap connections that the Jal Jeevan Mission (Urban) [JJMU] would seek to bridge in all 4,378 statutory towns. The Mission would also aim to bridge the gap of 2.64 crore sewer connections in the 500 cities under the existing Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT).
- The Ministry said 20% of the water demand would be met with reused water. The total expenditure on the mission would be ₹2.87 lakh crore over five years.
- "Some of the Tier-2 cities like Gorakhpur, Allahabad, Jammu, Srinagar, Rajkot, Baroda, Dehradun, Coimbatore, Bhiwadi-Daruhera etc. are making proposals under MetroLite/MetroNeo and Nashik has already sent a proposal for MetroNeo, which is under consideration," the statement said.

Ambitious BharatNet all set to be rolled out

- The 'BharatNet Project' will be rolled out to one-third of the revenue villages in Tamil Nadu by March 31, 2021, and to the remaining villages by November 30, 2021.
- This was announced by Governor Banwarilal Purohit in his customary address to the State Assembly. The Rs 1,815-crore project will benefit 12,524 villages, which will be connected through optical fibre network and will be provided with not less than 1 GBPS high speed network connectivity in each village.



- “By combining BharatNet with Tamil Nadu State Wide Area Network (TNSWAN), TamilNet and TACTV’s broadcast infrastructure, a convergent digital service delivery platform – Unified Digital Infrastructure – will be built to deliver high-speed, scalable bandwidth to all households in the State,” said the Governor.

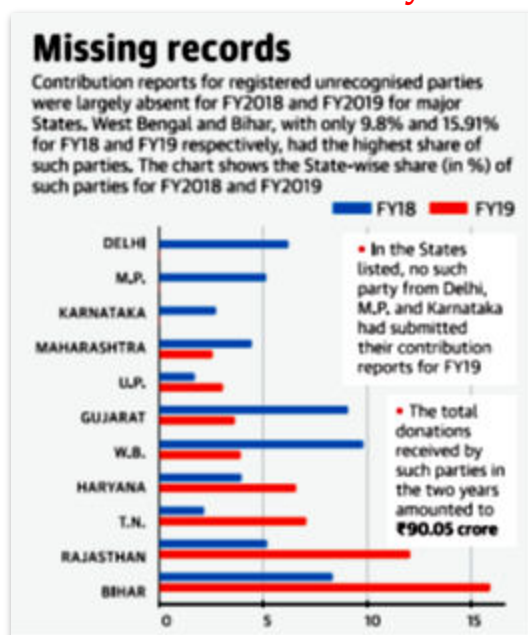
Maternal welfare scheme Beneficiaries cross 1.75 crore

- **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) beneficiaries cross 1.75 crore**, the Centre informed Parliament.
- **About PMMVY:** Pregnant women and new mothers receive a *Conditional cash transfer* of ₹5,000 on the birth of their first child in three instalments, after fulfilling certain conditionalities under the *scheme*.
 - It is applicable to pregnant women & lactating mother (PW&LM) of age 19 or more for first living child of the family, up to 2 living children through Anganwadi centres.*
 - The **National Food Security Act, 2013**, made it incumbent upon the government to *ensure universal coverage under the scheme*.
 - Aim:** to arrest high maternal mortality by encouraging institutional delivery & ensuring proper nutrition to mother & child.
 - The direct benefit cash transfer is to help expectant mothers meet enhanced nutritional requirements as well as to partially compensate them for wage loss during their pregnancy.
 - A total sum of ₹5,931.95 crore was paid to 1.75 crore eligible beneficiaries between financial year 2018 and 2020.
 - Disaggregated data on how many of these were unique beneficiaries, and how many were those receiving different instalments of the scheme was not provided. According to the government’s initial estimate, it aimed to reach 51.7 lakh women per year through the scheme.

TN Governor says President is the competent authority to decide on release of Rajiv Gandhi assassination convict, AG Perarivalan

- The order was passed after SG Tushar Mehta had informed the Supreme Court that the Tamil Nadu Governor will decide, 'as per the Constitution', on the remission of the sentence in exercise of his discretionary power under Article 161 within the next 3-4 days.
- The Tamil Nadu Governor Banwarilal Purohit has said that President of India is the appropriate authority to deal with the plea by Rajiv Gandhi assassination convict, AG Perarivalan seeking pardon and release from prison.
- Former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated on May 21, 1991 in Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu by a human bomb. It is noteworthy that 7 Members, including Perarivalan, has been serving about 30 years in prison in this case.

Registered unrecognised parties double in last 10 years



'India now pharmacy of world'

- External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar has said the Indian economy is poised to grow by about 11% despite the COVID-19 crisis.
- Mr. Jaishankar said Defence Minister Rajnath Singh had met his Chinese counterpart in Moscow last year and he had interactions with top Chinese Foreign Ministry officials too.

1.08 crore LPG consumers have given up their subsidy

- Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that as on February 1, 2021, 1.08 crore LPG consumers have given up their subsidy.
- The prices of petroleum products including LPG in the country are linked to the prices of respective products in the international market.
- However, the Government continues to modulate the effective price to consumer for Subsidised Domestic LPG and the consumers get the products at subsidised rate.
- The subsidy on Subsidised Domestic LPG increase/decrease with the increase/decrease in the product price in international market and decision of Government on subsidy.
- **Crude oil prices in the international market:** The price of crude oil in the international market is experiencing daily fluctuations. The price of crude oil was set at \$ 46.17 per barrel in fiscal 2015-16 and \$ 60.47 in fiscal year 2019-2020.
- **Cooking Gas Connections:** The Prime Minister's Ujwala scheme was introduced to provide hygienic cooking gas to poor families. Under this it was planned to provide 5 crore free gas connections. Then increased to Rs 8 crore.



- **Ethanol Purchase:** The Federal Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has issued an Ethanol Purchase Policy under the Ethanol Blended Petrol Scheme.
- Ethanol is purchased from Sugar cane juice, sugar, and sugar syrup.
- 111.4 crore liters of ethanol were purchased in 2015-16, 66.5 crore liters in 2016-17, 150.5 crore liters in 2017-18, 188.6 crore liters in 2018-19 and 173.0 liters in 2019-20.

India-China Begin Disengagement In Ladakh, China Withdraws 200 Tanks From Pangong Tso Lake

- An important agreement has been reached between India and China to ease tensions persisted over the last nine months over the border dispute in eastern Ladakh.
- **India-China border** is divided into three sectors, where the LAC in the western sector falls in the union territory of Ladakh and is **1597 km long**, the middle sector of **545 km length** falls in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, and **1346 km long** eastern sector falls in the states of Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.
- India and China reached an agreement to withdraw troops on the northern and southern sides of Pangong Lake, and morning the troops of both countries began retreating.
- Not only this, cannons are also retreating from the northern and southern shores of Pangong Tso Lake. The speed with which China is withdrawing cannons from the banks of Pangong Tso Lake has astounded many.
- The Chinese Army i.e. the People's Liberation Army had withdrawn more than 200 major battle tanks from the south coast of Pangong Tso and deployed 100 heavy vehicles to withdraw their troops from the north coast of Finger 8 of Ladakh.

Higher studies and the marginalised | Ph.D. entry in IITs tougher for students from marginalised communities

- Despite official policy, OBC, SC and ST applicants less likely to gain admission as compared to those from General Categories
- Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe applicants are half as likely to get selected for a Ph.D. programme at leading IITs in the country as aspirants from the General Category (GC) are.
- The acceptance rate, which refers to the number of students selected for every 100 students who applied, stood at 4% for students from historically privileged castes (General Category). It falls to 2.7% for OBC students and further down to just 2.16% for SCs and 2.2% for STs.

Out of bounds | Data obtained through the Right to Information Act has shown that IIT-Madras had significantly poor acceptance rate for students from the SC (2.9%), ST (2.7%) and OBC (3.9) communities, which was lower than that for the General category students (4.4%). The institution failed badly in filling seats reserved for them in Ph. D admissions

A	B	C	D	E	F
Category	Students applied	Students admitted	Acceptance rate % (C/B)	% among applied (B/total)	% among admitted (C/total)
General	30,833	1,346	4.4%	56.6%	61.3%
OBC	16,783	655	3.9%	30.8%	29.8%
SC	5,855	167	2.9%	10.8%	7.6%
ST	991	27	2.7%	1.8%	1.2%
Total	54462	2,195	-	-	-

Department wise split: The table shows department-wise status of whether seats were filled as per reservation

■ FAILED TO FILL SEATS AS PER RESERVATION |
 ■ CAME CLOSER TO FILLING SEATS |
 ■ FILLED SEATS

Department	OBC	SC	ST	Department	OBC	SC	ST
Aerospace Engg.	Failed	Failed	Failed	Electrical and Electronics Engg.	Failed	Failed	Failed
Applied Mechanics	Filled	Failed	Failed	Humanities and Sciences	Closer	Failed	Closer
Biotechnology	Closer	Failed	Failed	Management Studies	Failed	Failed	Failed
Chemical Engineering	Filled	Failed	Failed	Mechanical Engineering	Filled	Closer	Failed
Chemistry	Filled	Failed	Failed	Metallurgical and Materials Engineering	Filled	Closer	Failed
Civil Engineering	Filled	Failed	Failed	Ocean Engineering	Filled	Filled	Failed
Computer Science and Engg.	Failed	Failed	Failed	Physics	Filled	Closer	Failed
Engineering Design	Filled	Filled	Failed				

Prakash Javadekar joins Koo

- Central Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadeko has launched an account on the 'Koo' social media processor created in India like Twitter.

Indian Oil conducts awareness cyclothon for energy conservation

- Indian Oil conducted an awareness Cyclothon: Signalling a month-long campaign on fuel conservation organised by Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA) under the aegis of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) to sensitise citizens to the need of energy conservation.

Action to improve Tamil Nadu tourist destinations: Central Government

- Central Tourism Chief Secretary Arvind Singh has said that steps will be taken to upgrade tourist destinations in southern Indian states, including Tamil Nadu, to offset the loss of revenue caused by corona.
- The 10th National Conference of the **Association of Domestic Tour Operators of India (ADTOI)** was recently held at Tent City in Kvardia, Gujarat.
- The three-day conference was attended by travel organizers from various states, government dignitaries and press information officials.
- The Federal Reserve has allocated more funds for infrastructure projects. We hope to improve the tourism industry through them. 132 tourism

development projects are being carried out at a cost of Rs. 7,100 crore. Work is also underway to turn 19 parts of the country into tourist destinations.

Work on Bengaluru-Chennai expressway will begin: Nitin Gadkari

- The Rs 6,400 crore project between the two cities will cover a distance of 278 km.
- The foundation stone ceremony for the Bengaluru-Chennai Expressway will be conducted within a month and the construction of the Rs 6,400 crore project is also expected to begin within the next three months, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari announced.

Pugalur - Thrissur power transmission project

- Prime Minister inaugurates the 320 KV Pugalur (Tamil Nadu) - Thrissur (Kerala) power transmission project.
- It is a Voltage Source Converter (VSC) based High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) Project.
- It has India's first HVDC link featuring state-of-the-art VSC technology.
- This VSC based system features integration of HVDC XLPE (cross-linked polyethylene) cable with overhead lines.
- This line saves right-of-way as well as has 35-40% less land footprint compared to conventional HVDC system.



First woman to be hanged

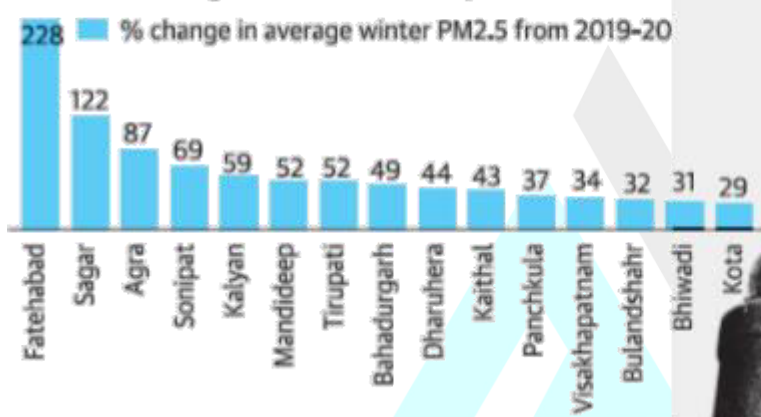
- For the first in the history of independent India, a woman, convicted for killing seven members of her family.
- She was tried and awarded death by all the courts.
- She will be hanged at Mathura jail.
- Mathura jail is the only one in India which has the provisions for hanging a woman convict.
- The first female hanging house was built in Mathura jail almost 150 years ago.
- But no woman has been executed there since Independence.
- A woman from Lucknow called Ramshri was sentenced to death earlier on April 6, 1998.
- But her death sentence was commuted into life imprisonment.

Winter pollution shows rise in most Indian cities, says CSE

- The levels of PM 2.5, the most threatening of particulate matter, worsened in 43 out of 99 cities whose winter air in two years, 2020 and 2019, was compared by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE). Only 19 registered “substantial improvement” – and one of these was Chennai. The rest of the cities did not experience significant change.
- The cities with the worst pollution spikes in 2020 over 2019 include Gurugram, Lucknow, Jaipur, Visakhapatnam, Agra, Navi Mumbai, and Jodhpur. Kolkata is the only mega city in this group.

Unhealthy air

Pollution levels in Fatehabad in Haryana increased by a whopping 228% in the winter of 2020-21 compared to the winter of 2019-20. The chart depicts the 15 cities where PM2.5 levels recorded the highest increase in the period



1 crore more free LPG connections in 2 years, easier access to cooking gas planned: Oil Secretary

- The free LPG connection scheme is one structural reform of the Modi government that has been internationally acclaimed for ridding indoor household pollution and improving women's health.
- The Union Budget earlier this month announced a plan to give out one crore more free cooking gas connections under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala (PMUY) scheme.
- While no separate allocation for this has been made in the Budget for 2021-22, the general fuel subsidy allocation should be enough to cover the expense of about ₹1,600 per connection.

Madagascar Prez inaugurates advanced digital cobalt therapy machine Bhabhatron-II donated by India

- Underlining cooperation in the health sector, India has donated an advanced telecobalt machine for cancer treatment, developed by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, to the island nation of Madagascar.
- The advanced digital cobalt therapy machine "Bhabhatron-II" was inaugurated at the Joseph Ravoahangy Andrianavalona Hospital (HJRA) in Antananarivo, capital of Madagascar by President Andry Rajoelina.



- Kumar said that during the visit of President Ram Nath Kovind to Madagascar in March 2018, it was announced that the Bhabhatron machine would be donated to Madagascar, which is one of the few countries to have received the Bhabhatron-II radio therapy machine from India.



ARUL IAS ACADEMY



8. INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE

A bullet through an island's heart

- A plan for the sustainable and holistic development of the 680 sq. km, fragile Little Andaman Island in the Andaman and Nicobar group has raised alarm among conservationists.

Details:

- The 'Sustainable Development of Little Andaman Island - Vision Document', is the NITI Aayog's proposal to leverage the strategic location and natural features of the island.
- This will be done by building a new Greenfield coastal city there that will be developed as a free trade zone and will compete with Singapore and Hong Kong.
- The proposal is pivoted along three development anchors and zones.
- Zone 1 – spread over 102 sq. km along the east coast of Little Andaman – will be the financial district and media city and will include an aerocity, and a tourism and hospital district.
- Spread over 85 sq. km of pristine forest, Zone 2, the leisure zone, will have a film city, a residential district and a tourism SEZ.

JICA to foot 85% cost of AIIMS Madurai: RTI reply

- It has been over two years since the Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for AIIMS in Madurai.
- Initially, the total cost of the project was pegged at ₹1,264 crore. Then, an RTI reply obtained by Mr. Pandiaraja last December showed that the total cost had increased to ₹2,000 crore.
- The RTI reply received showed that the increased cost was as per the estimates prepared by JICA.

White House condemns desecration of Gandhi statue in California

- Mysterious individuals have damaged a 6-foot-tall bronze statue of Mahatma Gandhi in the central park of the city of Davis in the US state of California.
- White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said

Sri Lanka clears Chinese energy project, 50 km off Tamil Nadu

- The project is to be implemented on three islands near Jaffna located in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka.
- A week before reneging on the 2019 Colombo Port terminal agreement, Sri Lanka cleared a Chinese energy project in three islands off Jaffna peninsula that are barely 50 km from the Tamil Nadu coast.
- On January 18, the Cabinet approved a proposal to involve Sinosoar-Etechwin Joint Venture in China to install 'hybrid renewable energy systems' in Nainativu, Delft or Neduntheevu, and Analaitivu, located in the Palk Bay.

World Radio Day - February 13

- In 2011, UNESCO's General Conference, at its 36th session, proclaimed February 13 as World Radio Day.
- It coincides with the anniversary of the United Nations Radio.
- The UN's international broadcasting service was established on February 13, 1946.
- This is 10th anniversary.
- This year will be celebrated through three sub-themes.
- **Evolution:** The world changes, radio evolves so the radio is resilient and sustainable;
- **Innovation:** The world changes, radio adapts and innovates - radio adapts to new technologies and remains the go-to medium of mobility, accessible everywhere and to everyone;
- **Connection:** The world changes, radio connects - radio services our society during natural disasters, socio-economic crises, epidemics, etc.

Royal Rituals: Archaeologists Uncover World's 'Oldest' Mass-production Brewery in Egypt

- A high-production brewery believed to be the world's "oldest" has been uncovered by a team of archaeologists at the Abydos funerary site in southern Egypt, the tourism ministry said.
- Narmer (The First Empire from 3150 BC to 2613 BC), who ruled more than 5,000 years ago, founded the First Dynasty and unified Upper and Lower Egypt.
- British archaeologists first discovered the existence of the brewery at the beginning of the 20th century but its location was never precisely determined, the statement said.
- Adams, who heads the joint archaeological mission, said studies have shown that beer was produced at a large scale, with about 22,400 litres made "at a time".

Lebanon launches urgent vaccine rollout

- Lebanon has launched an urgent coronavirus vaccination rollout following the arrival of the first batch of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine at Beirut's Rafic Hariri International Airport.

Pakistan to register Himalayan pink salt as Geographical Indications

- Pakistan has decided to register Himalayan pink salt as Geographical Indications (GI) to prevent its unauthorised use by other countries.
- A GI tag is a sign used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess origin-based qualities and reputation in the region.



- In January, Pakistan received the GI tag for its Basmati, paving the way for creating a local registry for the particular strain of rice and making a case in the international market, as the country fights a case in the EU against India's move to get Basmati rice registered as its product.

Sri Lanka to procure 10mn doses of AstraZeneca Covid vaccine from India

- Sri Lanka will purchase 10 million doses of Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine from India, officials here have said.
- The State Pharmaceutical Corporation has signed the order with Serum Institute of India (SII) for 10 million doses, officials said. This agreement has been approved by the Attorney General.

Chinese President Xi Jinping Likely to Visit India During BRICS Summit 2021

- Chinese President Xi Jinping will likely visit India in the second half of this year to attend BRICS Summit 2021. Xi Jinping's visit depends on how the COVID situation improves in the next few months.
- The development came after Beijing expressed its support for India to host this year's BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) summit later this year.
- It is noteworthy that Indian Prime Minister Modi attended the 2017 BRICS Summit in China

India extends ₹724 cr Line of Credit to Mauritius for defence purchases

- India has offered over ₹724 crore in Line of Credit to Mauritius to facilitate procurement of defence assets. India also signed a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement with Mauritius, the first of its kind with an African nation, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said. Mauritius reiterated its support for India's candidacy as a permanent member of UN Security Council.
- The President and Prime Minister of Mauritius are of Indian descent.

India Signs Deal To Develop, Maintain Coast Guard Harbour In Maldives

- Indian International Minister Jaishankar is on a two-day talk over with to the Maldives., India delivered one lakh doses of corona vaccine to the Maldives. five contracts had been made.
- On the second one day nowadays he met with Maldives Protection Minister Maria Didi. The 2 then mentioned tactics to improve army cooperation between the 2 international locations. The 2 then signed a \$ 50 million (362 crore Indian Rupee) Army Credit score Restrict Settlement (LOC).

Ghana Becomes 1st Country to Get COVAX Vaccine Doses

- The first wave of coronavirus vaccines from the COVAX initiative are now reaching their destinations. Ghana became the first country to receive the



vaccine, marking an important step for the international effort to help low- and middle-income countries cope with the COVID-19 pandemic.

- The 600,000 doses of the AstraZeneca-Oxford vaccine that arrived in Ghana were produced by the Serum Institute of India.

India, China Foreign Ministers to establish hotline

- The foreign ministers of India and China have agreed to establish a new hotline to ensure “timely communication” in the wake of last year's border crisis, but differed sharply on the way forward to restore relations in a 75-minute phone call.



ARUL IAS ACADEMY



9. OTHER STATE NEWS

Kashmir: Dal Lake freezes over, partially; Srinagar records coldest night in 30 years

- “Chillai-kalan”, the harshest 40-day winter period in Kashmir, breaking a decades-old record as Srinagar registered its lowest minimum temperature in 30 years, officials said.
- Srinagar city recorded a low of -8.8°C – down from -7.2°C the previous night, they added.
- This was the lowest minimum temperature recorded in the city since 1991, when the mercury had fallen to -11.4°C .
- Srinagar had recorded a low of -8.4°C on January 13.

No blood banks in 63 districts of country

- 63 districts across the country are without blood banks. There are no blood banks in 63 districts in 11 states.
- There are no blood banks in 14 districts in Arunachal Pradesh and 5 districts in Assam. There are no blood banks in 12 districts in Manipur, 7 districts in Meghalaya and 9 districts in Nagaland.
- There are no blood banks in 5 districts of Bihar, 1 district each in Chhattisgarh, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh and 2 districts each in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.

Kerala's first human milk bank to be opened on February 5

- Kerala's first Human Milk Bank (HMB), a state-of-art facility will be opened at the Ernakulam general hospital here by Health Minister KK Shailaja.
- Though the concept had come to India 32 years back, Kerala did not have a milk bank till now.
- The human milk bank, which consists of a pasteurization unit, refrigerators, deep freezers, RO plant, sterilizing equipment and computers, was set up at a cost of Rs 35 lakh.

Kakatiya-era Rama temple has rare door carvings

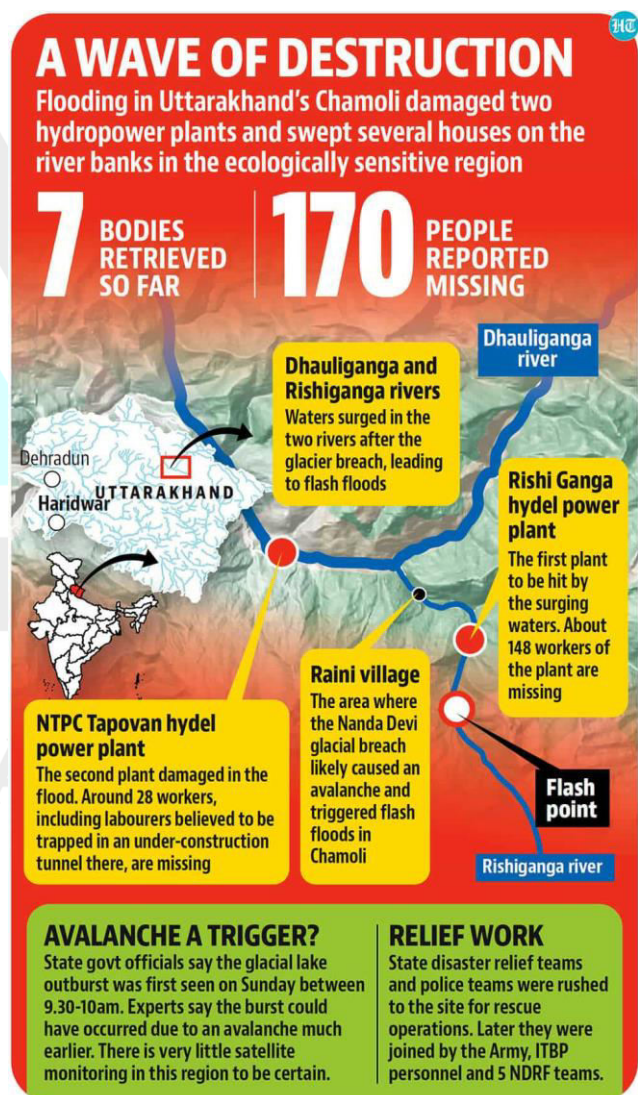
- **Rani Rudrama Devi built the Sri Pattabhi Sita Rama Swamy temple in the 13th century.**
- 13th century Sri Pattabhi Sita Rama Swamy temple founded by Rani Rudrama Devi has been revered as the Sri Santhana Venugopala Swamy temple by the people of Brahmana Kothapalli village in Nellikuduru mandal of Mahabubabad district. Historians credit this as at least 300 years older than the Sri Sita Ramachandra Swamy temple at Bhadrachalam.
- Mr. Babu further elucidated that while studying the architectural features of the mukha mandapa, he found an inscription of the Kakatiya period on a pillar in Telugu script and deciphered it.

22 food parks are in operation: Ministry Information

- According to Rameshwa Teli, Joint Minister of Food Processing, 37 food parks have been sanctioned across the country and 22 food parks are functioning.
- The government has approved 42 parks under the mega food park scheme.
- Mega food parks are operating in 15 states including Assam, Punjab, Odisha, Mizoram and Maharashtra.
- Other related data will be provided in writing. Currently, the ministry has given final approval for 37 mega food parks.
- The Ministry has also given policy approval to set up two parks in Meghalaya and Tamil Nadu.

Glacial Breach Triggered Floods

- An avalanche and flash floods are triggered in Alaknanda river in Chamoli district of Uttarakhand.
- It occurred after a glacial breach.
- This avalanche was caused probably due to glacial breach.
- The glacial breach also breached a lake in the Raini village in Chamoli district.
- The raini village is situated on the boundary of Nanda Devi biosphere reserve.
- Snow and Avalanche Study Establishment (SASE) is investigating the matter.
- It works under the Defence Research and Development Organisation.
- The breach has resulted into increase in water levels in the Dhauliganga river and the Rishi ganga,
- The avalanche has destroyed the Rishi Ganga hydel plant on the Rishiganga river.

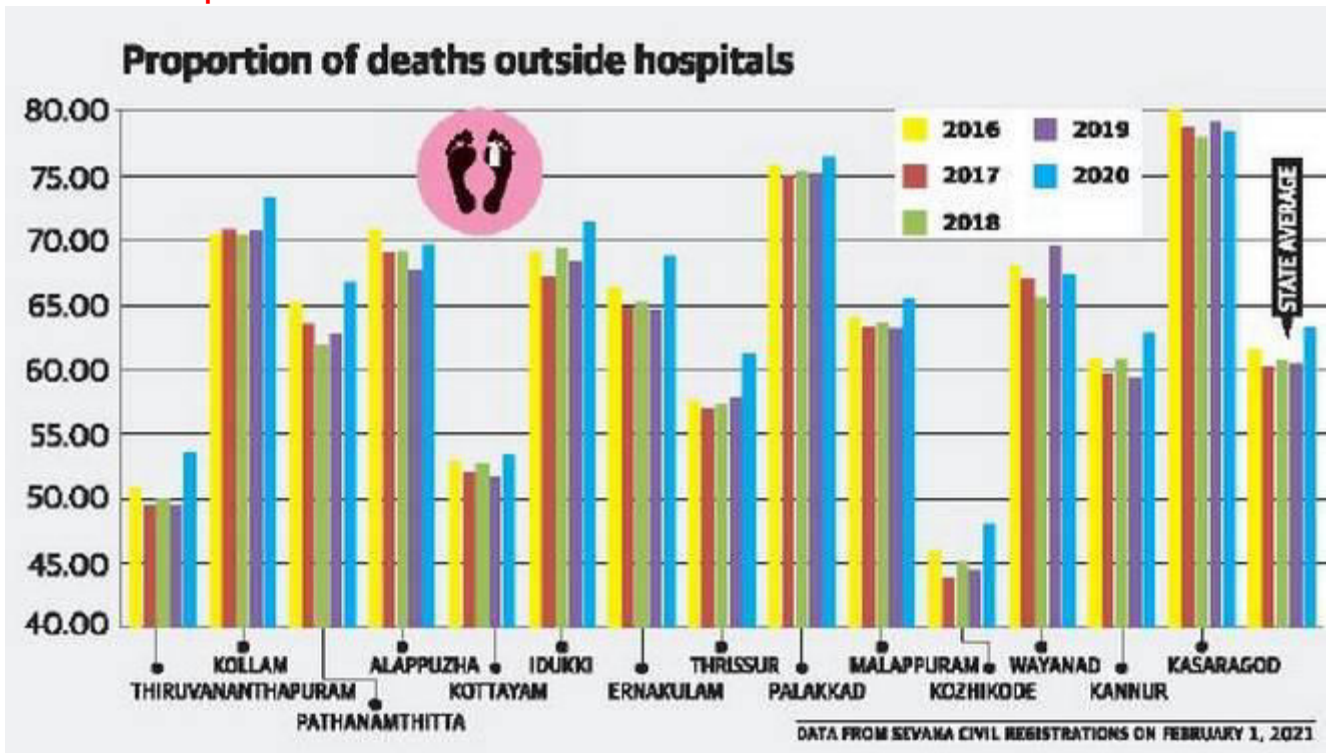


Disasters in Uttarakhand

- **1991 Uttarakhand earthquake:** A magnitude 6.8 earthquake kills 768 people.
- **Malpa landslide in 1998:** 255 killed, including 55 Kailash Manasarovar pilgrims. The landslide caused a landslide that blocked part of the Sharda River.

- **Samoli earthquake in 1999:** A magnitude 6.8 earthquake shakes the region and kills at least 100 people. Major material damage also occurred.
- Extreme levels of flood danger were announced in 2013 in Uttarakhand due to floods and landslides. 5,700 people were killed. Bridges and roads were broken. 3 lakh people were stranded in the valley.

Coronavirus | Kerala saw more home deaths in 2020



- Analysis of the State's birth and death registrations for 2020 shows that except in two districts, there is an unusual increase in the proportion of the people who died at home during 2020, both in urban and rural areas.
- Many doctors have highlighted how the follow-up treatment of many with chronic kidney diseases and cancer was compromised during the pandemic.
- In the U.S. and Europe, nearly half of the COVID-19 casualties were in care homes. But in Kerala, there were few such deaths

Uttarakhand glacier burst brings back memory of 2013 flash floods

- Originating from Vasudhara Tal, perhaps the largest glacial lake in Uttarakhand, the Dhauliganga flows in a meandering course, which takes it through the Nanda Devi National Park.
- The Dhauliganga, which merges with the Alaknanda, is one of the several tributaries of the Ganga, as the river flows down from the Himalayas and snakes its way through the plains. The tributaries intersect, flow into one another or meander away passing through several towns in five States
- In Uttarakhand, the Ganga and its tributaries pass through important tourist places such as Rishikesh, Haridwar, Rudraprayag and Karnaprayag. Collapse

of the glacier led to rippling flash floods in the Dhauliganga and the Rishiganga and also impacted the Alaknanda.

- This also brought spotlight on the 2013 flash floods in the hill States that wiped out settlements and killed over 5,000 people.
- The Yamuna, Ramganga and Ghaghara are the other Himalayan rivers that join the Ganga.

Experts point to climate change impact

- A deluge that resulted from a glacial melt on Nanda Devi flooded the Rishiganga river in Uttarakhand and washed away at least two hydroelectric power projects – the 13.2 MW Rishiganga hydroelectric power project and the Tapovan project on the Dhauliganga river, a tributary of the Alakananda.
- The thermal profile of ice, say experts, was increasing. Earlier the temperature of ice ranged from -6 to -20 degree C, it is now -2 making it more susceptible to melting.

When the hills shake Major natural disasters in the region over the past three decades:



Nature's fury: Part of a glacier broke off in Joshimath in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district on Sunday, causing a massive flood in the Dhauliganga river. ■ PTI

1991: Uttarkashi earthquake – An earthquake of 6.8 magnitude hit the undivided state of Uttar Pradesh in October 1991. At least 768 people were killed and thousands of homes destroyed

1998: Malpa landslide – The small village of Malpa was wiped out in a landslide in which nearly 255 people, including 55 Kailash Mansarovar pilgrims, were killed. The resulting debris partially blocked Sharda river

1999: Chamoli earthquake – An earthquake of 6.8 magnitude hit Chamoli district killing over 100 people. The adjoining Rudrapur district was also heavily affected. Several ground deformations were reported as a result of the earthquake, and landslips and changes in water flow were recorded. Cracks were observed on roads and on the ground

2013: North India floods – In June 2013, a multi-day cloudburst in Uttarakhand caused devastating floods and landslips. According to the State government, more than 5,700 people were presumed dead in the disaster. As bridges and roads were destroyed, more than 3 lakh people were trapped in the Valleys leading to the Char Dham pilgrimage sites

Bengaluru scientists develop new marigold variety

- The **Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR)** has developed a new marigold variety named **Arka Shubha**.
- Arka Shubha has carotene content of around 2.8% (for all marigolds, its maximum upto 1.4%) which is the highest among all plant sources.
- Generally the flowers lose their value if they get spoilt either due to rain or delay in harvest.
- But the new variety of marigold developed by the Hessarghatta-based Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR) are of value even if they get spoilt after full bloom as they can be used for extraction of crude carotene.

No glacial lake found, landslip likely trigger: experts

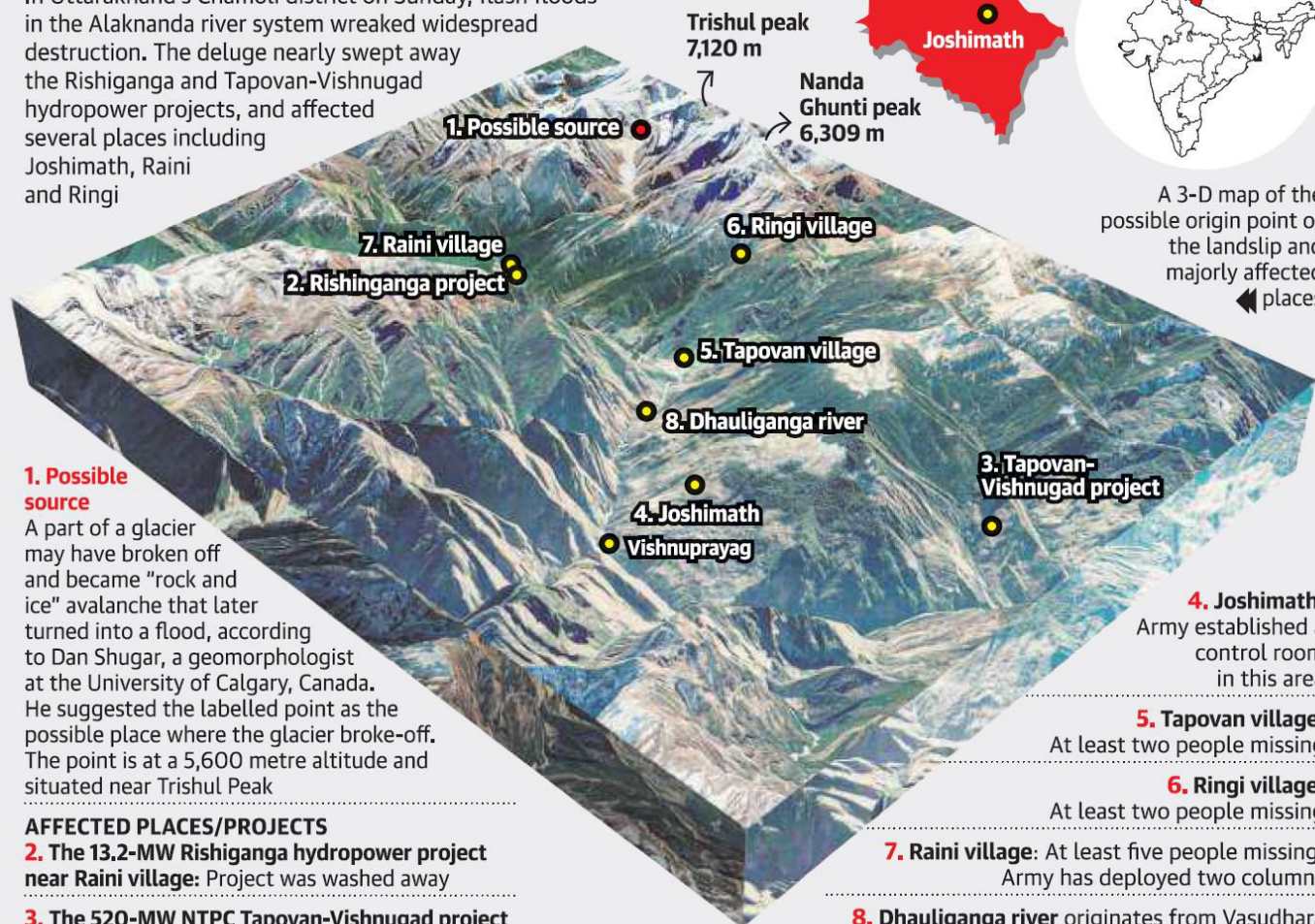
Trail of destruction

In Uttarakhand's Chamoli district on Sunday, flash floods in the Alaknanda river system wreaked widespread destruction. The deluge nearly swept away the Rishiganga and Tapovan-Vishnugad hydropower projects, and affected several places including Joshimath, Raini and Ringi

UTTARAKHAND



A 3-D map of the possible origin point of the landslip and majorly affected places



1. Possible source

A part of a glacier may have broken off and became "rock and ice" avalanche that later turned into a flood, according to Dan Shugar, a geomorphologist at the University of Calgary, Canada. He suggested the labelled point as the possible place where the glacier broke-off. The point is at a 5,600 metre altitude and situated near Trishul Peak

AFFECTED PLACES/PROJECTS

2. The 13.2-MW Rishiganga hydropower project near Raini village: Project was washed away

3. The 520-MW NTPC Tapovan-Vishnugad project on the Dhauliganga: Project was washed away

4. Joshimath: Army established a control room in this area

5. Tapovan village: At least two people missing

6. Ringi village: At least two people missing

7. Raini village: At least five people missing; Army has deployed two columns

8. Dhauliganga river originates from Vasudhara Tal, one of the largest glacial lakes in Uttarakhand

Women's quota in the police force rises to 25 percent: Chief Minister of Karnataka Eduyurappa

- Chief Minister Eduyurappa said the quota for women in police appointments would be raised to 25 per cent.
- It is planned to open special cyber crime police stations at 8 places in Bangalore. The State Police has been hailed as the most peaceful state in the country. The quota for women in police posts will be increased from 20 to 25 per cent.

Projects launched in Kochi will spur growth: PM Narendra Modi

- Mr. Modi, who arrived at Kochi, dedicated to nation, the Propylene Derivative Petrochemical Project of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), launched the Ro-Ro vessels to be operated between Bolghatty and Willingdon Island and inaugurated the Sagarika International Cruise Terminal.
- He also laid the foundation stone for the reconstruction of South Coal Berth, in Cochin Port besides inaugurating the Marine Engineering Training Institute,

the only maritime training institute in India functioning within a Shipyard having extended training facilities for trainees on various vessels under construction or repair.

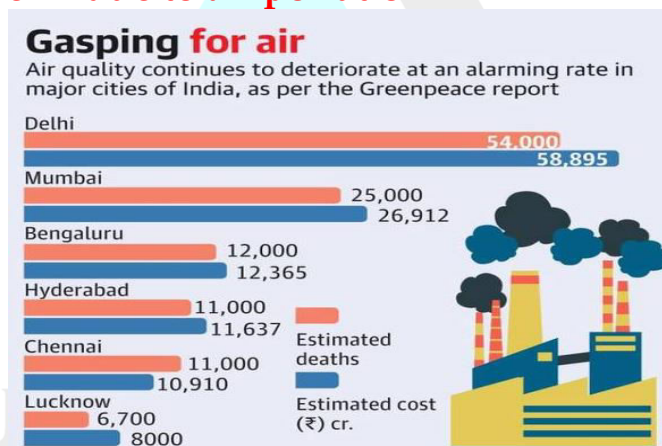
Karaikal residents hope for upgrade as Union Territory's administrative centre

- Earlier this year, Puducherry adopted a resolution urging the Centre to grant full statehood to the Union territory. It was the 10th such resolution adopted.

Tamilisai Soundararajan sworn in as Pondy Lt Governor

- In a sudden development, Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry Kiran Bedi was removed from her post at a time when the Union Territory was witnessing a political crisis following the resignation of Congress MLAs from the V Narayanasamy government.
- Telangana Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan given the addition charge of Puducherry LG.
- CJ of Madras HC, Sanjib Banerjee, administering the oath of office to Tamilisai Soundararajan at the swearing-in ceremony.

54,000 lives lost in Delhi due to air pollution



- Air pollution claimed approximately 54,000 lives in Delhi in 2020, according to a Greenpeace Southeast Asia analysis of cost to the economy due to air pollution. Six Indian cities – Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad and Lucknow – feature in the global analysis.
- Globally, approximately 1,60,000 deaths have been attributed to PM 2.5 air pollution in the five most populous cities – Delhi, Mexico City, Sao Paulo, Shanghai and Tokyo.

Telangana achieves 100% tap water supply to schools, anganwadis

- Adding another feather in its cap, Telangana has joined the group of States which ensured tap water connections to all schools and anganwadi centres (AWCs) spread across the State.



- Telangana was among the group of States including Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Goa, Haryana and Tamil Nadu which reported provision of tap water in all schools.

Beware of this cute red-eared turtle

- These turtles are banned from being brought into India. The tortoise is banned not only in India but also in some countries including Australia and the European Union.
- **Scientifically called Trachemys scripta elegans**

India's first Digital University comes up in Kerala

- According to official sources, the Digital University is set up by upgrading the two-decades-old Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management Kerala (IIITM-K), a centre of excellence in information technologies established by the Government of Kerala.

Bihar Govt. allocates highest ever outlay for Education, to award Rs. 50000 to girls after graduation

- Bihar Deputy CM presented the state budget in the Assembly. Out of Rs 2.18 lakh crore, the state government has allocated Rs 38,035 crore to the education sector.

Arunachal Pradesh Is Now Coronavirus-Free As Active Case Count Hits Zero

- No fresh COVID-19 case was reported in the past 24 hours, he said, A total of 56 people have so far died due to the contagion in the state.
- Arunachal Pradesh's recovery rate and positivity rate are at 99.66 per cent and zero per cent, respectively, the official said.
- No fresh Covid-19 case was reported in the past 24 hours, claimed reports.

10. SPORTS

All set for the 'Nervous Slam'

- The Australian Open, one of the Grand Slam tournaments, takes place on (Feb. 8).
- The first round of Serena and Djokovic will take place Feb. 8.
- If Nadal wins the tournament, he will be the only player to win 21 Grand Slam titles in the Open Era.
- Switzerland's Roger Federer and Nadal are tied with 20 titles.
- Similarly, if Nadal becomes champion, he will be the only player to win 2 Grand Slam titles at all Grand Slam tournaments in the Open Era.
- Similarly, if Serena wins the women's singles title, she will equal the record of 24-time Grand Slam champion Margaret Court of Australia.
- If Djokovic becomes the champion, he will be the most (9) champion in the Open Era singles category at the Australian Open.
- Despite missing out on a chance to advance to the main round in the singles, Anand finds the field alongside Romania's Mihaela Buzărnescu in the doubles.
- Prior to this, Nirupama Mankad (1971), Nirupama Vaidyanathan (1998), Sania Mirza (2004) and Indian-American Shikha Uberoi (2004) had advanced to the main round. With the exception of Sania and Anand, the other players advanced to the main round in the doubles category.
- Other Indians: Apart from Anand, Sumit Nagal and Rohan Bopanna and Divij Sharan will be competing in the singles and doubles divisions of the Australian Open this season.

The AO guide As the Australian Open (AO) is all set to begin in Melbourne on Monday, a look at some records and facts from the tournament.

MEN: Most titles:
Novak Djokovic (8)

Oldest champion:
Ken Rosewall, 37, in 1972

Youngest champion:
Mats Wilander, 19, in 1983

Most match wins:
Roger Federer (102)

WOMEN: Most titles:
Serena Williams (7)

Oldest champion: Serena, 35, in 2017

Youngest champion: Martina Hingis, 16, in 1997

Most match wins: Serena (87)

PRIZEMONEY FOR 2021

Total prize pot
A\$71 million

Singles winners

A\$2.75 million

AT THE TURNSTILES

- This year's edition will have 30,000 fans a day, around 50% of the usual capacity, due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Total attendance in 2020: **812,174**

MONDAY'S PICKS

MEN: 1-Djokovic vs Chardy | 3-Thiem vs Kukushkin | 6-Zverev vs Giron | 11-Shapovalov vs Sinner | 15-Carreno Busta vs Nishikori


WOMEN: 2-Halep vs Cabrera | 3-Osaka vs Pavlyuchenkova | 8-Andreescu vs Buzarnescu | 9-Kvitova vs Minnen | 10-Serena vs Siegemund

Ishant Sharma picks up 300 Test wickets

India's 300-club

Ishant Sharma is the sixth Indian bowler to take 300 wickets in Tests.

	Wickets	Tests
Anil Kumble	619	132
Kapil Dev	434	131
Harbhajan Singh	417	103
R. Ashwin	386	75
Zaheer Khan	311	92
Ishant Sharma	300	98



THE BREAK-UP OF ISHANT'S PERFORMANCE

	M	I	Wkts.	BBI	Avg.	SR	5WI/10WM
Overall	98	177	300	7/74	32.32	61.1	11/1
Home	38	71	101	5/22	31.20	64.7	2/0
Away	60	106	199	7/74	32.88	59.3	9/1

WICKET PROGRESSION: First: Mashrafe Mortaza (Ban); 100th: Darren Sammy (WI); 200th: Angelo Mathews (SL); 300th: Dan Lawrence (Eng)

Australian Open: Mertens, Sabalenka combine to win women's doubles title

- The 22-year-old **Sabalenka** was the dominant player on court as she and **Mertens** combined for a 6-2, 6-3 win over Barbora Krejckova and Katerina Siniakova.
- This is the second Grand Slam title for the pair, having earlier won the 2019 US Open.

National Table Tennis Championship: Manika Batra Wins Women's Singles Title For Second Time

- **Manika Batra** forged a comeback to claim the 82nd **Senior National Table Tennis Championships** title after beating Reeth Rishya 4-2 in the final at the Tau Devi Lal Indoor Stadium in Panchkula.
- She clinched her maiden championship in Hyderabad in 2015.

IPL auction 2021: Chris Morris sets new record

- South African all-rounder Chris Morris was picked up by Rajasthan Royals for an eye-watering ₹16.25 crore at a players' auction, making him the most expensive player in the history of the Indian Premier League (IPL).

Novak Djokovic wins ninth Australian Open championship

- Djokovic, the No. 1 player in the world, won his ninth Australian Open title and 18th Grand Slam overall.
- Djokovic equalled Rafa Nadal's Open Era record of six Grand Slam title runs after turning 30. The World No. 1 turned 30 in May 2017 and has since won major championship crowns at the Australian Open (2019-'21), Wimbledon (2018-'19) and the US Open (2018).



- So place the nine triumphs in Australia alongside five at Wimbledon, three at the U.S. Open and one at the French Open for Djokovic.

Indian women boxers sign off with five gold medals in Montenegro youth tourney

- Babyrojisana Chanu (51kg) and Arundhati Choudhary (69kg) fetched two more gold medals as the Indian women boxers ended with five overall for a top finish in the 30th Adriatic Pearl Tournament in Budva, Montenegro.
- Lucky Rana (64kg) secured a silver as Indian women emerged as the top team with 10 medals (five gold, three silver and two bronze). Uzbekistan (2 gold) and Czech Republic (1 gold) ended at second and third position respectively.
- Alfiya Pathan (+81kg), Vinka (60kg) and T Sanamacha Chanu (75kg) are the other Indian women boxers who secured gold medals in their respective categories earlier in this tournament.
- For her magnificent show, Vinka received the Best Woman Boxer of the Tournament award.
- With two medals in the men's category, the 19-member Indian team concluded its campaign with an overall second position (12 medals).

Naomi Osaka beats Jennifer Brady to win second Australian Open title

- Naomi Osaka powered her way to a second Australian Open title with a comprehensive straight sets victory over grand slam final debutante Jennifer Brady.

Ram, Krejckikova storm to mixed doubles title at Australian Open

- Rajeev Ram and Barbora Krejckikova won their second major title as a pair as they beat Matthew Ebden and Samantha Stosur to win the Australian Open mixed doubles final.

Motera cricket stadium, world's largest, named after Modi

- It was conceptualised by the Prime Minister when he was the CM of Gujarat, says President Ram Nath Kovind at the inauguration.
- The world's largest cricket stadium at Motera in Ahmedabad was renamed the Narendra Modi Stadium and inaugurated by the President of India Ram Nath Kovind
- The Gujarat Cricket Association-owned Sardar Patel Stadium, more popularly known as Motera Stadium, is one of the premier cricket grounds in India.
- The world's largest cricket stadium will also have 11 centre strips, which is unique.

உலகின் பெரிய மைதானம்

AHMEDABAD

6 உள்வளையாட்டு அரங்கம்

3 பயிற்சி ஆடுகளம்

4 டிரைஸ்ஸிங் ரூம்

மெட்ரோ ரயில் வசதி

3000 கார்கள், 10000 டூ வீலர் பார்க்கிங்

ஒலிம்பிக் நீச்சல் குளம்

70 கார்ப்பரேட் மற்றும் விஜயி பாக்ஸ் வசதி

8 செ.மீ மழை பெய்தாலும் ஆட்டத்தை தொடர முடியும்

உலகின் முதல் LED விளக்குகள் கொண்ட மைதானம்

பிரம்மாண்ட உணவகம்

இருக்கை 1.32 லட்சம்

63 ஏக்கர் பரப்பளவு

மொத்த மதிப்பு **₹800** கோடி

- With a seating capacity of 1,10,000 – greater than Melbourne Cricket Ground – the GCA will put on sale around 55,000 tickets for the next two Tests at the venue.

National Table Tennis: Tamil Nadu Player Sathyan Champion

- G Sathyan ended his long wait for a national title with a convincing 4-2 win over nine-time champion Sharath Kamal in the 82nd National Table Tennis Championships.

Ravichandran Ashwin becomes second-fastest bowler to 400 Test wickets

Fastest to 400

Ashwin is the second quickest to 400 Test wickets after Muralitharan. The Sri Lankan had reached the landmark in 72 Tests while the Indian achieved it in 77. A look at the bowling and batting performances of the top-6 players when they reached the landmark

	M	BOWLING			BATTING		
		Wkts	Avg	5WI	Runs	Avg	100s
M. Muralitharan (SL)	72	404	23.53	33	703	13.01	0
R. Ashwin (INDIA)	77	401	24.95	29	2,643	28.11	5
Richard Hadlee (NZ)	80	403	22.11	34	2,912	26.71	2
Dale Steyn (SA)	80	402	22.48	25	1,116	14.49	0
Rangana Herath (SL)	84	400	27.82	33	1,498	14.54	0
A. Kumble (INDIA)	85	402	28.41	24	1,451	16.48	0

SOURCE: ESPNCRICINFO



India's 400-wicket club

Ashwin became the fourth Indian bowler to reach the 400-wicket landmark

	M	Wkts	BB	Avg	SR
Anil Kumble	132	619	10/74	29.65	65.9
Kapil Dev	131	434	9/83	29.64	63.9
Harbhajan Singh	103	417	8/84	32.46	68.5
R. Ashwin	77	401	7/59	24.95	53

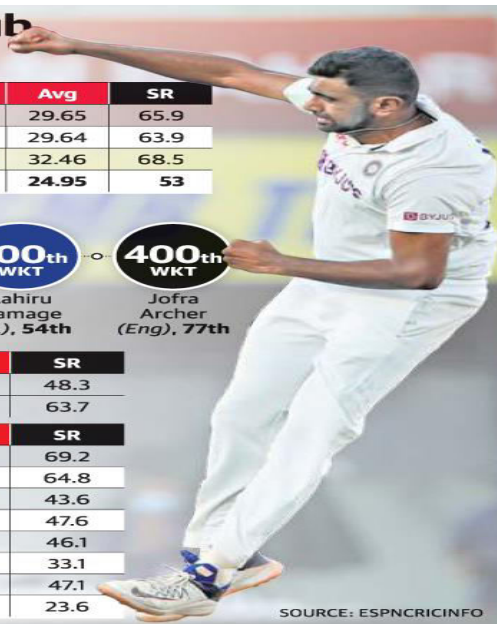
JOURNEY TO 400

- 1st WKT**: Darren Bravo (WI), 1st match
- 100th WKT**: Darren Sammy (WI), 18th
- 200th WKT**: Kane Williamson (NZ), 37th
- 300th WKT**: Lahiru Gamage (SL), 54th
- 400th WKT**: Jofra Archer (Eng), 77th

	M	Wkts	Avg	SR
Home	46	278	22.19	48.3
Away	31	123	31.18	63.7

Opposition	M	Wkts	Avg	SR
Australia	18	89	31.5	69.2
England	18	80	30.3	64.8
West Indies	11	60	21.9	43.6
South Africa	10	53	19.8	47.6
Sri Lanka	9	50	23.6	46.1
New Zealand	6	48	17.0	33.1
Bangladesh	4	16	23.1	47.1
Afghanistan	1	5	11.8	23.6

SOURCE: ESPNCRICINFO



Iga Swiatek wins Adelaide International, captures second career title

- Iga Swiatek wins Adelaide International, captures second career title
- Roland Garros champion Iga Swiatek clinched the second title of her career after winning the Adelaide International.
- The 19-year-old romped past second seed Belinda Bencic 6-2 6-2 in a 62-minute final to script history.





ARUL IAS ACADEMY

SINCE 2014

TNPSC GROUP 1 MAINS 2020/2021 TEST SERIES

EXCLUSIVE

- ▲ **GROUP 1 MAINS TEST SERIES**
- ▲ **TOTAL NUMBER OF TEST : 27**
- ▲ **PAPER WISE TEST : 24**
- ▲ **MOCK TEST TEST : 3**

CONTACT US : 79044 52287

WHATSAPP : 9597 234 231

FACEBOOK LINK : <https://www.facebook.com/AruliasAcademy/>

WEBSITE LINK : <https://aruliasacademy.com/>

KEY FEATURES

- ONLINE , POSTAL AND CLASSROOM BATCH AVAILABLE
- ANSWER KEY FORMAT FOR EACH TEST
- AFTER COMPLETION OF ONE TEST , NEXT TEST WILL BE PROVIDED ONLY AFTER SUBMISSION AND EVALUATION
- CLASSROOM BATCH ONLY @KARUR
(DISCUSSION FOR EACH TEST)
- FOR POSTAL STUDENTS REFERENCE MATERIAL WILL BE PROVIDED FOR EACH TEST
- TEST WILL BE CONDUCTED ON BOTH TAMIL AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE
- QUESTIONS WILL BE OF RECENT TREND AS PER TNPSC PATTERN

TEST SCHEDULE

TOTAL MODULES : 9 AND MOCK TEST

▲ **MODULE 1:**

INDIAN POLITY

NO. OF TEST: 4 (TEST NO.1 TO TEST NO.4)

▲ **MODULE 2:**

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

NO. OF TEST: 3 (TEST NO.5 TO TEST NO.7)

▲ **MODULE 3:**

TAMIL SOCIETY AND CULTURE

NO. OF TEST: 2 (TEST NO.8 TO TEST NO.9)

▲ **MODULE 4:**

GEOGRAPHY OF INDIA

NO. OF TEST: 3 (TEST NO.10 TO TEST NO.12)

▲ **MODULE 5:**

ENVIRONMENT, BIODIVERSITY

NO. OF TEST: 2 (TEST NO.13 TO TEST NO.14)

▲ **MODULE 6:**

INDIAN ECONOMY

NO. OF TEST: 3 (TEST NO.15 TO TEST NO.17)

▲ **MODULE 7:**

MODERN HISTORY OF INDIA AND INDIAN CULTURE

GENERAL APTITUDE & MENTAL ABILITY (SSLC Standard)

NO. OF TEST: 3 (TEST NO.18 TO TEST NO.20)

▲ **MODULE 8:**

SOCIAL ISSUES IN INDIA AND TAMIL NADU

GENERAL APTITUDE & MENTAL ABILITY (SSLC Standard)

NO. OF TEST: 3 (TEST NO.21 TO TEST NO.23)

▲ **MODULE 9:**

CURRENT AFFAIRS

NO. OF TEST: 1 (TEST NO.24)

▲ TEST NO.25 PAPER 3(FULL LENGTH TEST)

▲ TEST NO.26 PAPER 2(FULL LENGTH TEST)

▲ TEST NO.27 PAPER 1(FULL LENGTH TEST)

MODULE 1

NO. OF TEST: 4 (TEST NO.1 TO TEST NO.4)

SUBJECT: PAPER - II

UNIT- I: INDIAN POLITY

TEST NO.	SUBJECT/PORITION
1.	<p>UNIT- I : Indian Polity and emerging political trends across the world affecting India</p> <p>Constitution of India: Historical background - Making of the Indian Constitution - Preamble - Salient features of the Indian Constitution - Fundamental Rights and Fundamental Duties - Directive Principles of State Policy - Schedules to the Indian Constitution. Union Executive: President, Vice - President, Prime Minister and Council of Ministers, Attorney General of India. Union Legislature: Parliament: Lok - Sabha and Rajya - Sabha - Composition, Powers, Functions and Legislative procedures. Union Judiciary: Structure, Powers and Functions of the Supreme Court - Judicial Review - Latest Verdicts</p>
2.	<p>UNIT- I : Indian Polity and emerging political trends across the world affecting India</p> <p>State Executive: Governor, Chief Minister - Speaker and Council of Ministers, Advocate General of the State. State Legislature: State Legislative Assembly - Organization, Powers and Functions. State Judiciary: Organisation, Powers and Functions of High Courts, District Courts and Subordinate Courts. Local Government: Historical Development - Features and working of 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992. Union Territories: Evolution of States and Union Territories - Administration of Union Territories. Federalism in India: Centre - State Relations - Centre - State Administrative Relations - Centre - State Legislative Relations and Centre - State Financial Relations.</p>
3.	<p>UNIT- I : Indian Polity and emerging political trends across the world affecting India</p> <p>Civil Services in India: Historical background - Classification of Civil Services - Recruitment & Training of Civil Servants. State Services: Classification of State Services and Recruitment. Official Language: Constitutional provision - Official Language Act, VIII Schedule to the Constitution. Amendments: Major Amendments to the Indian Constitution. Special Status to Jammu & Kashmir: Art 370.</p>

UNIT- I : Indian Polity and emerging political trends across the world affecting India

Political Parties: National & Regional parties, Pressure Groups, Interest Groups, Public Opinion, Mass Media, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and their role. **Issue Areas in Indian**

Administration: Corruption in India - Anti - Corruption Measures - CVC - Lok Adalats - Ombudsman - RTI Act - Minister - Secretary Relationship - Generalist Vs. Specialist controversy.

4.

Constitutional and Non-Constitutional Bodies - Composition, Powers and Functions. **Profile of States** - Defence, National Security and Terrorism - World Organisations - Pacts and Summits. **India's Foreign Policy:** Foreign Affairs with Special emphasis on India's relations with neighbouring countries and in the region - Security and defence related issues - Nuclear Policy - Issues and conflicts. The Indian Diaspora and its contribution to India and to the World.



ARUL IAS ACADEMY

MODULE 2

NO. OF TEST: 3 (TEST NO.5 TO TEST NO.7)

SUBJECT: PAPER - II

UNIT - II: ROLE AND IMPACT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDIA

TEST NO.	SUBJECT/PORTION
5.	<p>UNIT - II : Role And Impact Of Science And Technology In The Development Of India</p> <p>Health and hygiene - Human diseases - Prevention and remedies - Communicable diseases and non-communicable diseases - Genetic Engineering - Organ transplantation - Stem cell Technology - Medical Tourism - Advancements in Horticulture & Agriculture.</p>
6.	<p>UNIT - II : Role And Impact Of Science And Technology In The Development Of India</p> <p>Science and Technology - Role, Achievements and Developments - Their applications and effects in everyday life - Energy - Conventional and Non-conventional - Self-sufficiency - Oil exploration - Defence Research Organizations and other science and technology institutions - Ocean Research and Development - Role and Functions.</p>
7.	<p>UNIT - II : Role And Impact Of Science And Technology In The Development Of India</p> <p>Advancements in the fields of I.T., Space, Computers, Robotics, Nano-Technology - Mobile Communication - Remote sensing and its benefits. Achievements of Indians in the fields of Science and Technology. Latest inventions in science & technology.</p>

ARUL IAS ACADEMY

MODULE 3

NO. OF TEST: 2 (TEST NO.8 TO TEST NO.9)

SUBJECT: PAPER - II

UNIT - III: TAMIL SOCIETY - ITS CULTURE AND HERITAGE

(Candidates may answer the questions in this unit

EITHER in Tamil OR in English)

TEST NO.	SUBJECT/PORTION
8.	<p>UNIT - III : TAMIL SOCIETY - ITS CULTURE AND HERITAGE</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Tamil Society : Origin and expansion.2) Art and Culture : Literature, Music, Film, Drama, Architecture, Sculpture, Paintings and Folk Arts.3) Socio - economic history of Tamil Nadu from Sangam age to till date.4) Growth of Rationalist, Dravidian movements in Tamil Nadu - Their role in the socio - economic development of Tamil Nadu.5) Social and cultural life of contemporary Tamils : Caste, Religion, Women, Politics, Education, Economy, Trade and relationship with other countries.6) Tamil and other Disciplines: Mass Media, Computer etc.
9.	<p>UNIT - III : TAMIL SOCIETY - ITS CULTURE AND HERITAGE</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Tamil Society : Origin and expansion.2) Art and Culture : Literature, Music, Film, Drama, Architecture, Sculpture, Paintings and Folk Arts.3) Socio - economic history of Tamil Nadu from Sangam age to till date.4) Growth of Rationalist, Dravidian movements in Tamil Nadu - Their role in the socio - economic development of Tamil Nadu.5) Social and cultural life of contemporary Tamils : Caste, Religion, Women, Politics, Education, Economy, Trade and relationship with other countries.6) Tamil and other Disciplines: Mass Media, Computer etc.

MODULE 4

NO. OF TEST: 3 (TEST NO.10 TO TEST NO.12)

SUBJECT: PAPER - III

UNIT-I: GEOGRAPHY OF INDIA WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO TAMILNADU

TEST NO.	SUBJECT/PORTION
10.	<p>UNIT-I : GEOGRAPHY OF INDIA WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO TAMILNADU</p> <p>Location - Physical features - Major Rivers - Weather & Climate - Monsoon, Rainfall - Natural resources:- Soil, Water, Forest, Minerals and Wild life - Agricultural pattern - Livestock - Fisheries - Industries; Major industries - Growth and Development</p>
11.	<p>UNIT-I : GEOGRAPHY OF INDIA WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO TAMILNADU</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▲ Social- Cultural geography - Population: Growth, Density and Distribution - Racial, linguistic and major tribes.▲ GEOGRAPHY -CURRENT AFFAIRS
12.	<p>UNIT-I : GEOGRAPHY OF INDIA WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO TAMILNADU</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▲ Oceanography - Bottom relief features of Indian Ocean, Arabian sea and Bay of Bengal.▲ Basics of Geospatial Technology: Geographical Information System (GIS) and Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS).▲ Map: Geographical landmarks - India and its neighbours.

ARUL IAS ACADEMY

MODULE 5

NO. OF TEST: 2 (TEST NO.13 TO TEST NO.14)

SUBJECT: PAPER - III

UNIT II: ENVIRONMENT, BIODIVERSITY AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT

TEST NO.	SUBJECT/PORTION
13.	<p>UNIT II: ENVIRONMENT, BIODIVERSITY AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Ecology: Structure and function of Ecosystem - Ecological succession - Biodiversity conservation: Types - Biodiversity Hot Spots in India - Biodiversity : Significance and Threats - In situ and Ex situ conservation measures - Roles of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) & Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Environmental Laws, Policies & Treaties in India and Global scenario - Natural calamities and Disaster Management - Environmental Health and Sanitation.</p>
14.	<p>UNIT II: ENVIRONMENT, BIODIVERSITY AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Environmental Pollution and Management: Air, Water, Soil, Thermal and Noise pollution and control strategies - Solid and Hazardous waste Management - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA): Steps in EIA process - Environmental Clearance - Environmental Auditing. Climate Change: Global Environmental Issues and Management - Changes in monsoon pattern in Tamil Nadu and India - Environmental consequences of climate change and mitigation measures - Clean and Green Energy - Environmental Sustainability.</p> <p>Environment CURRENT AFFAIRS</p>

MODULE 6

NO. OF TEST: 3 (TEST NO.15 TO TEST NO.17)

SUBJECT: PAPER - III

UNIT III: INDIAN ECONOMY - CURRENT ECONOMIC TRENDS AND IMPACT OF GLOBAL ECONOMY ON INDIA

TEST NO.	SUBJECT/PORITION
15.	<p>UNIT III : INDIAN ECONOMY - CURRENT ECONOMIC TRENDS AND IMPACT OF GLOBAL ECONOMY ON INDIA</p> <p>Features of Indian Economy - Demographical profile of India - National Income - Capital formation - NEP (New Economic Policy) - NITI AYOOG - National Development Council. Agriculture - Role of Agriculture - Land reforms - New Agricultural Strategy - Green Revolution - Price Policy, Public Distribution System (PDS), Subsidy, Food Security- Agricultural Marketing, Crop Insurance, Labour - Rural credit & indebtness - WTO & Agriculture. Industry - Growth - Policy - Role of public sector and disinvestment - Privatisation and Liberalization - Public Private Partnership (PPP) - SEZs. - MSMEs. - Make in India. Infrastructure in India - Transport System - Energy - Power - Communication - Social Infrastructure - Science & Technology - R&D.</p>
16.	<p>UNIT III : INDIAN ECONOMY - CURRENT ECONOMIC TRENDS AND IMPACT OF GLOBAL ECONOMY ON INDIA</p> <p>Banking & Finance - Banking, Money & Finance - Central Bank - Commercial Bank - NBFIs. - Stock Market - Financial Reforms - Financial Stability - Monetary Policy - RBI & Autonomy. Public Finance - Sources of Revenue - Tax & Non-Tax Revenue - Canons of taxation - GST - Public expenditure - Public debt - Finance Commission - Fiscal Policy Issues in Indian Economy - Poverty & inequality - Poverty alleviation programmes - MGNREGA - New Welfare programmes for rural poverty - Unemployment - Inflation - Inflation targeting - Sustainable economic growth - Gender issues. India's Foreign Trade - BOP, EX-IM Policy, FOREX Market, FDI; Globalization & its impact - Global economic crisis & impact on Indian economy.</p>

17.

**UNIT III : INDIAN ECONOMY -
CURRENT ECONOMIC TRENDS AND
IMPACT OF GLOBAL ECONOMY ON INDIA**

International Agencies - IMF (International Monetary Fund) World Bank - BRICS - SAARC - ASEAN. Tamil Nadu Economy & Issues - Gross State Domestic Product - Trends in State's economic growth - Demographic profile of Tamil Nadu - Agriculture - Industry & entrepreneurship development in Tamil Nadu - Infrastructure - Power, Transportation systems - Social Infrastructure - SHGs. & Rural Women empowerment - Rural poverty & unemployment - Environmental issues - Regional economic disparities - Local Government - Recent government welfare programmes.

ECONOMY CUURENT AFFAIRS



ARUL IAS ACADEMY

MODULE 7

NO. OF TEST: 3 (TEST NO.18 TO TEST NO.20)

SUBJECT: PAPER - I

UNIT- I: MODERN HISTORY OF INDIA AND INDIAN CULTURE

UNIT-III: GENERAL APTITUDE & MENTAL ABILITY

(SSLC Standard)

TEST NO.	SUBJECT/PORTION
18.	<p>UNIT- I: MODERN HISTORY OF INDIA AND INDIAN CULTURE UNIT-III : GENERAL APTITUDE & MENTAL ABILITY (SSLC Standard)</p> <p>Advent of European invasion - Expansion and consolidation of British rule - Early uprising against British rule - 1857 Revolt - Indian National Congress - Growth of militant movements - Different modes of agitations - Emergence of national leaders - Gandhi, Nehru, Tagore, Netaji, Moulana Abulkalam Azad, Ambedkar and Patel - Era of different Acts & Pacts - Second World War & final phase struggle - Communalism led to partition.</p> <p>GENERAL APTITUDE & MENTAL ABILITY</p> <p>Information technology - Basic terms, Communications - Application of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) - Decision making and problem solving - Basics in Computers / Computer terminology.</p>
19.	<p>UNIT- I: MODERN HISTORY OF INDIA AND INDIAN CULTURE UNIT-III : GENERAL APTITUDE & MENTAL ABILITY (SSLC Standard)</p> <p>Effect of British rule on socio-economic factors - National renaissance - Socio religious reform movements. Role of Tamil Nadu in freedom struggle - Bharathiar, VOC, Subramania Siva, Rajaji, Periyar and others - Political parties and Welfare schemes.</p> <p>GENERAL APTITUDE & MENTAL ABILITY</p> <p>Conversion of information to data - Collection, compilation and presentation of data - Tables, Graphs, Diagrams - Parametric representation of data - Analytical interpretation of data - Percentage - Highest Common Factor (HCF) - Lowest Common Multiple (LCM)</p>

20.

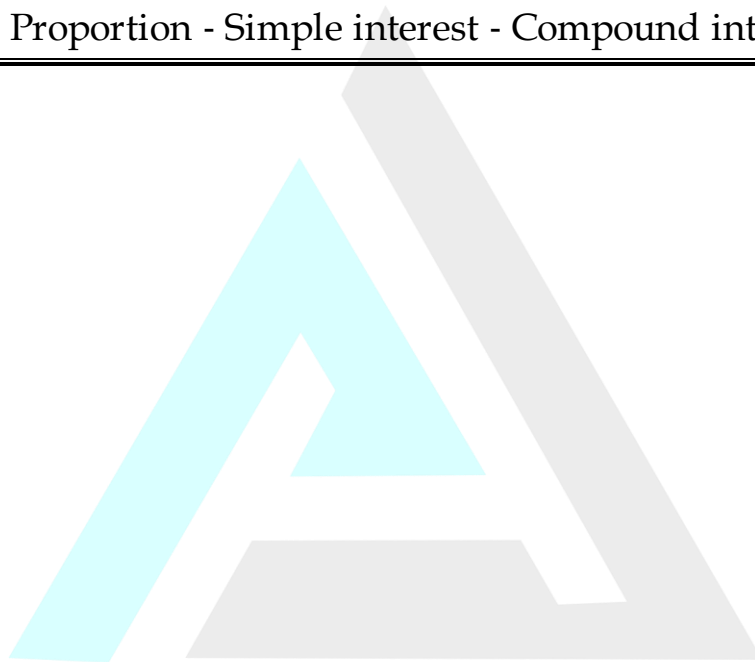
UNIT- I: MODERN HISTORY OF INDIA AND INDIAN CULTURE
UNIT-III : GENERAL APTITUDE & MENTAL ABILITY
(SSLC Standard)

India since independence - Characteristics of Indian culture - Unity in diversity - Race, Language, Religion Custom - India: a secular state - Organizations for fine arts, dance, drama and music.

Latest diary of events: National and International - National symbols- Eminent personalities & places in news - Sports & Games - Books & Authors - Awards & Honours - Cultural panorama - Latest Historical events - Latest terminology - Appointments - who is who?

GENERAL APTITUDE & MENTAL ABILITY

Ratio and Proportion - Simple interest - Compound interest



ARUL IAS ACADEMY

MODULE 8

NO. OF TEST :3 (TEST NO.21 TO TEST NO.23)

SUBJECT: PAPER - I

UNIT- II : SOCIAL ISSUES IN INDIA AND TAMIL NADU

UNIT-III : GENERAL APTITUDE & MENTAL ABILITY

(SSLC Standard)

TEST NO.	SUBJECT/PORTION
21.	<p>UNIT- II : SOCIAL ISSUES IN INDIA AND TAMIL NADU UNIT-III : GENERAL APTITUDE & MENTAL ABILITY (SSLC Standard)</p> <p>SOCIAL ISSUES IN INDIA AND TAMIL NADU Population Explosion - Unemployment issues in India & Tamil Nadu - Child Abuse & Child Labour - Poverty - Rural and Urban Sanitation - Illiteracy. Women Empowerment - Role of the Government in Women Empowerment - Social injustice to Women - Domestic violence, Dowry menace, Sexual assault - Role of women and women's organisations</p> <p>GENERAL APTITUDE & MENTAL ABILITY Area - Volume</p>
22.	<p>UNIT- II : SOCIAL ISSUES IN INDIA AND TAMIL NADU UNIT-III : GENERAL APTITUDE & MENTAL ABILITY (SSLC Standard)</p> <p>Social changes in India - Urbanization and its impact on the society - Problems and remedies - Impact of violence on Society - Religious violence, Terrorism and Communal violence - Regional Disparities - Problems of Minorities - Human Rights issues. Education - Linkage between Education and Social Development - Community Development Programmes - Employment Guarantee Schemes - Self Employment and Entrepreneurship Development - Role of N.G.Os in Social Welfare</p> <p>GENERAL APTITUDE & MENTAL ABILITY Time and Work</p>
23.	<p>UNIT- II : SOCIAL ISSUES IN INDIA AND TAMIL NADU UNIT-III : GENERAL APTITUDE & MENTAL ABILITY (SSLC Standard)</p> <p>Government Policy on Health. Welfare Schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Central and State governments and their performance.</p> <p>GENERAL APTITUDE & MENTAL ABILITY Probability.</p>

MODULE 9

NO. OF TEST :1 (TEST NO.24)

CURRENT AFFAIRS

TEST NO.	SUBJECT/PORTION
24.	<p>UNIT- II : SOCIAL ISSUES IN INDIA AND TAMIL NADU UNIT-III : GENERAL APTITUDE & MENTAL ABILITY (SSLC Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▲ Current Affairs On▲ Indian Polity, Law,▲ Latest Diary Of Events: National And International - National Symbols- Eminent Personalities & Places In News - Sports & Games - Books & Authors - Awards & Honours - Cultural Panorama - Latest Historical Events - Latest Terminology - Appointments - Who Is Who?▲ Latest Inventions In Science & Technology,▲ Geography Current Affairs,▲ Environmental Current Affairs,▲ Economy Current Affairs.
	<p>MOCK TEST NO.1 PAPER 3 - TEST NO. 25 MOCK TEST NO.1 PAPER 2 - TEST NO. 26 MOCK TEST NO.1 PAPER 1 - TEST NO. 27</p>
	<p>ALL THE BEST.....</p>

- ✂ **Total No. of Tests -27 (Including Mock Tests)**
- ✂ Question paper will be in **both language Tamil and english**
- ✂ **Answer Booklet** will be provided as per **TNPSC Group I Main Examination** conducted by TNPSC
- ✂ Test series with TNPSC GROUP 1 MAINS syllabus covered .
- ✂ Paper correction within 2 days from the day of test mark and rank will be published on the same day of valuation
- ✂ Each and every student will be guided after every valuation of paper and result.

TYPE OF BATCHES AVAILABLE:

TNPSC GROUP1 MAINS

- ▲ Online(Mail Mode)
- ▲ Postal (Courier)
- ▲ Classroom

NOTE

- ▲ **CURRENT AFFAIRS MATERIALS**
- ▲ **SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS FOR FEW SUBJECT WILL BE GIVEN**

**Admission
Open**

TO CONTACT

CONTACT US : 7904 452 287

WHATSAPP : 9597 234 231

FACEBOOK LINK : <https://www.facebook.com/AruliasAcademy/>

WEBSITE LINK : <https://aruliasacademy.com/>