

ARUL IAS ACADEMY

TNPSC CURRENT AFFAIRS - ENGLISH OCTOBER-2021






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1. TAMIL NADU NEWS

Activities which held up in Tamil Nadu during October 2021

Crop Insurance Scheme May Cover Up to 25 Lakh TN Farmers



Safety net

Even though only about a lakh farmers have been brought under the insurance fold this time, officials of the Agriculture Department are hopeful that the enrollment drive will pick up momentum in the weeks to come

Status of coverage under the Crop Insurance Scheme during 2021-22*

Crop	Kharif season		Special season		Total	
	Area Insured (acres)	Farmers enrolled	Area Insured (acres)	Farmers enrolled	Area Insured (acres)	Farmers enrolled
Agricultural	1,08,950	90,772	3,794	3,772	1,12,744	94,544
Horticultural	3,875	3,371	Nil	Nil	3875	3,371
Grand Total	1,12,825	94,143	3,794	3,772	1,16,619	97,915

*AS ON SEPTEMBER 29, 2021

- Despite a late start, the Tamil Nadu government aims to keep 25 lakh farmers enrolled and 42 lakh acres covered under the Prime Minister's crop insurance scheme (**Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana**) this year.
- Though only around one lakh farmers till now have enrolled so far under this scheme. Agriculture Department officials are hopeful that the enrolment drive would pick up in the coming weeks as farmers intensify their activities during the current 'samba', 'thaladi', and 'pishanam' cultivation season.

Special season

- Given the peculiarity of the circumstances in the State, crops grown during the 'samba' season come under the special season in terms of insurance coverage. Otherwise, it is either kharif or rabi season for insurance purposes. Last year, 25.77 lakh farmers were enrolled for an area of around 42.77 lakh acres.
- Approximately 12.4 lakh farmers alone have registered for the 2020-21 special season. The ongoing 'samba' season is significant since it accounts for roughly two-thirds of annual rice production.
- This time, there is an additional motive for the authorities to guarantee comprehensive coverage. During the kharif season this year, coverage was hardly one-fourth of what the State had accomplished the previous year.



- This was due to a number of factors, including the implementation of the model code of conduct for the Assembly election, which caused a delay in the selection of insurance companies.
- The harvest of paddy produced during the 'kuruvai' season had begun by the time **Agriculture Insurance Company of India Limited** and **IFFCO-Tokio General Insurance Company** were picked in late August. According to officials, this is why paddy alone could not be covered this year.

Period of Enrollment

- Normally, farmer enrollment for the special season concludes on **December 15th**. However, in most districts, paddy harvesting is completed by the middle of November. Maize, cotton, and onions are some of the crops that may be covered.
- The registration procedure for Rabi is planned to begin in the third week of October and will go through February. There will, however, be district and crop- wise cut-off dates.

ASI to renovate World War I memorial arch near Lalgudi



- The Archaeological Survey of India has planned to take up restoration and conservation works on a commemorative arch, built during the British rule recognising the role of Indian soldiers in the victory of the Allied powers in World War I, at Keezha Valadi near Lalgudi in Tiruchi district.
- The memorial was erected by Dewan Bahadur G. Krishnamachariar and opened by Dewan Bahadur Sir T. Desikachariar, Trichinopoly District Board president, on August 10, 1922.

Stalin names road after freedom fighter Tiruppur Kumaran



- Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on October 4 named a road in Erode district after late freedom fighter Tiruppur Kumaran on the occasion of his birth anniversary.
- During a virtual event in the Secretariat, Mr. Stalin unveiled the name board 'Thiyagi Kumaran Road'. A main road in Sampath Nagar opposite to Erode Collectorate has been named after the freedom fighter who is fondly being remembered as 'Kodi Katha Kumaran.'
- The State government on October 3 issued a G.O. for naming the road in Sampath Nagar in Erode after the late freedom fighter. The G.O. followed a request made by Erode Collector after a resolution was adopted in this regard by Erode Corporation's Council meeting.

Vallalar's birth anniversary is benevolence day

- Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Tuesday announced that the State government would observe the birth anniversary of 'Arutpragasa Vallalar' Ramalinga Adigalar as the Day of Thaniperungarunai (boundless benevolence) every year.
- In a statement, Mr. Stalin recalled the life of Vallalar and highlighted how the kitchen in his Sathya Gnana Sabhai in Vadalur, Cuddalore district, continued to feed the hungry.
- Born on October 5, 1823, in Maruthur near Chidambaram, in Cuddalore district, Vallalar led a life filled with kindness and benevolence, said Mr. Stalin.
- The Chief Minister also recalled Vallalar's works, including *Manumurai kanda thiruvagasam* and *Jeeva karunya ozhukkam*.
- Ramalinga Adigalar's poem *Thiruvarutpa* is divided into six *Thirumuraigal*.

TN Signs MoU for Multi-Modal Logistics Park near Chennai



- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to set up a multi-modal logistics park (MMLP) at Mappedu in Tiruvallur district was signed.
- It was signed between Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO), National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML) and the Chennai Port Trust (CPT).
- The MMLP, to be set up close to Chennai Peripheral Ring Road, would connect Chennai airport, Chennai port, Kamarajar port and Kattupalli port.

T23 Tiger captured in Tamil Nadu taken to Mysuru zoo for treatment



- The man-hunting Tiger T23 of Mudumalai Tiger Reserve has finally been captured alive by the Tamil Nadu Forest Department.
- They had captured it after 22 days of the massive hunt.
- T23 was spotted near the Masinagudi forest area.
- It was moved to Mysuru Zoo.

Seventh phase of excavation at Keeladi completed

- The Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology (TNSDA) began excavations in Keeladi, Konthagai, and Agaram in Sivagangai district.
- The seventh phase was conducted by the Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology
- Keeladi is an urban settlement that is at least 2,600 years old.
- Ring wells were the highlight of the seventh phase of this excavation.
- Ring wells may have been used as soak pits or draw wells.
- This is the first time that the Tamil Nadu State Archaeology Department has left the quadrants open without filling it with soil after the excavation ended as it plans to establish an open site museum.
- When the museum is established then it would be a first-of-its-kind to be established in Tamil Nadu.
- The image of a fish imprinted on a ring well and the engraved coins found here strengthened the theory that the people who lived here had commercial transactions with other parts of the country, namely north India.

SC/ST Commission



- Tamil Nadu government appointed the members for SC/ST Commission.
- Chief Minister MK Stalin said that High Court Judge Sivakumar will be the Chairperson of the Commission.
- Punitha Pandian, Editor of 'Dalit Murasu' magazine will be Deputy Chairperson.
- The commission will also have five more persons,
 - Advocate Kumaradevan,
 - Ezhil Ilangovan (a writer),
 - Leelavathi Dhanaraj (social activist involved in imparting education to tribal children),
 - Advocate Ilanchezhian and
 - Professor Raghupathi.
- The period of the members of the SC/ST commission will be three years.
- They will ensure that the legal rights of SCs and STs are protected.

2. SPECIAL NEWS

Very important events can be called as special news

Covid -19 Vaccine & Relief measures

World Health Organization recommends first anti-malarial vaccine



- In a historic move, the World Health Organization (WHO) on Wednesday endorsed the first anti-malarial vaccine, as mankind enters a key turning point in a battle waged relentlessly over decades between man and mosquito, the vector.
- In a press conference that went live on social media, WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said, "This is a historic moment. The long-awaited malaria vaccine for children is a breakthrough for science, child health and malaria control... Using this vaccine on top of existing tools to prevent malaria could save tens of thousands of young lives each year."
- The WHO said on Wednesday that it was recommending the widespread use of the RTS,S/AS01 (RTS,S) malaria vaccine among children in sub-Saharan Africa and in other regions with moderate to high *P. falciparum* malaria transmission, based on results from an ongoing pilot programme in Ghana, Kenya and Malawi.
- The development comes at a time when the WHO and its partners have reported a stagnation in the progress against the disease that kills more than 2,60,000 African children under the age of five annually. Malaria remains a primary cause of childhood illness and death in sub-Saharan Africa, according to the WHO.
- "For centuries, malaria has stalked sub-Saharan Africa, causing immense personal suffering," said WHO Regional Director for Africa Dr. Matshidiso Moeti. "We have long hoped for an effective malaria vaccine and now for the first time ever, we have such a vaccine recommended for widespread use. Today's recommendation offers a glimmer of hope for the continent which shoulders the heaviest burden of the disease and we expect many more African children to be protected from malaria and grow into healthy adults."
- The vaccine does significantly reduce life-threatening severe malaria, Dr. Tedros said, but added that, "It's not the only tool. Vaccination against #malaria does not replace or reduce the need for other measures, including bed nets."
- RTS,S was first authorised in 2015 by the European Medicines Agency for use in Africa in infants and children.

Expert panel clears Covaxin for emergency use in 2-18 age group

Shot in the arm
Covaxin, India's first indigenous COVID-19 vaccine, has been recommended for use among minors

THE TRIALS: Bharat Biotech completed Phase 2 and Phase 3 trials of the vaccine among children

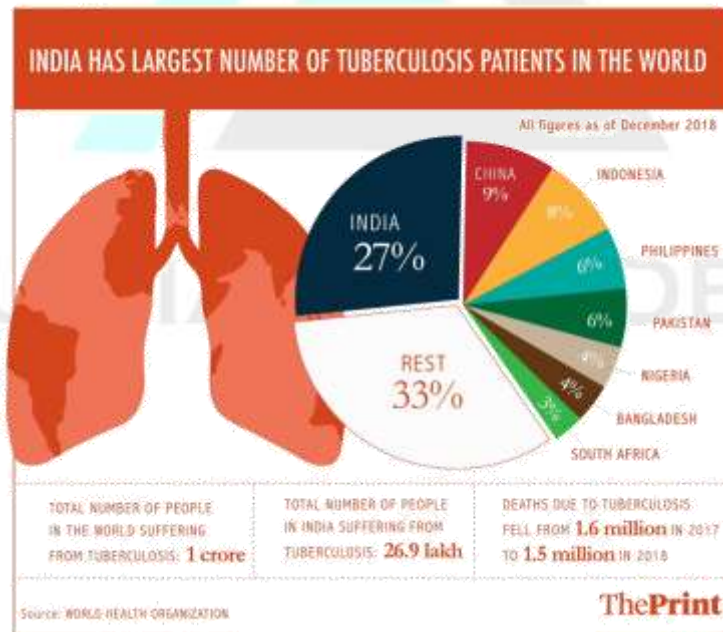
AGE GROUPS: The trials were done in the age groups of 2-6, 6-12 and 12-18 in September

RECOMMENDED DOSES: Two doses could be administered to children within a gap of 28 days

This represents one of the first approvals worldwide for COVID-19 vaccines for the 2-18 age group
BHARAT BIOTECH

- The Subject Expert Committee on Covid-19 has granted emergency use approval to Bharat Biotech’s Covaxin for children in the 2-18 years age group.

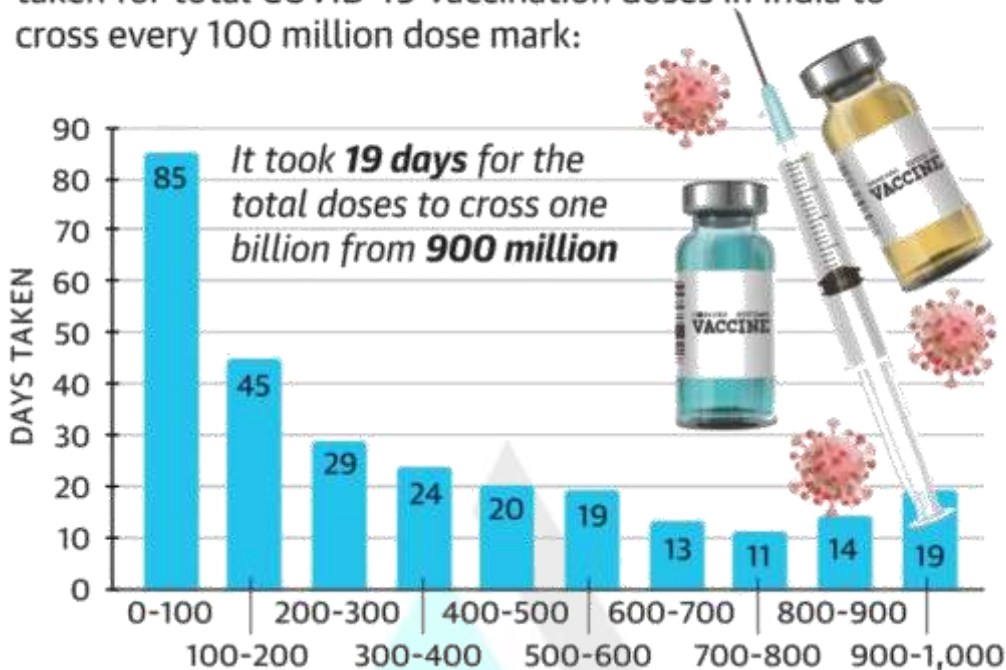
Tuberculosis deaths up in pandemic: WHO



- The World Health Organisation (WHO) has released the ‘Global TB report for 2021.
- It highlighted the effects of COVID-19 which led to a huge reversal in the progress of Tuberculosis (TB) elimination.
- The report also mentioned India as the worst-hit country in TB elimination.
- A dramatic reduction of 20% TB cases was witnessed in 2020 as compared to 2019, i.e. A gap of 4.1 million cases.

India crosses 100-crore COVID-19 vaccination doses milestone

Dose progression | The chart shows the days taken for total COVID-19 vaccination doses in India to cross every 100 million dose mark:



- India completed 100 crore doses of COVID-19 vaccines, in about 9 months since the drive began.
- To mark the occasion, the Union Health Ministry held a series of events and released a two-minute and four-second video with rap and visual representation of the country's fight against COVID-19.
- India took 85 days to touch the 10-crore vaccination mark, 45 more days to cross the 20-crore mark and 29 more days to reach the 30-crore mark, according to the Union Health Ministry data.
- The country took 24 days to reach the 40-crore mark from 30-crore doses and then 20 more **days to surpass the 50-crore vaccination mark** on August 6. It then took 76 days to go past the 100-crore mark.
- The top five States which have administered the highest number of doses are Uttar Pradesh followed by Maharashtra, West Bengal, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.
- The **countrywide vaccination drive was rolled out on January 16** with health care workers (HCWs) getting inoculated in the first phase. The **vaccination of frontline workers (FLWs)** started from February 2.
- The next phase of COVID-19 vaccination commenced from March 1 for **people over 60 years of age and those aged 45** and above with specified co-morbid conditions. The country launched vaccination for **all people aged over 45 years** from April 1.
- The government then decided to expand its vaccination drive by allowing **all above 18 to be vaccinated from May 1**.

DATA POINT

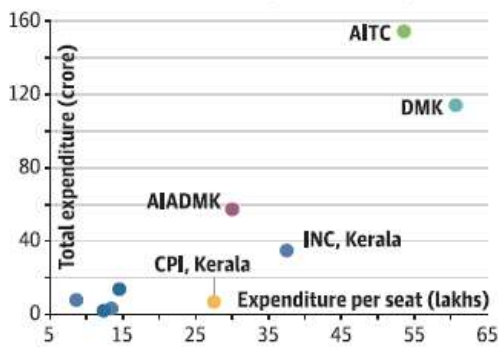
Poll spending

The DMK and the Trinamool Congress (AITC), both winners of State elections in 2021, spent over 265 crore during their election campaigns, according to the reports submitted to the Election Commission of India (ECI). Among all parties, the AIADMK spent the highest share in spreading the party's propaganda (99.5%) and relied only on media and advertisements. The DMK and the AITC, on the other hand, split their expenses half-and-half between its candidates and party propaganda. Interestingly, the INC adopted a unique spending strategy for spreading the party's propaganda in each of the five elections. By **Jasmin Nihalani**



- The BJP did not submit its 2021 election expenditure report to the ECI
 - The CPI(M) only submitted a part of the election expenditure report
 - The INC did not provide a State-wise breakup for the funds used from its central headquarters. Hence, data from the State units have been used
- INC-Indian National Congress

1. Spending spree | The chart depicts the expenditure incurred by major parties against the spending per contested seat in 2021. The AITC and the DMK, spent the highest amount. The two parties spent over 50 lakh on each Assembly constituency



2. Spending split | The chart shows the money spent on candidates and general party propaganda as a % of the total expenditure. The AIADMK spent 99.5% of its election fund on propaganda. The DMK and the AITC split the share equally between candidate expenditure and propaganda

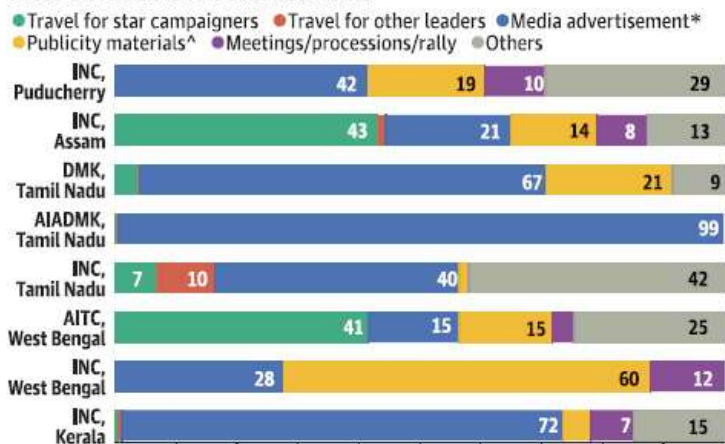
Party	Propaganda (%)	Candidates (%)
AIADMK, Tamil Nadu	99.5	0.5
INC, Kerala	67	33
INC, Puducherry	60	40
INC, Tamil Nadu	55	45
DMK, Tamil Nadu	52	48
AITC, West Bengal	52	48
INC, West Bengal	34	66
INC, Assam	31	69
CPI, Kerala	26	74

4. Strategy change | The table shows the expenditure strategy adopted by the AIADMK and the DMK in the last two Assembly elections. The AIADMK reduced its election spending, while the DMK's increased. There wasn't any change in the DMK's strategy for furthering party propaganda. However, its expenses on rallies decreased in 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions

Source:ECI



3. Spending strategy | The chart depicts the party-wise breakup of expenses incurred towards propaganda. The AIADMK put all its eggs in one basket and allotted 99% to media and advertisement. The AITC spread out its expenses and banked the most on star campaigners for propaganda. The INC relied on its star campaigners while contesting in Assam, but in Kerala, it spent the most on media and advertisements



and were compensated with increased spending on publicity materials. The AIADMK overhauled its strategy and spent only on media and advertisements, a significant change from 2016

Parameter	AIADMK		DMK		
	2021	2016	2021	2016	
Expenditure (crore)	57	65	114	97	
Seats contested	191	234	188	180	
Expenditure per seat (crore)	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.54	
As a % of total expenditure	General propaganda	99.5%	100%	52.3%	53.8%
	Candidates	0.5%	0%	47.7%	46.2%
% of total expenditure on propaganda	Travel of star campaigners	0.2%	0.3%	3.8%	0%
	Travel of others	0.3%	14.6%	0.3%	2.2%
	Media advt.*	99.3%	76.8%	66.7%	63.9%
	Publicity materials^	0.1%	6.4%	20.7%	16.4%
	Meetings/rally	0.1%	1.8%	0.0%	17%
	Others	0.1%	0.1%	8.6%	0.6%

*print and electronic, bulk sms, cable, website and TV, ^posters, banners, badges, stickers, arches, cutouts, hoardings, flags

Edayur Chilli and Kuttiattoor Mango gets G.I. tag



- Edayur Chilli and Kuttiattoor Mango are the latest to receive the Geographical Indication status from the state of Kerala.
- Edayur chilli has been cultivated for at least 150 years.
- Kuttiattoor mango is a popular and tasty traditional mango.

GI-tagged 'Mihidana' Batch From West Bengal Exported To Bahrain



- The first consignment of **Geographical Indication (GI)** tagged sweet dish **Mihidana**, from Bardhaman, **West Bengal** has been exported to the **Kingdom of Bahrain**.
- This initiative is part of the effort to promote indigenous & Geographical Identification (GI) tagged products of India globally. The product was exported by APEDA registered M/S DM Enterprises, Kolkata.
- West Bengal's Bardhaman got the GI tag for the Mihidana sweetmeats in **2017**. A GI tag is a sign denoting a specific geographical origin and possesses qualities or a reputation that are due to that origin.

Maharashtra: Palghar's famed Wada Kolam rice gets GI tag



- A variety of rice widely grown in Wada in the Palghar district has been given a 'Geographical Indication' tag, which will give it a unique identity as well as wider markets.
- Wada Kolam, also known as Zini or Jhini rice, is a traditional variety grown in the Wada tehsil of Palghar, with the grain being off white in colour.

After 68 years, Tatas win back Air India with ₹18,000-crore bid

Tata in the sky | Tata Sons will be the new owner of debt-laden national carrier Air India. The sale marks the return of Air India to the Tata group, a pioneer in aviation

1932: JRD Tata pilots Tata Airlines' inaugural flight from Karachi to Bombay	2007: Air India merges with Indian Airlines, that operates only domestic routes	Jan, 2020: Govt. launches a second attempt, this time offers 100% stake in Air India
1946: Tata Airlines becomes a public company; renamed Air India Limited	2012: Govt. approves ₹30,000 crore bailout for Air India, which has over ₹67,000 crore in debt	Oct, 2020: Govt. confirms Tata Sons' subsidiary Talace Pvt. Ltd. as the winning bidder
1948: Govt. of India acquires a 49% stake in the carrier	May, 2018: Govt. attempts to sell 76% stake in Air India; attracts no bidders	
1953: Government nationalises Air India		

- **Tata Group**, the progenitor of the **Air India** airline, reclaimed it, nearly 60 years after it was nationalised. Tata Sons bid **₹180 billion** for the government's **100% stake in Air India**.
- The government is seeking to sell 100 per cent of its stake in the state-owned national airline, including Air India's 100 per cent shareholding in AI Express Ltd and 50 per cent in Air India SATS Airport Services Private Ltd.

51 products get GI tag; German beer among 12 entrants from Europe

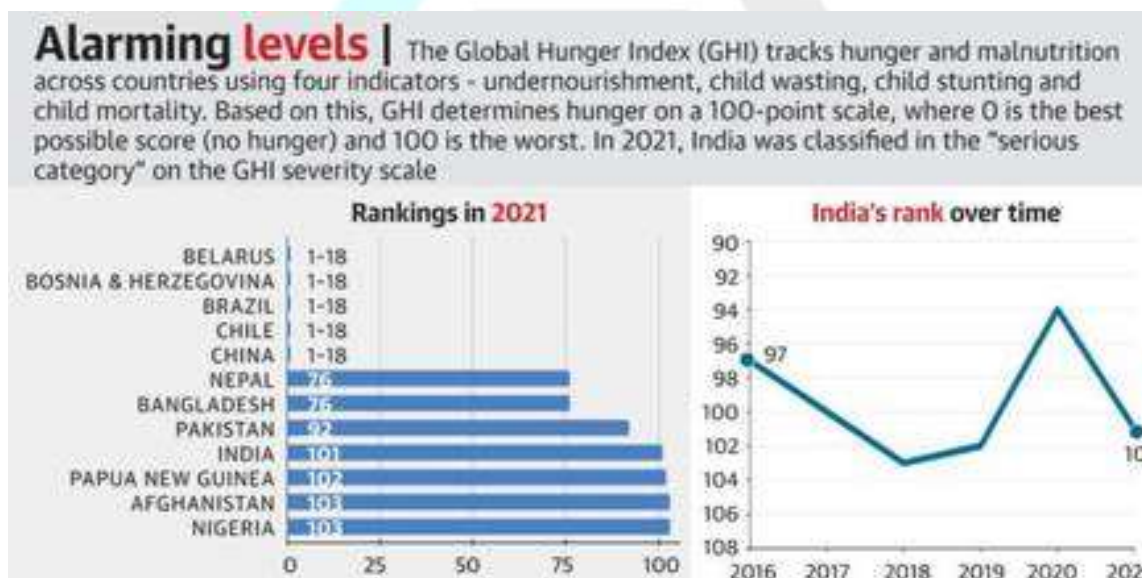
- For 51 new products, Geographical Indications (GI) tags were issued by the Chennai registry.
- They included a German beer (Muncener Bier), Italian veined blue cheese (gorgonzola), a plant resin (Chios Mastiha) from Greece and a variety of seed cones (zatecky chmel) from Czech Republic.
- Tamil Nadu has earned GI tags for five products.
- They are Kanyakumari clove, Thanjavur Netti works, Karuppur Kalamkari paintings and wood carvings of Arumbavur and Kallakurichi.

India ranks 40th out of 43 global pension systems, as per survey



- Mercer Consulting has released the 13th edition of the Mercer Global Pension Index (2021 MCGPI).
- India has been ranked at 40th position out of 43 countries in the 2021 Mercer CFS Global Pension Index survey.
- In 2020, India was ranked at 34th position out of 39 pension systems.
- Iceland has topped this ranking.
- It was followed by the Netherlands and Norway.
- India had an overall index value of 43.3.
- Thailand had the lowest overall index.

India's position drops on Global Hunger Index 2021 to 101 from 94, WCD ministry says ranking unscientific



- It is prepared jointly by an Irish aid agency called 'Concern Worldwide' and a German organisation called 'Welthungerhilfe'.
- The Index termed the hunger level in India is alarming.
- In the index, India has been placed in the 101st position out of 116 countries.
- In 2020, India's was positioned at 94th.
- India has improved with respect to indicators like under-5 mortality rate, the prevalence of undernourishment and prevalence of stunting among children.

India at 71st on Global Food Security index 2021 of 113 nations



- India has achieved the 71st position in the Global Food Security Index 2021 from among a list of 113 countries.
- This Index is designed and constructed by London-based Economist Impact and is sponsored by Corteva Agriscience.
- The overall score of India is 57.2 points on the GFS Index 2021.
- Ireland, Australia, the UK, Finland, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Canada, Japan, France and the US shared the top rank.

List of India's Rank Different Index 2021:

- Economic Freedom Index 2021: 121st
- World Happiness Report 2021: 139th
- International Intellectual Property (IP) Index 2021: 40th
- World Press Freedom Index, 2021: 142nd
- World Competitiveness Index 2021: 43rd
- Global Peace Index 2021: 135th
- Global Startup Ecosystem Index 2021: 20th
- Global Manufacturing Risk Index 2021: 2nd
- Global Innovation Index (GII) 2021: 46th
- Henley Passport index 2021: 90th
- Global Hunger Index 2021: 101st

India gets re-elected to U.N. Human Rights Council for 2022-24 term



- **India** has been re-elected to the **United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC)** for a sixth term on October 14, 2021, with an overwhelming majority.
- The new three-year term of India will be effective from **January 2022 to December 2024**.
- India received **184 votes** of the 193 votes cast in the election.

India among world's top 10 for climate tech investment



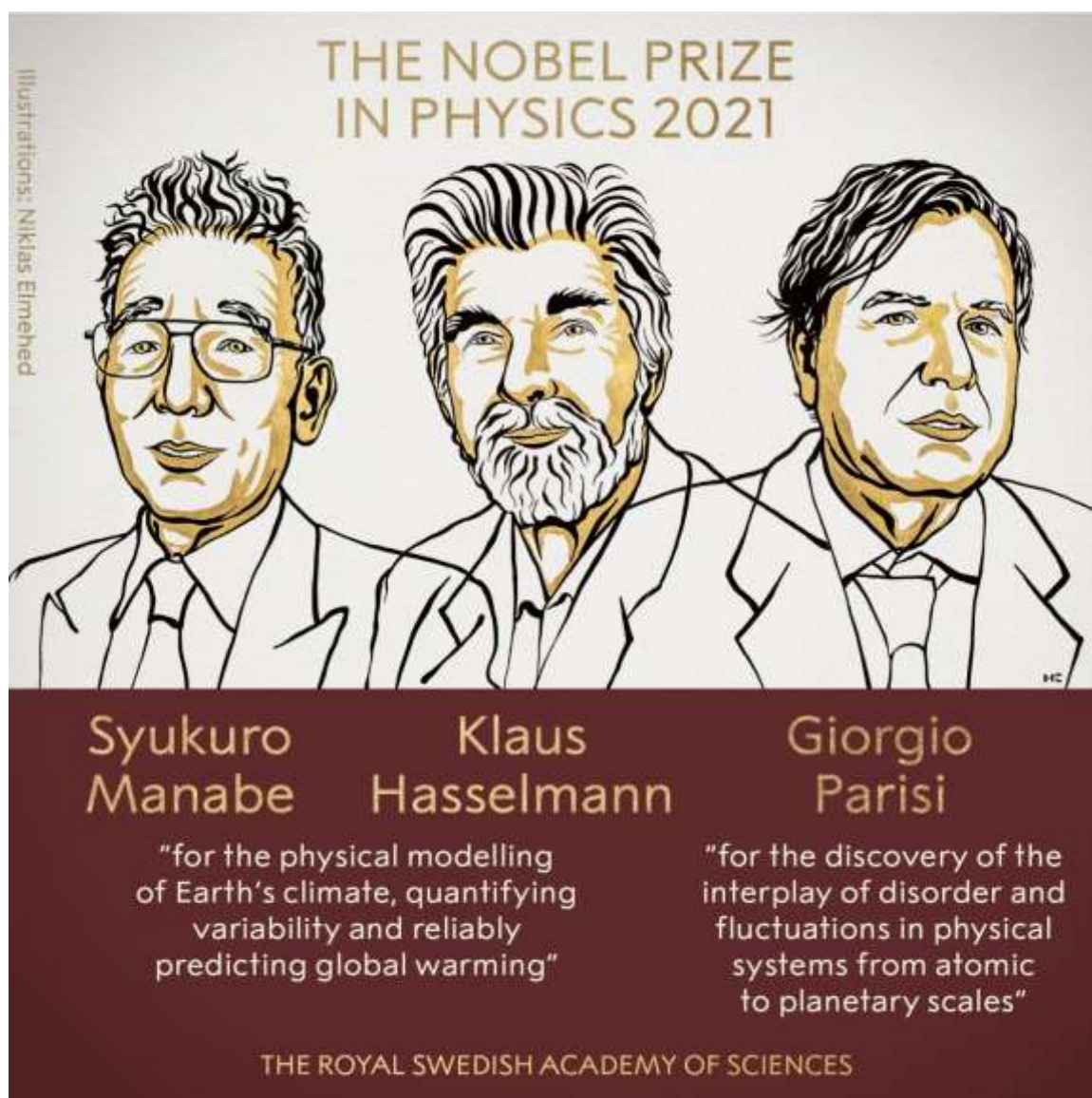
- India ranked 9th in the list of top 10 countries for climate technology investment from 2016 to 2021.
- This is in accordance with the report 'Five years on: Global climate tech investment trends since the Paris Agreement' by London & Partners, and Co.
- Indian climate tech firms received USD 1 billion in venture capital (VC) funding in this period.
- The list has been topped by the United States which is followed by China.

Rank	Country
1	United States (US)
2	China
3	Sweden
4	United Kingdom (UK)
5	France
6	Germany
7	Canada
8	The Netherlands
9	India
10	Singapore

3. IMPORTANT EVENTS

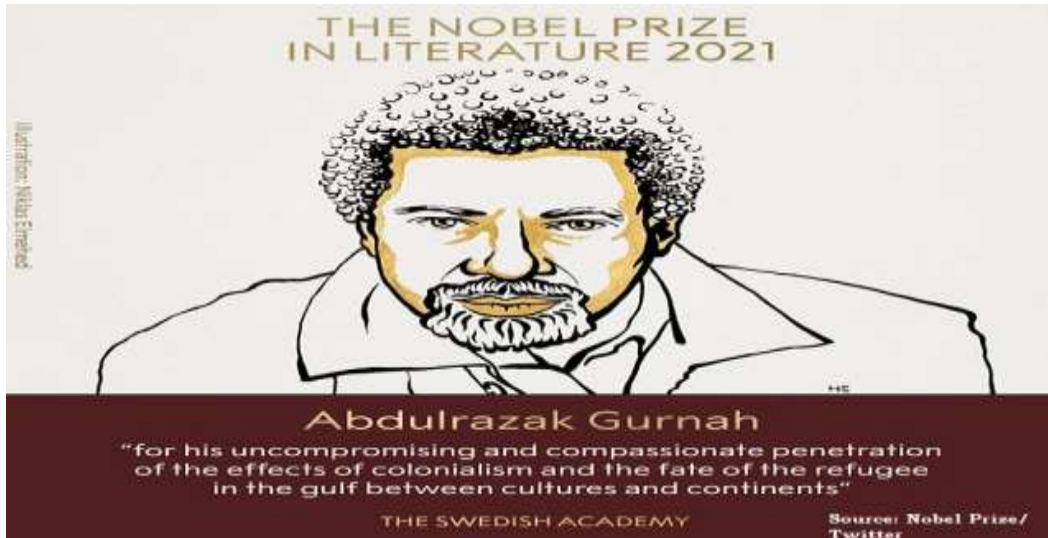
Events like awards, celebrations, etc...

Nobel Prize in Physics 2021



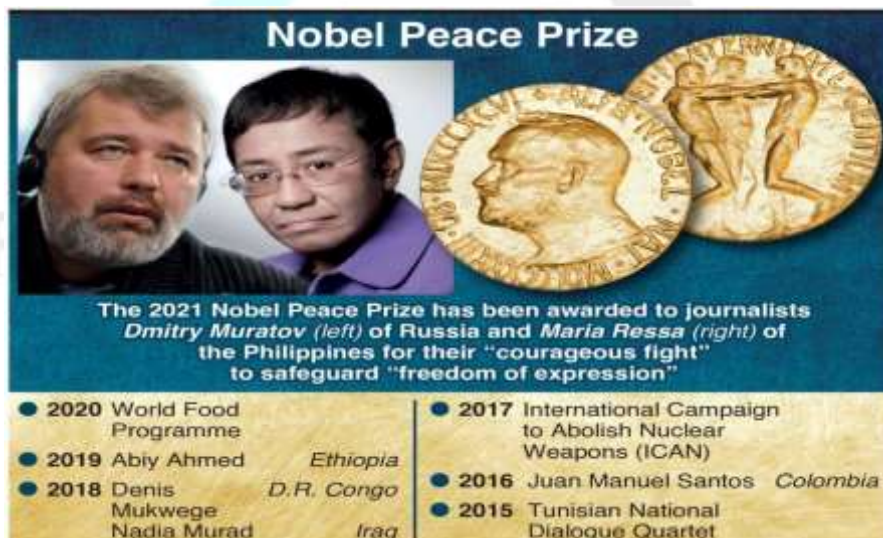
- Syukuro Manabe, Klaus Hasselmann, Giorgio Parisi jointly won the 2021 Nobel Prize in Physics.
- This is for their ground breaking contributions to our understanding of complex physical systems.
- The Nobel Prize in Physics is awarded by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm, Sweden.
- Syukuro Manabe (Princeton University, USA) and Klaus Hasselmann (Max Planck Institute for Meteorology, Hamburg, Germany) awarded for the physical modelling of Earth's climate, quantifying variability and reliably predicting global warming".
- Giorgio Parisi (Sapienza University of Rome, Italy) was awarded for the discovery of the interplay of disorder and fluctuations in physical systems from atomic to planetary scales.

Nobel Prize in Literature 2021



- The Nobel Prize in Literature 2021 was awarded to Abdulrazak Gurnah of the United Kingdom.
- It is "for his uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugee in the gulf between cultures and continents."
- The Nobel Prize in literature is awarded by the Swedish Academy, Stockholm, Sweden.

2021 Nobel Peace Prize



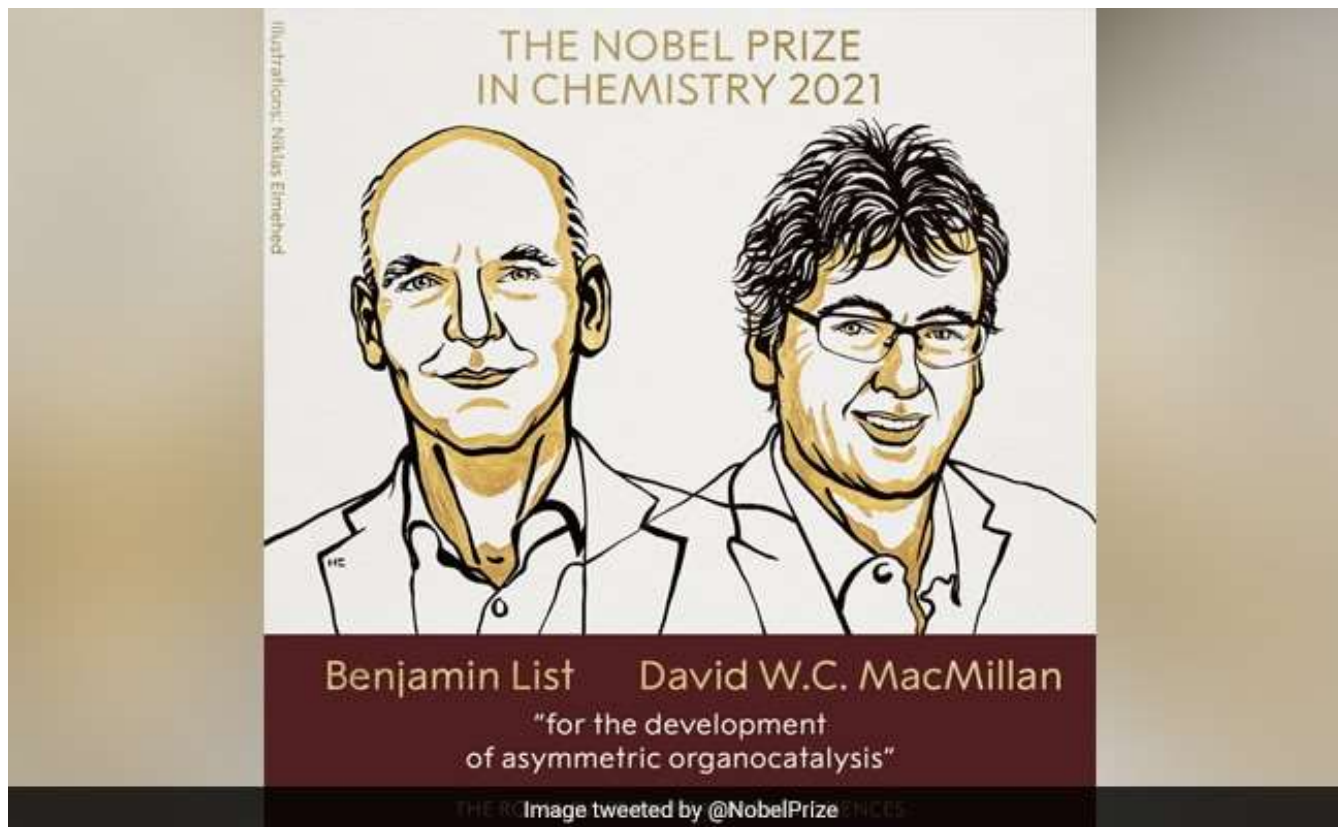
- The Norwegian Nobel Committee has decided to award it to Maria Ressa and Dmitry Muratov.
- This is "for their efforts to safeguard freedom of expression, which is a precondition for democracy and lasting peace".
- Maria Ressa uses freedom of expression to expose abuse of power, use of violence and growing authoritarianism in the Philippines.
- Dmitry Muratov has for decades defended freedom of speech in Russia under increasingly challenging conditions.

Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences 2021



- The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has decided to award the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel.
- It's one half is to given David Card (University of California of USA) "for his empirical contributions to labour economics".
- The other half jointly to Joshua Angrist (Massachusetts Institute of Technology of USA) and Guido Imbens (Stanford University of USA) "for their methodological contributions to the analysis of causal relationships".
- In 1968, Sveriges Riksbank (Sweden's central bank) established the Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel, founder of the Nobel Prize.
- The first Prize in Economic Sciences was awarded to Ragnar Frisch and Jan Tinbergen in 1969.

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2021



- The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2021 was awarded jointly to **Benjamin List** and **David W.C. MacMillan** “for the development of asymmetric organocatalysis.” This has had a great impact on pharmaceutical research and has made chemistry greener.
- The **Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences** has decided to award the Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2021.
- Catalysts are thus fundamental tools for chemists, but researchers long believed that there were, in principle, just two types of catalysts available: metals and enzymes.
- **Benjamin List** and **David MacMillan** are awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2021 because in 2000 they, independent of each other, developed a third type of catalysis. It is called **asymmetric organocatalysis** and builds upon small organic molecules.

2021 State of the Education Report for India: UNESCO

- On the Occasion of the **World Teachers’ Day (5th October)**, the **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)** launched its 2021 State of the Education Report (SOER) for India: “**No Teacher, No Class**”.
- This publication is the annual flagship report of UNESCO New Delhi and it is based on extensive research. This third edition of the State of Education Report focused on the theme of teachers, teaching and teacher education. Access to the internet in schools is 19 per cent all over India.

G20 Extraordinary Leaders' Meeting on Afghanistan



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has attended the G20 Extraordinary Leaders' Summit.
- G20 Extraordinary Leaders' Summit is being organised to discuss the situation in Afghanistan.
- This event is convened by the G20 Italian Presidency in virtual mode.
- The world leaders will discuss the response to humanitarian needs as well as access to basic services & livelihood in Afghanistan.

Dr Randeep Guleria bags Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence



- The Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu presented the 22nd Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence.
- It was presented to the eminent pulmonologist and Director of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Dr Randeep Guleria.
- He lauded Dr Guleria's devotion to duty and in nurturing the Department of Pulmonary Medicine and Sleep Disorders in AIIMS.

Indian agri waste recycling project wins Prince William's Earthshot Prize



- An Indian Project, Takachar's Innovation, that recycles agricultural waste into fuel has won the "Prince William's inaugural Earthshot Prize".
- This Prize is also called as Eco Oscars.
- Eco Oscars honour people who are trying to save the planet Earth.
- This award is presented with the aim of providing assistance to and inspires innovative local solutions as the climate crisis is growing globally.
- Takachar's Innovation is led by Vidyut Mohan.

Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation wins Earth Guardian Award



- The Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation (PaTCoF) has won the "Earth Guardian Award".
- The award is instituted by the NatWest Group.
- PaTCoF is a non-profit organisation under the forest department.
- It seeks to facilitate the conservation of tigers and biodiversity in the Parambikulam tiger reserve.
- Parambikulam Tiger Reserve is a protected area in the Palakkad district of Kerala.
- It was established in 1973.
- The sanctuary lies in the Sungam range of hills in between Anaimalai Hills and Nelliampathy Hills.

Fourth Assembly of the International Solar Alliance closes with a promise to achieve \$1 trillion global in solar investments by 2030



- The fourth general assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), was held virtually between October 18th and October 21st, 2021. It was presided by Union Minister Shri R.K. Singh, Minister for Power, New and Renewable Energy, Government of India and the President of the ISA Assembly.
- A total of **108 countries participated in the Assembly**, including 74 Member Countries and 34 Observer & Prospective Countries, 23 Partner Organizations and 33 Special Invitee Organisations also participated. U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry delivered the keynote address, and the European Commission Executive Vice President for the European Green Deal, Frans Timmermans, addressed the gathering on October 20th.
- Delivering the Presidential address, Shri RK Singh, Minister of Power & Minister of New and Renewable Energy, India, said, that it is time for all of us to get together to make energy access using solar and renewable energy available.
- Under the Modi-Johnson leadership, UK and India will together bring the **‘Green Grids Initiative’** and **‘One Sun, One World, One Grid’** at COP26. This is aimed at mobilizing the global technical, financial and research cooperation because it is only by working together that we will deliver the scale and pace of the clean power transition aim.”

Rajinikanth receives Dada Saheb Phalke award



- Actor **Rajinikanth** was honoured with the prestigious **51st Dadasaheb Phalke Award**.
- It was awarded at the 67th National Film Awards ceremony.
- This is for his contribution as an actor, producer and screenwriter.
- Instituted in 1969, the award is the highest honour for an artiste in Indian cinema.

Mutual cooperation in COVID era will strengthen India-ASEAN ties in future: PM Narendra Modi



- The Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the 18th ASEAN-India Summit.
- The ASEAN-India summits are held annually and provide the opportunity for India and ASEAN to engage at the highest level.
- PM Modi will review the status of the ASEAN-India Strategic Partnership at the 18th ASEAN-India Summit.
- He is participating in the summit at the invitation of the Sultan of Brunei.
- It will be the ninth ASEAN-India Summit attended by Modi.
- The year 2022 will mark 30 years of ASEAN-India relations partnership, and will be celebrated as 'ASEAN-India Friendship Year'.

Prime Minister participates in 16th East Asia Summit



- The Prime Minister Narendra Modi has participated in the 16th East Asia Summit (EAS).
- He reaffirmed India's focus on a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific and the principle of ASEAN Centrality in the region.
- The 16th EAS was hosted under the Chairmanship of Brunei.
- EAS is the premier Leaders-led forum in the Indo-Pacific region.
- This was the 7th East Asia Summit for Prime Minister Modi.
- The Summit ended with the adoption of three Statements by EAS leaders, which includes,
 - Mental Health,
 - Economic recovery through Tourism and
 - Sustainable Recovery.

TVS Motor Company Wins India Green Energy Award



- **TVS Motor Company** has been awarded the '**Outstanding Renewable Energy User**' at the **third Edition of India Green Energy Award 2020** by the **Indian Federation of Green Energy (IFGE)**.
- The award was presented by Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, **Nitin Gadkari**.
- IFGE has recognized the efforts of TVS Motor in researching and implementing the use of alternative power sources in the renewable energy domain while ensuring their longevity and stability.

4. PERSON IN NEWS

Persons whom occurred in news

Philippine leader Duterte announces retirement from politics



- Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte says he is backing out of an announced plan to run for Vice President in next year's elections and will retire from politics after his term ends.
- Mr. Duterte announced the surprise decision on October 2 after accompanying his former longtime aide, Sen. Bong Go, who instead filed his own candidacy for the vice presidency at a Commission on Elections center.
- Philippine Presidents are limited by the constitution to a single six-year term and opponents had said they would question the legality of Mr. Duterte's announced vice presidential run before the Supreme Court.
- Mr. Duterte took office in 2016 and launched a crackdown on illegal drugs that left more than 6,000 mostly petty suspects dead and alarmed Western governments and human rights groups. The International Criminal Court is investigating the killings.

Fumio Kishida elected as new PM of Japan



- Japan's former Foreign Minister, Fumio Kishida has won the ruling party's leadership election, virtually ensuring that he will become the country's next prime minister.
- Kishida won 257 votes in a runoff to defeat Taro Kono.
- Fumio Kishida replaces outgoing party leader Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga.

TN Governor appointed chairman of Auroville Foundation Governing Board



- A gazette notification by the Ministry of Education, that administrates Auroville, said the nine-member board will have a term of four years
- The Union government has nominated Tamil Nadu Governor R. N. Ravi as chairman of the reconstituted governing board of the Auroville Foundation, and Puducherry Lt. Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan as a board member.
- A gazette notification by the Ministry of Education, that administrates Auroville, said the nine-member board will have a term of four years.
- The other members nominated by the Union government in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 11 read with Section 12, of the Auroville Foundation Act, 1988 (54 of 1988), are drawn from across States and domains of expertise.
- They are: Nirima Oza, professor, oral pathology, Mahatma Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Dental Sciences, Puducherry, Aravindan Neelakandan, author-journalist, Tamil Nadu, Goutam Ghosal, Department of English & Other Modern European Languages, Visva-Bharti, Santiniketan, West Bengal, R.S. Sarraju, Head of Centre for Dalit, Adivasi and Translation Studies, University of Hyderabad and Nandana Gurappa Basappa, Department of PG Studies in Political Science, Karnataka University, Dharwad.
- The Joint Secretary, Ministry of Education and Joint Secretary and Finance Advisor, Ministry of Education, Government of India have been appointed the ex officio members of the governing board.

Mukesh Ambani tops Forbes India Rich List 2021



- The Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) Chairman **Mukesh Ambani** has topped the **Forbes India Rich list for 2021**, released. The list ranks India's 100 richest Indians. He has retained his position as the wealthiest Indian for the **14th consecutive year** on the Forbes India list, since 2008.
- The tycoon added **\$4 billion** to his net worth in 2021, to bring his total fortune to \$92.7 billion. The second spot has been retained by Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani, with a net worth of \$74.8 billion. Tech tycoon Shiv Nadar acquired the third spot with net worth of \$31 billion.

National Award-winning actor Nedumudi Venu passes away



- National Award-winning actor Nedumudi Venu has recently passed away.
- He won three National Film Awards, and six Kerala State Film Awards for his performances.
- Nedumudi Venu began his career as a theatre artist with the plays of Kavalam Narayana Panicker in Malayalam.
- He made his debut in films with Thambu, directed by G Aravindan in 1978.

Amit Khare appointed advisor to PM Modi



- Former bureaucrat **Amit Khare**, who last month retired as higher education secretary, has been appointed as **advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi** for two years on contract basis.
- Mr Khare, a 1985 batch (retired) IAS officer of Jharkhand cadre, had superannuated on September 30.

Reliance Industries tops India Inc in World’s Best Employer rankings 2021



TOP 10 INDIAN FIRMS IN THE RANKING

COMPANY	RANKING
Reliance Industries	52
ICICI Bank	65
HDFC Bank	77
HCL Technologies	90
SBI	119
Larsen & Toubro	127
Bajaj	215
Axis Bank	254
Indian Bank	314
ONGC	404

Source: Forbes

- Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries has topped the Indian corporates in the World’s Best Employers 2021 rankings published by Forbes.
- Globally, Reliance is placed at 52nd position among 750 global corporates.
- The South Korean giant Samsung Electronics has topped the overall ranking as World’s Best Employers 2021.
- The World’s Best Employers 2021 has been prepared by Forbes in partnership with market research company Statista.

Former U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell dies of COVID-19 complications



- Colin Powell, the first black United States' Secretary of State and top military officer, died on Monday at the age of 84 from COVID-19 complications, his family said in a statement.
- "He was fully vaccinated. We want to thank the medical staff at Walter Reed National Medical Center for their caring treatment. We have lost a remarkable and loving husband, father, grandfather and a great American," Mr. Powell's family said in a post on his Facebook page.
- As a four-star Army general, he was chairman of the military's Joint Chiefs of Staff under President George H.W. Bush during the 1991 Gulf War in which U.S.-led forces expelled Iraqi troops from neighboring Kuwait.
- Mr. Powell, a moderate Republican and a pragmatist, later served as Secretary of State under President George W. Bush.

Former U.S. president Donald Trump launches 'TRUTH' social media platform



- Former US President, Donald Trump, has launched his own social media network called "TRUTH Social".
- This platform was launched after Donald Trump faced bans from Facebook and Twitter.

Barbados elects its first president, all set to remove Britain's Queen as head of state



- The Caribbean Island called Barbados, in a bid to become a republic has elected its first-ever president.
- This move will also remove Britain's Queen Elizabeth II as head of state of Barbados.
- Sandra Mason will swear in as president on November 30, 2021.
- Sandra Mason is the current governor-general of the island.
- November 30 marks the 55th anniversary of the independence of Barbados from Britain.

Shavkat Mirziyoyev



- The President of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, won the election with more than 80% of the vote.
- He has been re-elected for a second five-year term.
 - Uzbekistan Capital: Tashkent;
 - Uzbekistan Currency: Uzbekistani som;
 - Uzbekistan Prime Minister: Abdulla Aripov.

Indian-origin Anita Anand is Canada's new Defence Minister as PM Trudeau reshuffles Cabinet



- The Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau reshuffled his cabinet.
- He has appointed Indian-origin Canadian politician Anita Anand as the new Defence Minister of Canada.
- Anita Anand (54-year-old) will replace Indian-origin Harjit Sajjan.
- She is the first woman to serve as defence minister since Kim Campbell in the 1990s.

ARUL IAS ACADEMY

GST collection in September crosses Rs 1.17 lakh crore

- Goods and service tax collections for September clocked Rs 1.17 lakh crore, making it the third consecutive month of revenues above Rs 1 lakh crore mark since June.
- The revenues for the month of September 2021 are 23% higher than the GST revenues in the same month last year.
- The average monthly gross **GST collection** for the second quarter of the current year has been Rs 1.15 lakh crore, which is 5% higher than the average monthly collection of Rs 1.10 lakh crore in the first quarter of the year.
- “This clearly indicates that the economy is recovering at a fast pace... It is expected that the positive trend in the revenues will continue and the second half of the year will post higher revenues,” the **finance ministry** said in a statement.
- Coupled with economic growth, anti-evasion activities, especially action against fake billers have also been contributing to the enhanced GST collections, the ministry said.
- During the month, revenues from import of goods was 30% higher and the revenues from domestic transaction (including import of services) are 20% higher than the revenues from these sources during the same month last year.
- The **revenue** for September 2020 was, in itself at a growth of 4% over the revenue of September 2019 of Rs 91,916 crore.
- Of the gross collections, Central GST is Rs 20,578 crore, state GST is Rs 26,767 crore, integrated GST is Rs 60,911 crore (including Rs 29,555 crore collected on import of goods) and cess is Rs 8,754 crore (including Rs 623 crore collected on import of goods).
- Centre had also released GST compensation of Rs 22,000 crore to States to meet their GST revenue gap.

Centre Launches Web Portal to Find Solutions to India's Waste Problems



- The **government of India** has launched a web portal called “**Waste to Wealth**” to enhance cooperation for sustainable development through economy and community participation.
- The web portal will bring together technology providers, government stakeholders and urban local bodies to find solutions to India's waste problems, mainly plastic waste.

Paytm Group takes over complete ownership of CreditMate

paytm

CreditMate
GET CREDIT GET WORKING

- Online payment services provider, **Paytm** has acquired a **100% stake** in Mumbai-based digital lending startup **CreditMate**.
- However, the transaction details of the deal have not been disclosed. The Paytm Group will now be the 100% beneficial owners of the business, while the co-founders of CreditMate will exit the business.

Government releases ₹40,000-crore GST dues to States



- The Centre released ₹40,000 crore to States and Union Territories on Thursday to help meet the shortfall in GST compensation cess collections, through back-to-back borrowings from the market.
- The Finance Ministry said this was part of the ₹1.59 lakh crore shortfall estimated in the Compensation Fund for States, to be raised via market borrowings, but indicated that total GST compensation to be paid in 2021-22 may exceed States' actual dues for the year.
- An amount of ₹75,000 crore had already been transferred to States in July, leaving another ₹44,000 crore to be borrowed and disbursed over the rest of 2021-22.
- The balance amount will be released in due course, the Ministry said.

'Over and above'

- "This release is in addition to normal GST compensation being released every two months out of actual cess collection," the Ministry said, adding that more than ₹1 lakh crore was also estimated to be released to States during the financial year, based on GST cess collections.

Write-off possibility

- "The sum total of ₹2.59 lakh crore is expected to exceed the amount of GST compensation accruing in FY 2021-22," it added, signalling that some of the pending dues from 2020-21 would be written off to that extent.
- "It is expected that this release will help the States/UTs in planning their public expenditure among other things, for improving, health infrastructure and taking up infrastructure projects," the Ministry said.

RBI maintains status quo on rates



- The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) kept the repo rate unchanged in the fourth bi-monthly policy meet for the financial year 2021-22 headed by RBI Governor **Shaktikanta Das** has maintained the status quo. The meeting was held between **October (6 to 8)**. The remaining will take place in **December (6 to 8)** and **February (7 to 9, 2022)**.

The Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate and bank rates remain unchanged:

- Policy Repo Rate: 4.00%
- Reverse Repo Rate: 3.35%
- Marginal Standing Facility Rate: 4.25%
- Bank Rate: 4.25%
- CRR: 4%
- SLR: 18.00%

Kotak Mahindra Bank becomes 1st scheduled private sector bank to collect direct, indirect taxes



- **Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd (KMBL)** has received approval from the government for the collection of **direct & indirect taxes**, such as **income tax, Goods and Services Tax (GST)** etc, through its banking network.
- With this, the bank becomes the **first scheduled private sector** bank to receive approval after the announcement by Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** allowing all banks to participate in the government-related business.
 - Kotak Mahindra Bank Establishment: 2003;
 - Kotak Mahindra Bank Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra;
 - Kotak Mahindra Bank MD & CEO: Uday Kotak;
 - Kotak Mahindra Bank Tagline: Let's Make Money Simple.

Customers can pay direct and indirect taxes through IndusInd Bank



- **IndusInd Bank** has announced, that it has been authorised by the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** for the collection of **Direct and Indirect Taxes**, on behalf of the **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)** and the **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)**.
- With this, its customers will be able to pay their Direct and Indirect taxes through 'Indusnet' and 'Indusmobile' platforms.
 - The IndusInd Bank CEO: Sumant Kathpalia;
 - The IndusInd Bank Headquarters: Pune;
 - The IndusInd Bank Owner: Hinduja Group;
 - The IndusInd Bank Founder: S. P. Hinduja;
 - The IndusInd Bank Founded: April 1994, Mumbai.

UNDP Releases 2021 Multidimensional Poverty Index Report



- It was released by "United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)" and "Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative (OPHI)".
- This report examines the level and composition of multidimensional poverty across 109 countries covering 5.9 billion people.

Indian Scenario

- The Scheduled Tribe group in India, which accounts for 9.4 per cent of the population, is the poorest.
- Out of 129 million people, 65 million are living in multidimensional poverty.
- Out of 283 million scheduled caste group people, 94 million are living in multidimensional poverty.

India's retail inflation eases to 4.35% in September: Govt data



- **Retail inflation** declined to **4.35 per cent** in **September**, mainly due to lower food prices, according to government data released.
- The **Consumer Price Index-based (CPI) inflation** was at **5.30 per cent** in August and at **7.27 per cent** in September 2020.
- As per the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), the inflation in the food basket eased to **0.68 per cent** in September 2021, significantly down from **3.11 per cent** in the preceding month.

IMF Projects Indian Economy to grow at 9.5% in FY22



International Monetary Fund (IMF)

- The **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** has estimated the Indian economy to grow by **9.5%** in the current fiscal year, i.e **2021-22 (FY22)** and **8.5%** in **FY23 (2022-23)**, in its latest World Economic Outlook report, released on October 12, 2021.
- Meanwhile, IMF expects the **global gross domestic product (GDP)** to grow by **5.9 per cent** in 2021 and **4.9%** in 2022.

RBI imposes Rs 1 crore penalty on State Bank of India



- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Monday imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 1 crore on the country's largest lender, State Bank of India (SBI), for not complying with directions issued by the central bank with regard to fraud classification and reporting by commercial banks.
- "This action is based on the deficiencies in regulatory compliance and is not intended to pronounce upon the validity of any transaction or agreement entered into by the bank with its customers," the RBI said in a statement.
- Upon scrutinising a customer account maintained with SBI, the central bank found that the bank had delayed the reporting of fraud in the said account to RBI.
- The RBI issued a show-cause notice to the bank asking why a monetary penalty should not be levied on it for non-compliance and after considering the bank's reply on the charges leveled against it, RBI came to the conclusion that the charges were substantiated and warranted imposition of monetary penalty.
- The penalty has been imposed in the exercise of powers vested in RBI under the provisions of section 47A (1) (c) read with sections 46(4)(i) and 51(1) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

RBI authorises KVB to collect direct taxes



- The Reserve Bank of India has authorised Karur Vysya Bank (KVB) to collect direct taxes on behalf of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).
- After obtaining the approval, KVB has started the integration process with the CBDT to collect direct taxes.
- The integration would enable the bank to allow its customers to remit the direct taxes through any branch/net banking/ mobile banking services (DLite Mobile application).
 - Karur Vysya Bank Establishment: 1916;
 - Karur Vysya Bank Headquarters: Karur, Tamil Nadu;
 - Karur Vysya Bank MD & CEO: B. Ramesh Babu;
 - Karur Vysya Bank Tagline: Smart Way to Bank.

Nabard subsidiary signs trust deed for Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Farmer Producer Organisations



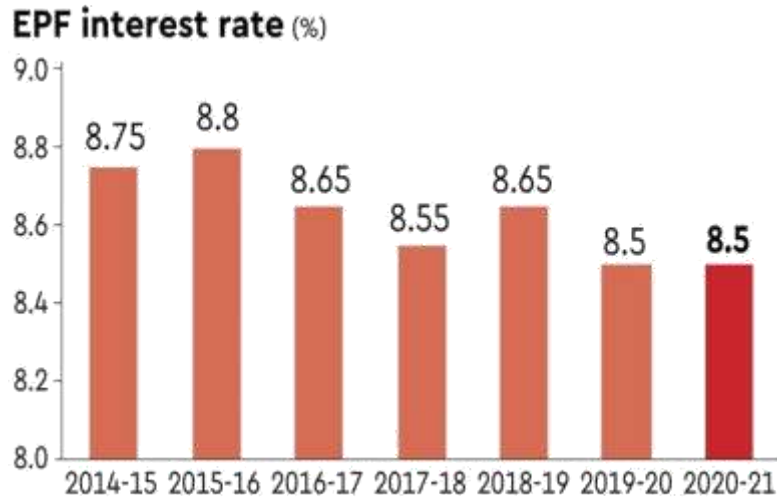
- The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has announced the creation of an Rs. 1,000 crore Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for FPOs (CGFTFPO).
- This is a dedicated fund for providing credit guarantees to FPOs.
- The fund has been launched under the trusteeship of NABSAnrakshan Trustee Pvt Ltd.
- NABSAnrakshan Trustee Pvt Ltd is a wholly-owned subsidiary of NABARD.
 - Chairman of NABARD: G R Chintala;
 - NABARD Founded: 12 July 1982;
 - NABARD Headquarters: Mumbai.

NPCI launches NTS platform for card tokenisation



- The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has launched the NPCI Tokenization system (NTS).
- This is to further enhance the safety of customers and provide a seamless shopping experience to consumers.
- The NPCI Tokenization System will support the tokenisation of RuPay cards.
 - National Payments Corporation of India MD & CEO: Dilip Asbe;
 - National Payments Corporation of India Headquarters: Mumbai;
 - National Payments Corporation of India Founded: 2008.

Govt. approves 8.5% interest rate on Employees' Provident Fund for FY21



- **Ministry of Finance** has approved the interest rate on **employees' provident fund (EPF)** deposits for 2020-21 at **8.5%**. The rate has been kept unchanged as for the year 2019-20.
- EPF is one fixed-income instrument that is completely tax-free under the **exempt-exempt-exempt (EEE) regime**, along with PPF and the **Sukanya Samriddhi Account**. Now the labour ministry will notify the interest rate for it to come into effect.

6. SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Inventions and updations of Science

India Ranks Third in 2021 EY Index

THE TOP 10

1. United States of America
2. China
3. India
4. Chile
5. Germany
6. Brazil
7. Mexico
8. France
9. Canada
10. Australia

Source: EY

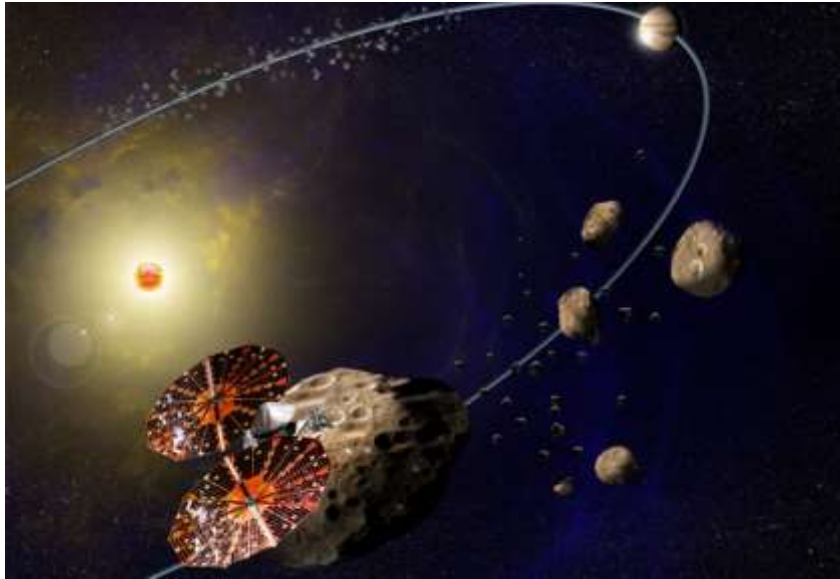
- India has retained the third position in the 58th Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index (RECAI).
- The index was released by the consultancy firm Ernst & Young (EY).
- According to the report, the US, mainland China and India continue to retain the top three rankings.
- Indonesia is a new entrant to the RECAI.
- The 2021 RECAI ranks the world's top 40 global markets (nations) on the attractiveness of their renewable energy investment and deployment opportunities.

Russian team back on Earth after filming first movie in space



- A **Russian film crew** are back on Earth after wrapping up scenes for the first movie shot in space. **Klim Shipenko** and actor **Yulia Peresild** left the International Space Station and landed in Kazakhstan - to be met by a crew filming touchdown scenes.
- The movie has been in its own kind of space race - with Tom Cruise. He is apparently part of a Hollywood filming-in-space project involving Nasa and Elon Musk's SpaceX.

Nasa launches Lucy mission to study 'solar system's evolution'; to fly by 8 ancient asteroids



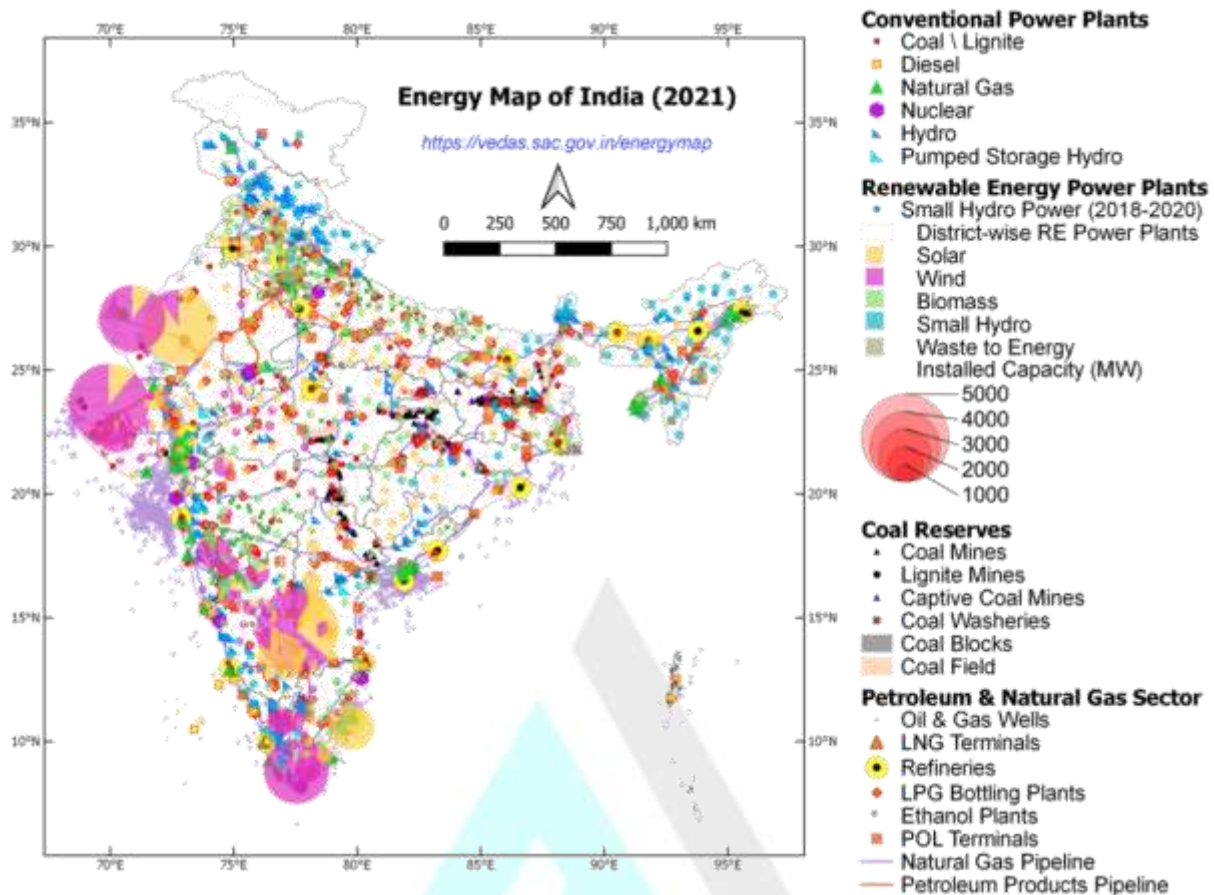
- NASA launched the first-of-its-kind mission to study the Trojan asteroids of Jupiter.
- The space probe is called Lucy.
- Lucy mission is a 12-year expedition that will study a record number of asteroids.
 - NASA administrator: Bill Nelson.
 - Headquarters of NASA: Washington D.C., United States.
 - NASA Founded: 1 October 1958.

China launches its first solar observation satellite



- China launched its first solar observation satellite.
- It is launched by a Long March 2D rocket from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre in northern Shanxi province.
- The 550-kg Xihe satellite will monitor the Sun for three years.

NITI Aayog Launches Geospatial Energy Map of India



- Geospatial Energy Map of India was launched by Dr Rajiv Kumar (Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog), Dr V K Saraswat (Member, NITI Aayog), and Shri Amitabh Kant (CEO, NITI Aayog) on 18 October 2021. Dr K Sivan, Chairman ISRO & Secretary Department of Space attended the launch event.
- NITI Aayog in collaboration with Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has developed a comprehensive Geographic Information System (GIS) Energy Map of India with the support of Energy Ministries of Government of India. The GIS map provides a holistic picture of all energy resources of the country which enables visualisation of energy installations such as conventional power plants, oil and gas wells, petroleum refineries, coal fields and coal blocks, district-wise data on renewable energy power plants and renewable energy resource potential, etc through 27 thematic layers.
- The map attempts to identify and locate all primary and secondary sources of energy and their transportation/transmission networks to provide a comprehensive view of energy production and distribution in a country. It is a unique effort aimed at integrating energy data scattered across multiple organizations and to present it in a consolidated, visually appealing graphical manner. It leverages latest advancements in web-GIS technology and open-source software to make it interactive and user friendly. The Geospatial Energy Map of India will be useful in planning and making investment decisions. It will also aid in disaster management using available energy assets.

Microsoft launches new initiative to empower AI startups in India



- Microsoft has launched a programme called “AI Innovate Programme”.
- The programme was launched in its efforts of supporting the start-up ecosystem in India.
- The programme will support those start-ups that are leveraging artificial intelligence (AI).
- It is supported by TiE Mumbai.

South Korea seeks space race entry with first homegrown rocket



- **South Korea** recently launched its first indigenously developed rocket, known as “**Korean Satellite Launch Vehicle II**” or “**Nuri**”.
- The launch vehicle lifted off from the Naro Space Center, in Goheung, built on an island nearly 300 miles (500 kilometres) south of Seoul.
- Nuri rocket is 47.2 metres long and weighs 200 tons. The three-stage rocket is fitted with six liquid-fuelled engines. It has been built at an estimated cost of 2 trillion won (£1.23bn or \$1.6bn).

China successfully launches Shijian-21 satellite to test space debris



- China successfully launched a new satellite named Shijian-21.
- The satellite will be used to test and verify space debris mitigation technologies.
- This launch marked the 393rd mission for the Long March series carrier rockets.

High-Speed Expendable Aerial Target ABHYAS successfully flight-tested by DRDO



- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully tested the high-speed expendable aerial target (HEAT) called ABHYAS.
- The ABHYAS high-speed expendable aerial target will be used to evaluate several missile systems.
- It was tested from Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Bay of Bengal in Odisha.
- ABHYAS has been designed and developed by the Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE) of DRDO, headquartered in Bengaluru.

India successfully test-fires Agni-5 missile



- India has successfully test-fired a surface-to-surface ballistic missile called Agni-5.
- The missile was launched from APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the Odisha coast.
- The missile uses a three-stage solid-fuelled engine.
- It can strike targets up to the range of 5000-km with a very high degree of accuracy.
- The successful launch of the Agni-5 missile aligns with India's policy to have a "credible minimum deterrence".
- This policy underpins the commitment of 'No First Use'.
- The Agni-5 missile has been built by the Defence Research Development Organisation.

Facebook rebrands as Meta to emphasise 'metaverse' vision



- Facebook changes the parent company name.
- The parent company's name is being changed to "Meta" to represent a future beyond just its troubled social network.
- Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp will keep their names under the rebranding.



Microsoft nearly overtakes Apple as most valuable company



- **Microsoft Corp.** has surpassed **Apple Inc.** to become the world's most valuable publicly-traded company by market capitalisation.
- At market close on October 29, 2021, Apple stood at about **\$2.46 trillion** while Microsoft reached nearly **\$2.49 trillion**.

ARUL IAS ACADEMY



7. NATIONAL NEWS

Activities which held up in India during October 2021

Shri Tomar congratulates farmers and state governments for record food grain production of 296.65 million tonnes in 2019-2020 under unfavourable conditions imposed by Covid-19

- Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Shri Narendra Singh Tomar has congratulated farmers and state governments for record food grain production of 296.65 million tonnes in 2019-20 under unfavourable conditions imposed by Covid-19. The pulses and oilseed production is expected to be at 23.15 and 33.42 million tonnes, respectively. Production of cotton is being estimated at 354.91 lakh bales with which India is set to rise to the first position in the world. This year has established a milestone in the history of Indian agriculture. Kharif sowing during this year up to 11-09-2020 has been 1113 lakh hectares which is 46 lakh hectares more than normal sowing area. This provides good opportunity for ensuring food and nutritional security of the country. Shri Tomar said that the farming community and State Governments deserve special appreciation for this commendable achievement.
- Addressing the National Conference for Rabi Campaign 2020 held today under his Chairmanship to review the progress of Kharif 2020-21 and plan for the Rabi season, Shri Tomar said that Government is taking revolutionary steps to strengthen agriculture infrastructure and economic condition of the farmers. Recently Agricultural Infrastructure Fund (AIF) scheme worth Rs 1 lakh crore for 4 years has been launched for creating facilities for cold storage, warehouse, packaging, ripening & waxing plants by agri-entrepreneurs, farmers' association and local government agencies. Tentative allocation to the states have made on the basis of total value of output of the state from agriculture and allied sectors. A 3% interest subvention will be given on bank interest, making loan with effective interest rate in the range of 5.0 to 5.5%. Formation of 10,000 Farmers Producer Organisations (FPOs) is another such step to organize farmers in aggregation and marketing for higher returns. These will be registered under company or cooperative act and 15% will be constituted in Aspirational and Notified Tribal Areas.
- The Union Agriculture Minister further elaborated that to improve agriculture sector, two bills relating to freedom of marketing to farmers have been passed in Parliament. The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion & Facilitation) Bill 2020 and The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill 2020 will give a boost to farmers engaged in agriculture and allied activities. Farmers will get freedom to sell their produce at different places. Government will continue the practice of procurement at minimum support price (MSP) through existing network. These measures will attract large private investment leading to rapid development in agriculture and strengthening of rural economy.



- Shri Tomar said that Government of India has set the target of covering 100 lakh hectares in five years under micro-irrigation. A dedicated Micro Irrigation Fund (MIF) of Rs. 5,000 crore has been created with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for expanding coverage of micro irrigation. In the year 2019-20, about 11 lakh farmers have benefitted by the adoption of drip and sprinkler irrigation system. During the last five years, an area of 47.92 lakh hectare has been covered under micro irrigation in the country which includes 11.72 lakh ha for the year 2019-20 which is a significant achievement.
- India has three major growing seasons; kharif, rabi and summer, for cultivating large number of cereal, pulse, oilseed and cash crops. Rabi is important cropping season contributing to more than half of crop productions. National conferences are held before every season to take stock of the preparedness and ensure timely availability of seed, fertilizers and other inputs. This time good rainfall has occurred and water reservoirs are full which offers good opportunity.
- The conference set a target of 301 million tonnes of food grains production for 2020-21 which includes 119.60, 108.00, 5.00, 9.57, 29.00 and 47.80 million tonnes of rice, wheat, Jowar, bajra, maize and coarse cereals, respectively. More emphasis will be laid on production of pulses and oilseeds and targets have been set at 25.60 million tonnes for pulses and 37.00 million tonnes for oilseeds. To reduce import of edible oils, great emphasis is being laid on production of oilseeds and oil palm plantation indigenously. This Rabi Focus is on Mustard under oilseeds and the target for production of mustard alone has been raised from 92 to 125 lakh tonnes.
- Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Panchyati Raj, Shri Parshottam Rupala and Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shri Kailash Choudhary also graced the occasion. The conference was also attended by Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare, Secretary, Department of Agriculture Research and Education and Director General, ICAR and Secretary, Fertilizers and other senior officials of various central ministries and state governments.

Cabinet clears Rs. 4,445-cr. textile parks



- Plan entails establishing 7 Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel Parks over a 5-year period
- The Union Cabinet approved the setting up of seven Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) Parks at an outlay of Rs. 4,445 crore.
- The mega parks scheme will include brownfield and greenfield projects, spread over five years, said Textiles Minister Piyush Goyal.
- The parks would be developed by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) owned by the Central and State governments and would get two kinds of support. Development Capital Support, aimed at helping develop infrastructure, would fund 30% of the project cost with a cap of Rs. 500 crore for greenfield projects and Rs. 200 crore for brownfield projects. A separate Competitiveness Incentive Support would be limited to Rs. 300 crore per park.

'TN, Gujarat interested'

- As many as 10 States including Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Gujarat had already shown interest, Textiles Secretary Upendra Prasad Singh told The Hindu. States offering the cheapest land (contiguous and encumbrance-free land of minimum 1,000 acres) and facilities such as adequate electricity and water would be selected through a transparent challenge route.
- The SPV would select a Master Developer to set up and maintain the park for a specified period. Of the park's area, 50% would be earmarked for manufacturing activity, 20% for utilities, and 10% set aside for commercial development.
- The parks are expected to generate 7 lakh direct jobs and provide indirect jobs to almost 14 lakh people.
- Mr. Singh said industries in the parks would comprise four categories – units investing Rs. 300 crore or more, units investing Rs. 100-300 crore, investors of less than Rs. 100 crore and tenant units.

8 Judges Elevated As Chief Justices of High Courts



- The Government notified the appointments of **eight** and transfer of **five chief justices of high courts**. **Eight High Courts** will get new Chief Justices, and **five Chief Justices** have been transferred. The clearance in the 13 High Courts was considered crucial as some of them have been making do with Acting Chief Justices.

Five Chief Justices have been transferred:

- The government cleared the transfer of Tripura High Court Chief Justice **A.A. Kureshi** to the Rajasthan High Court.
- Justice **Indrajit Mahanty**, Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court, would take over as Tripura Chief Justice.
- Chief Justice **Mohammad Rafiq** of Madhya Pradesh has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court.
- Chief Justice **Biswanath Somadder** of the Meghalaya High Court has been transferred as the Chief Justice of the Sikkim High Court.
- Justice **A.K. Goswami** has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Chhattisgarh High Court. He is presently the Chief Justice of Andhra Pradesh High Court.

Newly appointed Chief Justice:

- Justice **Rajesh Bindal**, Acting Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court, was appointed as the Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court.
- Justice **Ranjit V. More** has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Meghalaya High Court.
- Justice **Satish Chandra Sharma**, Acting Chief Justice of the Karnataka High Court, has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Telangana High Court.
- Justice **Prakash Srivastava**, a Madhya Pradesh High Court judge, has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court.
- Justice **R.V. Malimath** has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court.
- Justice **Ritu Raj Awasthi** has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Karnataka High Court.
- Justice **Aravind Kumar** has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court.
- Justice **Prashant Kumar Mishra** would take over as the Chief Justice of the Andhra Pradesh High Court.

New Tiger Reserve: Chhattisgarh



- **National Tiger Conservation Authority** has approved the Chhattisgarh government's proposal to declare the combined areas of the **Guru Ghasidas National Park & Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary** as a **Tiger Reserve**.
- It is located in the northern part of the state, bordering Madhya Pradesh & Jharkhand. This is the **4th** Tiger Reserve in Chhattisgarh (Udanti-Sitanadi, Achanakmar, Indravati).

PM Modi visits Azadi@75 Expo in Lucknow



- The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, inaugurated "Azadi@75 – New Urban India: Transforming Urban Landscape conference-cum-expo".
- The Foundation stone for 75 Urban Development Projects in Uttar Pradesh under AMRUT Mission and Smart Cities Mission was laid.
- 75 smart electric buses were flagged off under FAME-II for seven cities.
- The cities are Lucknow, Varanasi, Kanpur, Prayagraj, Gorakhpur, Ghaziabad and Jhansi.

PM Narendra Modi to address 28th NHRC foundation day programme



- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has addressed the **28th NHRC Foundation Day programme**, through video conferencing on October 12, 2021, in the presence of Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** and NHRC chairperson.
- The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) of India is a Statutory public body constituted on 12 October 1993 under the Protection of Human Rights Act 1993, for the promotion and protection of human rights and dignity of the marginalised.

PM Modi unveils Rs 100 lakh crore Gati Shakti plan



- With the vision of holistic and integrated infrastructure development in the country, Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated **PM Gati Shakti-National Master Plan**, from **Pragati Maidan in New Delhi**.
- The **Rs 100 lakh crore** PM Gati Shakti-National Master Plan aims to provide multi-modal connectivity to economic zones in the country.

India's first Atal Community Innovation Center launched by Vivekananda Global University, Jaipur, in association with Atal Innovation Mission



- India's 1st Atal Community Innovation Centre (ACIC) was inaugurated at Vivekananda Global University, Jaipur (VGU) of Rajasthan.
- It will be the first centre in the country to be set up by the Government of India, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and NITI Aayog.
- The ACIC aims to support and nurture innovative ideas that can take the shape of big ideas and help transform society for a better tomorrow.

Shri Anurag Thakur launches MyParkings app



- The Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, **Anurag Singh Thakur** inaugurated the 'MyParkings' app.
- The IOT technology-enabled app has been developed by **Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Limited (BECIL)** with South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) to digitize all authorized parking under SDMC municipal limits.

On Vijayadashami, PM Modi launches 7 defence PSUs carved out of OFB



AT A GLANCE

PEOPLE EMPLOYED:

76,000 across
41 Ordnance
Factories (OFs)

PRODUCTION:

₹11,500 cr
of defence stores
annually

**PER CAPITA
PRODUCTION:**

₹15 lakh a year

WHAT GOVT WANTS:

Good production
volumes

7 NEW DEFENCE PSUs

1. Munitions India: A grouping of 12 OFs that produced explosives and ammunition

2. Armoured Vehicles Nigam: The 5 OFs that built vehicles

3. Advanced Weapons and Equipment India: The 5 OFs which made weapons and equipment

4. Yantra India: Formed by combining the 8 OFs that produced metals and steels

5. Troop Comforts

6. India Optel

7. Gliders India

Note: The remaining 11 OFs have been turned into the last 3 PSUs

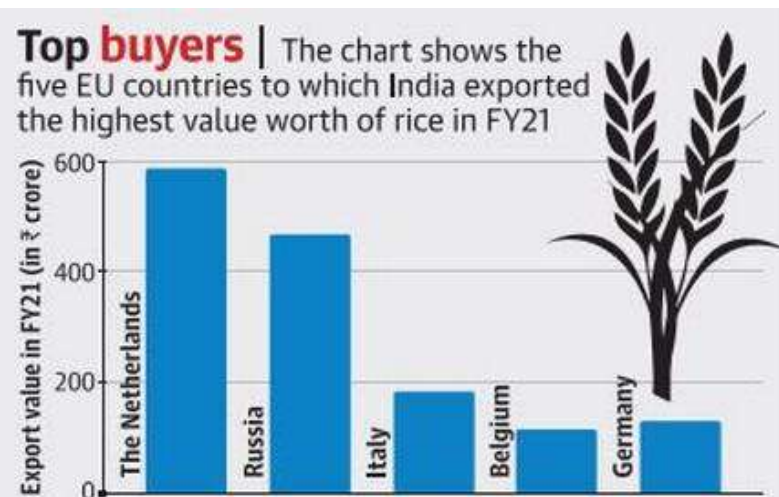
COMPILED BY BHASWAR KUMAR

- As part of the corporatisation of the Ordnance, the Government of India formally launched seven new defence firms on October 15.
- These new government entities will be producing ammunition, vehicles, explosives, weapons and equipment, among others.
- The move of launching 7 new defence companies out of the Ordnance Factory Board came (OFB) after the government issued an order of dissolving the OFB with effect from October 1, 2021.

The seven new defence PSUs includes:

- Munition India Ltd,
- Armoured Vehicles Nigam Ltd
- Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Ltd
- Troop Comforts Ltd
- Yantra India Ltd
- India Optel Ltd
- Gliders India Ltd

EU food recall linked to GM rice exports from India



- The government has said that India is exporting strictly Non Genetically Modified Organism (GMO) rice to the world.
- The Ministry of Commerce and Industry clarified that there is no commercial variety of Genetically Modified - GM rice in India.
- The commercial GM cultivation of rice is banned in the country.

India Ranks 79th in WJP Rule of Law Index 2021



- India has ranked 79 out of 139 countries and jurisdictions in the World Justice Project's (WJP) Rule of Law Index 2021.
- The WJP Rule of Law Index 2021 ranks the countries based on scores ranging from 0 to 1.
- 1 indicates the strongest adherence to the rule of law.
- Denmark, Norway and Finland topped the Index this year.

Rank	Country
1	Denmark
2	Norway
3	Finland
79	India
139	Venezuela, RB
138	Cambodia
137	Democratic Republic of the Congo

Election Commission of India launches Garuda app for digital mapping of polling booths



- The Election Commission of India has launched the Garuda app for digital mapping of all polling stations.
- This is to ensure faster, smarter, transparent and timely completion of election work.
- Through the Garuda app, Booth Level Officers will upload photos and location information of the polling stations.
- The app will also help in reducing the paperwork.
 - Election Commission of India Formed: 25 January 1950;
 - Election Commission of India Headquarters: New Delhi;
 - Chief Election Commissioner of India: Sushil Chandra.

Navy's Offshore Sailing Regatta to set the stage for global solo circumnavigation



- The Indian Navy has organised an Offshore Sailing Regatta from Kochi to Goa.
- This was done as a part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations.
- The event was organised under the aegis of the Indian Naval Sailing Association (INSA).

For the first time in the Major Ports in India, Radio over Internet Protocol system inaugurated at Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata



- In view of a much needed solution for providing effective long range Marine communication, the Radio over Internet Protocol (ROIP) System at Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata (SMP, Kolkata), was inaugurated last evening. ROIP system is being introduced as a marine communication mode, for the first time in any Major Indian Port.
- It shall cover the entire Hugli river Estuary from Kolkata to Sandheads, having base stations at 4 Locations. With this facility, vessels at Sandheads can be directly communicated via Radio, from Kolkata, specially during storms and inclement weather.
- Shri Vinit Kumar, Chairman, SMP, Kolkata has appreciated this development, stating that despite being the only riverine port in the country, SMP, Kolkata has been constantly maintaining its pivotal position in Indian Major Ports for the past 152 years.

Indian Coast Guard Ship 'Sarthak' dedicated to the Nation



- A new Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) 'Sarthak' has been dedicated to the nation.
- It will be based at Porbandar in Gujarat.
- Commissioning of the ship is a significant boost for the maritime safety and security of India.

Dr Mansukh Mandaviya addresses the inaugural session of CII Asia Health 2021 summit



- The union minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya participated in the CII Asia Health 2021 summit.
- The theme of the two-day summit is 'Transforming Healthcare for a better tomorrow'.
- The Confederation of Indian Industry has organised the summit to provide a centralised forum to deliberate on the most critical challenges that India and the world face in delivering healthcare, with a focus on the digital transformations that result in improved patient outcomes and experience.
- The union minister mentioned how campaigns like 'Dawai Bhi Kadai Bhi' and 'Do Gaj ki Doori, Mask hai Zaruri' reached out to the masses and helped curb the COVID-19 infection in the country.

National Small Matchbox Manufacturers Association increases price of matchbox

- The National Small Matchbox Manufacturers Association has increased the price of a matchbox from Rs.1 to Rs. 2 per box.
- The increase in the price of matchbox has been done after 14 years since last increase in 2007 from 50 paise to Re. 1.

8. INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Activities which held up out of Nation

Indian contingent departs for Sri Lanka joint exercise Mitra Shakti 21



- The 8th edition of the **India - Sri Lanka** bilateral joint Exercise "**Mitra Shakti-21**" is scheduled to take place at **Combat Training School, Ampara in Sri Lanka** from October 4 to 15, 2021.
- The aim of the exercise is to enhance interoperability and sharing best practices in counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations between Armies of both countries and further strengthen the relationship between both the South Asian Nations.

Army's Sikh Light Infantry signs affiliation with IAF's 17 Squadron in Ambala



- The historic affiliation of 17 Squadron of the Indian Air Force (IAF) with the Sikh Light Infantry Regiment (SLIR) of Indian Army was formally signed at a ceremony at Ambala Cantonment.
- Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Manoj Mukund Naravane, who is also the Colonel of the SLIR, signed the charter of affiliation with Air Cmde Tarun Chaudhry, Commodore Commandant, 17 Squadron.
- The affiliation of SLIR with Rafale's 17 Squadron of the Western Air Command will assist them in development of mutual understanding of joint ethos, capability, limitations and core competencies of the other service through common understanding of military tactical doctrines and concepts in the contemporary conflict environment.
- General Naravane said this enhanced synergy and understanding of each other's strength will act as "Force Multiplier within our armed forces".

India joins Seychelles' Tax Inspectors Without Borders programme



- The **Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB)** has launched its programme in **Seychelles**. India has been chosen as the Partner Administration for this programme. The country will be providing its Tax Expert in support of the initiative.
- The focus of the 12-month programme will be on Transfer Pricing cases of tourism and financial services sectors.
- TIWB is a joint initiative of the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** and the **Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)**, since its launch in 2015.
- The aim of the initiative is to aid countries in strengthening their tax administration by transferring technical know-how and skills to the tax auditors through sharing of best audit practices.

China launches biodiversity fund



- China pledged to inject \$233 million into a new fund called the “Kunming Biodiversity Fund” recently.
- It is for the protection of biodiversity in developing countries.
- This decision was taken during a key UN conservation summit, even though major donors disagreed on it.
- China pledged as it is the world’s biggest polluter and seeks to play a prominent role internationally in biodiversity conservation.
- This summit seeks to establish a new accord, setting targets for 2030 and 2050.

Germany unveils world's first automated, driverless train



- Germany launches the first automated & driverless train.
- It is being dubbed as “world-first”.
- This project is being developed by ‘Siemens and Deutsche Bahn’.
- The self-driving train was launched in the city of Hamburg.

Indian and U.S armies commence Exercise Yudh Abhyas 2021



- India and the United States are set to start a 15-day mega military exercise in Alaska of the USA.
- The year 2021 will mark the 17th edition of the exercise “Yudh Abhyas”.
- This Exercise will be conducted at Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson in Alaska.
- This exercise is to further deepen bilateral military cooperation between both countries.

Sri Lanka seeks \$500 million loan from India for fuel purchases amid forex crisis



- The **Government of Sri Lanka** has sought a **USD 500 million** credit line from India to pay for its crude oil purchases, as the country is facing a severe foreign exchange crisis in the island nation after the pandemic hit the nation's earnings from tourism and remittances.
- The USD 500 million credit line is part of the India-Sri Lanka economic partnership arrangement. The facility would be used for purchasing petrol and diesel requirements.

South Korea Completes Construction of World's Largest Hydrogen Fuel Cell Power Plant



- South Korea announced the completion ceremony of the 'Shinincheon Bitdream Fuel Cell Power Plant'.
- The power plant has a total capacity of 78 MW constructed in four stages since 2017 by using fuel cells supplied by POSCO Energy and Doosan Fuel Cell.
- It is the world's largest fuel cell power plant currently in operation.
- Unlike other power generators, hydrogen fuel cell emits very little nitrogen oxides (NOX) and sulfur oxides (SOX) as it does not produce electricity through high-temperature combustion.

9. OTHER STATE NEWS

Activities which held up in other states of India

Largest khadi national flag unfurled in Ladakh



- The world's largest national flag, made up of Khadi cloth, has been installed in Leh, Ladakh, on the occasion of the 152nd birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on October 2, 2021.
- The Khadi national flag was inaugurated by Ladakh Lieutenant Governor RK Mathur. The flag is made by Khadi Dyers and Printers based in Mumbai which is affiliated to the Khadi Village and Industries Commission.

Mamata Wins by Record 58,832 Votes, Better 2011 Performance



- Facing a litmus test in Bhabanipur, a Kolkata seat from where she contested to continue as the chief minister of West Bengal, Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee on Sunday registered a thumping victory by a record margin of 58,389 votes.
- As per the official Election Commission data, after 21 rounds of counting, Mamata secured 84,709 votes against BJP's Priyanka Tibrewal who managed to scrape 24,296 votes. CPI(M)'s Srijib Biswas remained a distant third with just 4,201 votes. Banerjee bettered her 2011 performance from the bastion.
- While inching closer to victory, Banerjee greeted her supporters outside her Kolkata residence. Meanwhile, TMC workers were seen celebrating outside the chief minister's house.

- Meanwhile, the TMC was also leading in Murshidabad's Samsorganj and Jangipur constituencies, where votes are being counted for the assembly elections.
- In Samsorganj, TMC candidate Amirul Islam was leading by 3,768 votes after the fifth round of counting. He secured 19,751 votes, while his nearest rival, Zaidur Rahaman of the Congress, got 15,983. Jangipur's TMC nominee Jakir Hossain was leading by 15,643 votes after the second round of counting. Hossain secured 25,572 votes, and his nearest rival, BJP's Sujit Das, got 9,929.

Andhra government launched 'Swechha' programme



- The Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy has launched the 'Swechha' program.
- 'Swechha' (meaning freedom) is intended to ensure affordable access to health and menstrual hygiene in adolescent girls and women.
- The state government will provide good quality branded sanitary napkins to female students at government educational institutions free of cost.

India's first e-fish market App Fishwaale launched in Assam



- The assam minister for Fisheries, Environment and Forest and Excise, Parimal Suklabaidya launched an App Fishwaale.
- It is India's first e-fish market.
- It was developed by Aqua Blue Global Aquaculture Solutions Pvt. Ltd. in collaboration with the fisheries department of Assam.

Arvind Kejriwal launches 'Desh Ke Mentor' Programme for career guidance



- Chief Minister **Arvind Kejriwal** has launched a programme under which students of **Delhi government schools** will be provided guidance on career choices by citizens who are successful in their respective fields.
- The '**Desh ke mentor**' programme entails 'adopting' one to 10 government school students who can be mentored by citizens who are successful in their respective fields.
- The Delhi government had in August announced that Bollywood actor Sonu Sood will be the brand ambassador for the mentors' programme.

Haryana bans govt employees from participation in politics, elections



- Facing farmers' protests over new farm laws for over a year now, the **Haryana government** has banned the participation of its **employees in politics and elections**.
- A notification has also been issued from the office of the chief secretary in this regard while implementing **Haryana Civil Services (Government Employees Conduct) Rules, 2016**.

Varanasi to Become First Indian City to Start Ropeway Service in Public Transportation



- Varanasi of Uttar Pradesh will become the first city in India to use ropeway services in public transportation.
- Overall, Varanasi will be the third city in the world after Bolivia and Mexico City to use ropeway in public transportation.
- The project will be executed on a public-private partnership model.
- The cost of the project will be divided between the Centre and the state government at 80:20%.

PM Narendra Modi inaugurates Kushinagar international airport in Uttar Pradesh



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Kushinagar International Airport at the Lord Buddha's Parinirvana in Uttar Pradesh.
- The airport is aimed at boosting tourism on the Buddhist circuit.
- The ancient city of Kushinagar is the final resting place of Gautama Buddha.
- Here he attained Maha Parinirvana after his death.

Uddhav Thackeray inaugurates India's first wildlife DNA testing lab



- Uddhav Thackeray, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, inaugurated India's 1st State government-owned Wildlife DNA testing analysis laboratory.
- It was inaugurated at the Regional Forensic Science Laboratory in Nagpur, Maharashtra.
- At present, there are 2 Wildlife DNA testing laboratories at Dehradun & Hyderabad.
- These are fully owned by the Central Government.
- The newly launched is the 1st in India to be owned by a state government.
- Maharashtra became the first state in India to release its own Wildlife Action plan (2021-30).
- The new plan will be implemented over the next 10 years.
- It recognises concerns about climate change impacts on wildlife, coastal ecosystems, marine biodiversity, flora and fauna.

Goa achieves ODF and Electricity for every household



- Goa has achieved ODF (Open Defecation Free) and Electricity for every household.
- Goa has also become the first state to provide tap water to every household under the "Har Ghar Jal Mission".
- Apart from that, Goa achieved 100 per cent target to provide free ration to the poor and needy.
- It has also completed 100 per cent first dose of covid-19 vaccination.

India's biggest aromatic Garden, opens in Nainital



- **Uttarakhand** gets India's largest aromatic garden in the **Nainital district**. The research wing of the Uttarakhand forest department inaugurated the biggest aromatic garden of India in **Lalkuan** of Nainital district.
- Established in an area of over 3 acres, the garden has 140 different species of aromatic species from across India. The project was initiated in the year 2018-19 after approval of the Research Advisory Committee in June 2018.

Rajasthan ranks 2nd after Karnataka on State Energy Efficiency Index 2020

SEEI - 2020 SCORES (OUT OF 100)	
Karnataka	70
Rajasthan	61
Haryana	59.5
Punjab	58
MH	57.5
Kerala	53
TN	51.5
AP	50.5
UP	35
Gujarat	34
Madhya Pradesh	31
Odisha	29.5
TS	28.5
Chhattisgarh	23

- **Karnataka** has topped the **State Energy Efficiency Index 2020 (SEEI)**, scoring 70 points out of 100 on the back of several initiatives to improve energy efficiency in the state. **Rajasthan** is on second rank followed by **Haryana** on third.
- Last year i.e in SEEI 2019 ranking, Rajasthan was on top. The State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2020 was released under the **Ministry of Power**.

10. SPORTS NEWS

Its about sports and gaming

Indian men's team wins bronze medal in Asian Table Tennis Championship 2021



- The Indian men's table tennis team has won a bronze medal at the Asian Table Tennis Championship.
- Indian team won bronze after losing to South Korea by 0-3 in the semi-finals.
- The team was assured of winning a medal after beating Iran by 3-1 in the quarterfinals.
- Both the semi-finalists won a bronze medal.

Anshu Malik wins silver at World Wrestling Championships, scripts history



- Indian wrestler Anshu Malik created history as she became the first Indian women finalist at the World Championship.
- She is also the first female player from India to claim a silver medal at the 2021 World Wrestling Championships.
- She won in a 57 kg freestyle bout.
- Helen Lousie Maroulis of the United States won the gold medal.

Indians sweep FIH's hockey awards; Olympic champions left empty-handed



- **Indian hockey players** swept the 2020-21 edition of the **FIH Stars Awards**, the international hockey federation (FIH) announced.
- The winners were decided based on an online poll conducted from **August 23 to September 15** which saw national associations, represented by their respective national captains and coaches, players, media and hockey fans cast their votes.

FIH Stars Awards 2020-21: Winners list

- Player of the Year: **Harmanpreet Singh (men)** and **Gurjit Kaur (women)**
- Goalkeeper of the Year: **PR Sreejesh (men)** and **Savita Punia (women)**
- Rising Star of the Year: **Vivek Sagar Prasad (men)** and **Sharmila Devi (women)**
- Coach of the Year: **Graham Reid (men)** and **Sjoerd Marijne (women)**

Valtteri Bottas wins Turkish Grand Prix, Max Verstappen moves back into F1 world championship lead



- **Valtteri Bottas** (Mercedes-Finland) has won the **F1 Turkish Grand Prix 2021**, held on October 10, 2021. This is his first title of this season.
- **Max Verstappen** (Red Bull - Netherlands) came second while **Sergio Perez** (Mexico- Red Bull) finished third. Meanwhile, Lewis Hamilton finished fifth.

FIFA unveils 'Ibha' - official mascot of U-17 2022 Women's World Cup



- World football body, **FIFA** has unveiled the official mascot of the U-17 Women's World Cup India 2022 "**Ibha**" an Asiatic lioness representing women power.
- The tournament will be held in India from October 11-30 next year.
- The announcement coincided with the International Day of the Girl Child.

ISSF Junior World Championship: Indian shooters finish with whopping 43-medals including 17 Gold



- The 2021 International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) **Junior World Championship** Rifle/Pistol/Shotgun was held at **Lima in Peru**.
- The Indian shooters claimed a historic win with **43 medals** to stand atop in the medal table.
- These included **17 Gold, 16 Silver and 10 Bronze** medals.
- 19-year-old Indian star sniper **Manu Bhaker** won a maximum of 4 gold and 5 bronze medals in the series. Another Indian, Ganemat Sekhon, won two medals, one gold and one silver.

Ireland's Amy Hunter becomes world's youngest ODI centurion



- Ireland's Amy Hunter is the youngest batter to score an ODI century (121 not out) in either men's or women's cricket.
- She broke the record previously held by India's Mithali Raj.
- Amy Hunter achieved this feat on her 16th birthday against Zimbabwe.

Chennai Super Kings win IPL 2021



- Chennai Super Kings has defeated Kolkata Knight Riders in the finals to win the 2021 Indian Premier League title.
- This was the 14th edition of IPL.
- Harshal Patel (RCB) is awarded the Player of the Tournament.
- This was the 4th win of Chennai Super Kings in IPL.
- They had previously won the tournament in 2010, 2011, and 2018.
- Mumbai Indians team has won the IPL title highest number of times (5 times).

Divya Deshmukh becomes India's latest Woman Grand Master



- 15-year-old **Divya Deshmukh** became **India's 21st Woman Grand Master (WGM)** after achieving her 2nd International Master (IM) at Grand Master (GM) in **Budapest, Hungary**.

Rahul Dravid appointed head coach of India men's cricket team



- Former captain Rahul Dravid has been officially appointed as the new head coach of the Indian cricket team as announced by the BCCI.
- He will take over the new role and begin his tenure as India's full-time coach from the home T20I series against New Zealand starting November 17.

Bhavani Devi wins fencing competition in France



- Fencer Bhavani Devi has won the Charleville National Competition in France in the individual women's sabre event.
- She is currently ranked 50th in the world and is the top-ranked fencer from India.
- Fencer **Bhavani Devi**, who made history at the Tokyo Olympics by becoming the first Indian to compete in the sport at the Games.

Texas Grand Prix | Verstappen wins, extends title chase lead



- **Max Verstappen** (Red Bull - Netherlands) has won the **2021 United States Grand Prix** held at the Circuit of the Americas in Austin, Texas, United States.
- This is the 8th win for Verstappen in this season.
- The race was the 17th round of the 2021 Formula One World Championship. **Lewis Hamilton** (Mercedes-Great Britain) stood second while **Sergio Perez** (Mexico- Red Bull) came third.

List of 2021 F1 Race

- **Bahrain F1 Grand Prix:** Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes-Great Britain)
- **Emilia Romagna F1 Grand Prix:** Max Verstappen (Red Bull - Netherlands)
- **Portuguese Grand Prix:** Lewis Hamilton
- **Spanish Grand Prix:** Lewis Hamilton
- **Monaco Grand Prix:** Max Verstappen
- **Azerbaijan Grand Prix:** Sergio Perez (Red Bull- Mexico)
- **French Grand Prix:** Max Verstappen
- **Styrian Grand Prix:** Max Verstappen
- **Austrian GP:** Max Verstappen
- **British Grand Prix:** Lewis Hamilton
- **Hungarian Grand Prix:** Esteban Ocon (Alpine Renault- France)
- **Belgian Grand Prix 2021:** Max Verstappen
- **Dutch Grand Prix:** Max Verstappen
- **Italian Grand Prix:** Daniel Ricciardo
- **Russian Grand Prix:** Lewis Hamilton
- **Turkish Grand Prix:** Valtteri Bottas (Mercedes-Finland)

World's biggest cricket bat unveiled



- Former Indian captain and now Hyderabad Cricket Association president Mohd Azharuddin has unveiled the biggest cricket bat.
- It is designed by Pernod Ricard India (P) Ltd.
- The bat measures 56.10 feet, weighs 9-tonnes and is made of poplar wood.
- This was to convey best wishes to the Indian cricket team and bring back the T-20 World Cup in Dubai.

Quartararo wins maiden MotoGP title for France



- Fabio Quartararo of France became the “2021 MotoGP World Champion”.
- Francesco Bagnaia of Italy (Ducati Lenovo Team) secured the second spot.
- Joan Mir of Spanish (Team Suzuki Ecstar), finished at the third spot.
- Fabio Quartararo is the sixth-youngest rider to clinch a premier class world title, aged 22 years, 187 days.

11. IMPORTANT DAYS

Its about significance of special days

International Day of Older Persons 2021: 1 October



- **International Day of Older Persons** is observed globally on **1st October** every year.
- The theme of International Day of Older Persons 2021: **Digital Equity for All Ages.**

International Coffee Day 2021: 1 October



- Every year, **International Coffee Day** is observed on **October 1**, to celebrate and promote the use of coffee. There are many who believe that coffee might pose ill effects on their health, therefore, on this day people are educated about the various benefits of this beverage.
- International Coffee Organization has announced that the focus of International Coffee Day 2021 will be '**Coffee's Next Generation**'

World Vegetarian Day 2021: 1 October



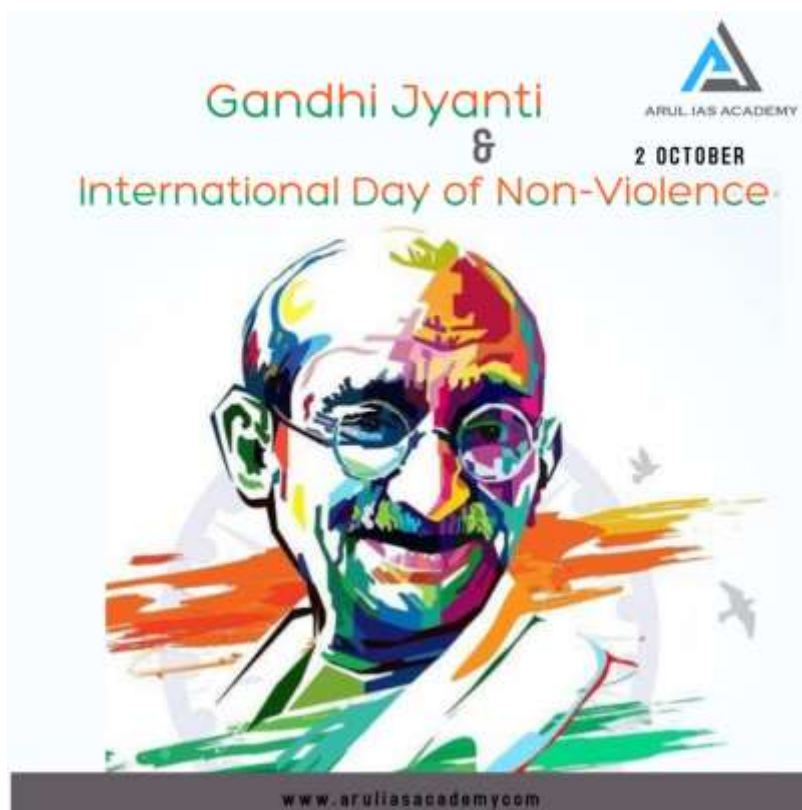
- **World Vegetarian Day** is observed annually on **October 1** globally to raise awareness about the ethical, environmental, health, and humanitarian benefits of a vegetarian lifestyle.
- World Vegetarian Day is celebrated to emphasize environmental considerations, animal welfare and rights issues and personal health benefits to encourage people into ditching animal products.
- The full week between **October 1-7** is observed as the **International Vegetarian Week (IVW)**.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month 2021: October 1 to 31



- Every year the **Breast Cancer Awareness Month (BCAM)** is observed in the month of **October, from 1 to 31**.
- The annual international health campaign aims to increase awareness of the disease and to raise funds for research into its cause, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure.
- The **pink ribbon** is an international symbol of breast cancer awareness. Breast Cancer is a type of cancer that arises in the epithelium (lining cells) of the ducts or lobules in the glandular tissues of the breast.

The International Day of Non-Violence 2021: 2 October



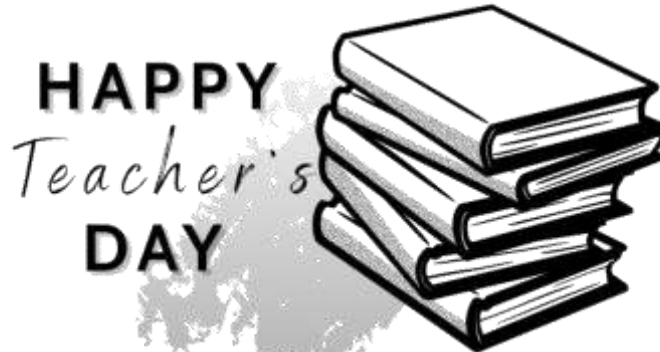
- The day is observed on the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- The United Nations General Assembly adopted this day on June 15, 2007.
- This day is observed across the world to give the message of non-violence.

World Habitat Day 2021: First Monday of October



- The **United Nations** designated the **first Monday of October** as **World Habitat Day**. In 2021, World Habitat Day is being celebrated on **October 4**.
- The theme for 2021 World Habitat Day is "**Accelerating urban action for a carbon-free world**".

World Teachers' Day 2021: 5 October



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- **World Teachers' Day**, also known as **International Teachers Day**, is held annually on **October 5 since 1994**.
- The Theme for 2021 International Teachers Day is **"Teachers at the heart of education recovery"**.

World Cotton Day 2021: 7 October



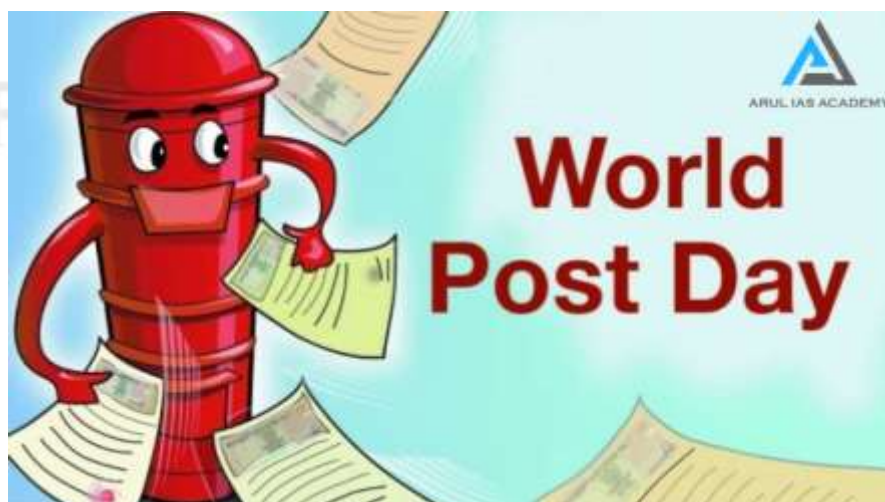
- **World Cotton Day (WCD)** is observed globally on **7th October**. The international day aims to celebrate the advantages of cotton, ranging from its qualities as a natural fibre to the benefits people obtain from its production, transformation, trade and consumption.
- WCD Day was initiated by the Group of Cotton-4 countries namely **Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali** to reflect the importance of cotton as a global commodity.

World Egg Day 2021: 8 October



- **World Egg Day** is celebrated worldwide on the 'Second Friday of October' month each year since **1996**. This year's World Egg Day will take place on Friday **8 October** and will mark the 25th anniversary of the event.
- The theme for 2021 World Egg Day is "Eggs for all: Nature's perfect package".

World Post Day: 9 October



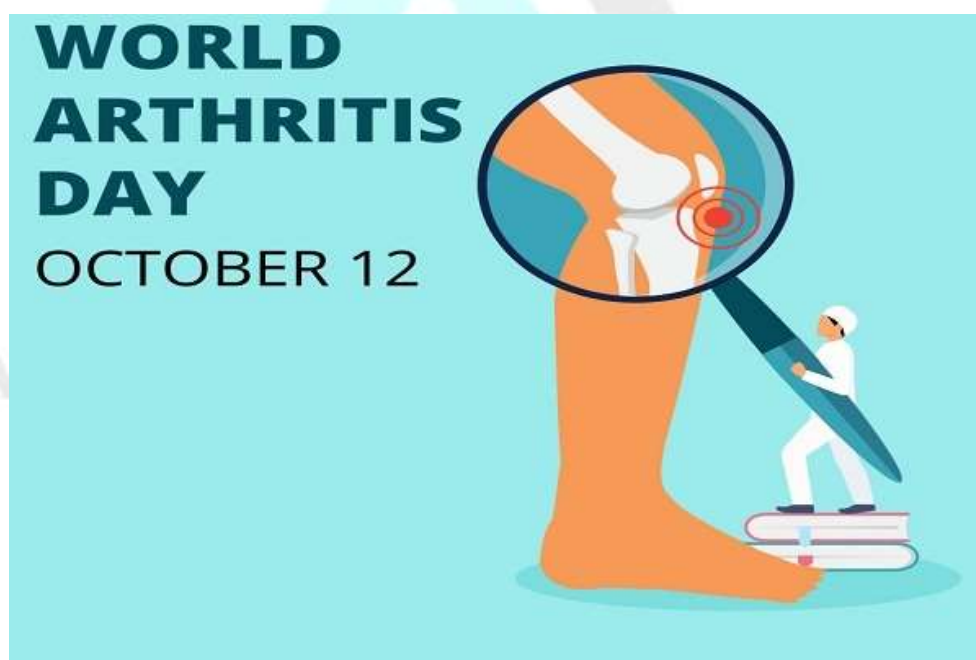
- **World Post Day** is celebrated each year on **October 9** globally.
- The theme of 2021 World Post Day is "Innovate to recover."
 - Universal Postal Union Headquarters: Bern, Switzerland;
 - Universal Postal Union Director-General; Masahiko Metoki;
 - Universal Postal Union Founder: Heinrich von Stephan;
 - Universal Postal Union Founded: 9 October 1874.

World Migratory Bird Day 2021: 9 October



- Every year, **World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD)** is officially celebrated twice in a year since it started in **2006**.
- Firstly it is held on the **Second Saturday of May** and again on the **Second Saturday of October**.
- The theme for 2021 WMBD is **"Sing, Fly, Soar - Like a Bird!"**

World Arthritis Day: 12 October



- The **World Arthritis Day** is observed every year on **October 12** to raise awareness about arthritis, an inflammatory condition that causes pain and stiffness in joints that can worsen with age.
- This day was started by **Arthritis and Rheumatism International (ARI)** in **1996** in order to spread awareness about arthritis and encourage policymakers to help reduce the burden of arthritis.
- The World Arthritis Day theme 2021 is **Don't Delay, Connect Today: Time2Work**.

International Day for Disaster Reduction: 13 October



- The United Nations **International Day for Disaster Reduction** is held annually on **13 October** since 1989.
- The theme of the 2021 International Day for Disaster Reduction is “**International cooperation for developing countries to reduce their disaster risk and disaster losses**”.

International E-Waste Day: 14 October



- The **International E-Waste Day (IEWD)** is celebrated on **14 October** every year since 2018, to promote the correct disposal of e-waste throughout the world with the aim to increase re-use, recovery and recycling rates.
- 2021 is the **fourth edition** of the International E-Waste Day.
- The theme for 2021 IEWD is “**Consumer is the key to Circular Economy!**”.

World Standards Day: 14 October



- **World Standards Day or International Standards Day** is observed globally on **14 October** every year.
- The day aims to raise awareness about the importance of standardisation to the global economy among consumers, regulators and industry.
- World Standards Day 2021 theme is **"Standards for sustainable development goals - shared vision for a better world"**.
 - International Organization for Standardization Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland
 - International Organization for Standardization Founded: 23 February 1947, London, United Kingdom.
 - International Organization for Standardization President: Ulrika Francke.

International Day of Rural Women: 15 October



- The **International Day of Rural Women** is observed globally on **15 October** each year.
- In India, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare observes the day as the **Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas** since **2016**, to increase the active participation of women in agriculture.
- This International Day, under the theme **"Rural women cultivating good food for all"**.

World Student's Day 2021: 15 October



- **World Student's Day** is celebrated every year on **October 15**. The day is celebrated in honour of the birth anniversary of the former president of India, Late Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.
- Since 2010, the United Nations Organisation (UNO) has marked October 15 as World Student's Day in an attempt to acknowledge the efforts of Dr Kalam toward education and his students.
- The current year's (2021) theme of World Students' Day is "**Learning for people, planet, prosperity and peace**".

World Food Day: 16 October



- **World Food Day (WFD)** is celebrated every year on **16 October** across the globe to eradicate worldwide hunger from our lifetime.
- WFD also commemorates the date of the founding of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in 1945.
- The current year's (2021) theme of **World Food Day** is "**Safe food now for a healthy tomorrow**".
 - Food and Agriculture Organization Head: Qu Dongyu;
 - Food and Agriculture Organization Headquarters: Rome, Italy;
 - Food and Agriculture Organization Established: 16 October 1945.

International Day for the Eradication of Poverty: 17 October



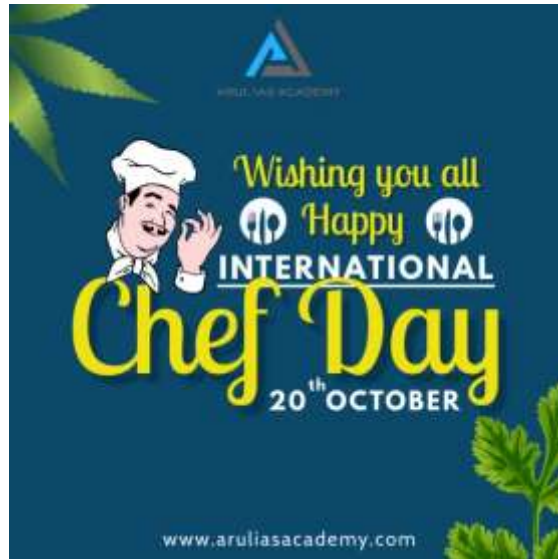
- The **International Day for the Eradication of Poverty** is observed every year on **17 October** across the globe.
- The day aims to raise awareness of the need to eradicate poverty and destitution around the world, particularly in developing countries.
- 2021 Theme: **Building Forward Together: Ending Persistent Poverty, Respecting all People and our Planet”**.

World Statistics Day: 20 October



- **World Statistics Day** is celebrated around the globe every year on **20 October** to highlight the achievements of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics.
- The celebration of World Statistics Day 2021 is a global collaborative endeavour, organized under the guidance of the United Nations Statistical Commission.
 - United Nations Statistical Commission Founded: 1947;
 - United Nations Statistical Commission Parent organization: United Nations Economic and Social Council;
 - United Nations Statistical Commission Chair: Shigeru Kawasaki (Japan).

International Chef's Day: 20 October



- **International Chefs Day** is observed every year on **20 October**. The day aims to celebrate and honour the noble profession and educate people around the world about eating healthy.
- The theme of the International Chefs Day 2021 campaign is **Healthy Food for the Future**.
- International Chefs Day was created by **Dr Bill Gallagher**, a renowned chef and the former president of the **World Association of Chefs Societies (World Chefs)**, in 2004.

World Osteoporosis Day: 20 October



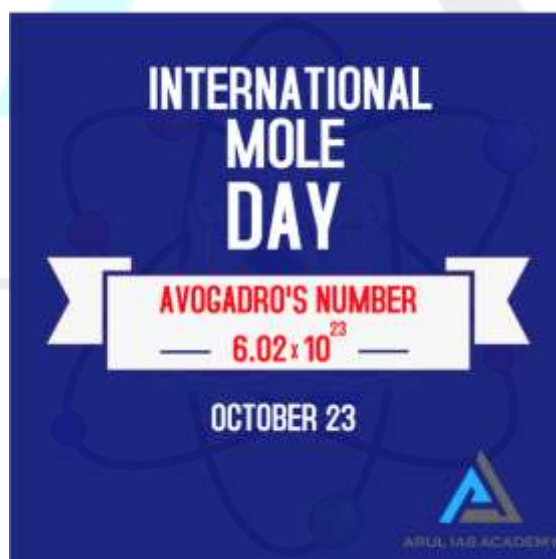
- The **World Osteoporosis Day (WOD)** is observed annually on **October 20**. The day aims to raise global awareness of the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis and metabolic bone disease.
- WOD is organized by the **International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF)**, by launch of a year-long campaign with a specific theme. In 2021 the Global WOD Campaign theme is "**Serve Up Bone Strength**".
 - International Osteoporosis Foundation Headquarters location: Nyon, Switzerland;
 - International Osteoporosis Foundation President: Cyrus Cooper;
 - International Osteoporosis Foundation Founded: 1998.

National Police Commemoration Day: 21 October



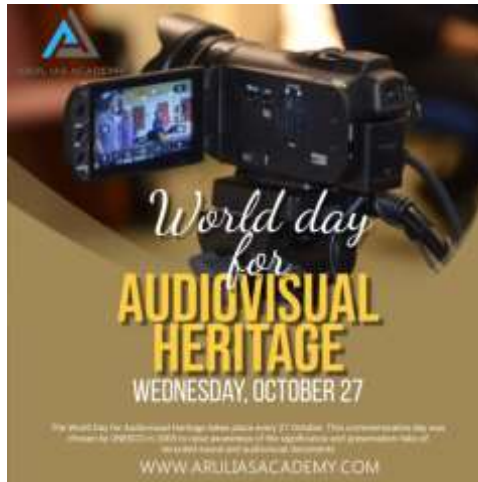
- In India, the **Police Commemoration Day** is observed on **October 21** every year. The day is marked to remember and honour the brave policemen who have laid down their lives in the line of duty.
- Police Commemoration Day commemorates the day in **1959**, when twenty Indian soldiers were attacked by **Chinese troops** in **Ladakh's Hot Spring area**, in which, ten Indian policemen lost their lives and seven were imprisoned.
- Since that day, 21 October has been observed as Police Commemoration Day in honour of the martyrs.

Mole Day: 23 October



- On **23rd October** every year mole day is celebrated which is popular amongst all chemistry enthusiasts. This day is marked to commemorate and honour the Avogadro's number.
- The celebration of this day happens from **6:02 a.m. to 6:02 p.m** commemorating the chemistry measuring unit. This occasion aims to make the students interested in chemistry and its concepts.
- This year the theme is "**DispicaMole Me**".

World Day for Audiovisual Heritage: 27 October



- The World Day for Audiovisual Heritage is a key initiative for both UNESCO and the Coordinating Council of Audiovisual Archives Associations.
- This is to honour audio-visual preservation professionals and institutions that safeguard our heritage for future generations.
- The day was chosen to raise awareness of the significance and preservation risks of recorded sound and audiovisual documents.
- The theme of the World Day for Audiovisual Heritage 2021: **“Your Window to the World”**.

Indian Army celebrates 75th Infantry Day on 27 October



- This year nation celebrates its 75th Infantry Day.
- Infantry Day is celebrated as a remembrance of the first military event of independent India.
- It was when the First Battalion of the Sikh Regiment of Indian Army fought battle to accomplish victory over the first attack on the Indian soil by the Pakistan Army and Lashkar invader on October 27, 1947.
- The battle was in the Kashmir valley.
- The infantry is the largest fighting arm of the Indian Army.
- It is popularly known as the **“Queen of the Battle”**.

TEST SCHEDULE FOR TNPSC

GROUP – II MAINS

BASED ON REVISED SCHEME OF EXAMINATION

PAPER – I (S.S.L.C. Standard)

(Duration: 1 hours 30minutes)

S.NO	TITLE	NO.OF QUES	MARKS	TOTAL MARKS	REMARKS
1.	Tamil to English Translation	2	25	50	Total Marks -100 Minimum Qualifying Marks - 25 (Answer sheets of the candidates who do not secure minimum qualifying marks in Paper-I will not be considered for the evaluation of Paper-II)
2.	English to Tamil Translation	2	25	50	

PAPER – II (Degree Standard)

(Duration: 3 Hours)

S.NO	TITLE	NO.OF QUES	MARKS	TOTAL MARKS	REMARKS
1.	Precis Writing	3	20	60	Total Marks – 300 (This part has to be answered fully in Tamil or in English alone) (Marks secured in Paper-I will Not be considered for selection. Marks secured in Paper-II alone will be considered for Selection.)
2.	Comprehension	3	20	60	
3.	Hints Development	3	20	60	
4.	Essay Writing on 'Thirukkural'	3	20	60	
5.	Letter writing (Official)	3	20	60	

NOTE : ALL TEST BASED ON NEW SYLLABUS

SYLLABUS : <http://www.tnpsc.gov.in/Syllabus/CCSE II Syllabus 23 10 2019.pdf>

TEST BATCH DETAILS

▲ PAPER 1 (20 TEST) & PAPER 2 (20 TEST)

▲ TEST BASED ON REVISED SYLLABUS

TEST SCHEDULE FOR TNPSC GROUP – II MAINS

PAPER 1 - MODULE 1

S.NO DATE	TEST TOPICS	PAPER / MARKS TIME
TEST NO.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▲ Origin and Development of Tamil Civilization - From classical antiquity to modernity.▲ Sangam Period Literature along with the historical events related to Language Development.	PAPER 1 Total Marks -100 Duration: 1hours 30minutes
TEST NO.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▲ Musical Tradition of Tamil Nadu - Folklore - music, dance, Musical instruments and folk drama - From classical age to post-modern age with its modifications.▲ Dramatic Art Form - Street Theatre - Folk Theatre - Conventional Theatrical techniques.	PAPER 1 Total Marks -100 Duration: 1hours 30minutes
TEST NO.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▲ Socio-Economic History - Overseas trade - evidence from classical literature like "Pattinapalai".▲ Rationalist Movements - Dravidian Movement and Self Respect Movement.	PAPER 1 Total Marks -100 Duration: 1hours 30minutes
TEST NO.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▲ Contribution of Social Reform Movements in the implementation of Social Welfare Measures and Socio-Economic Development of Tamil Nadu - Reservation Policy and its Benefits - Contribution of Social Justice and Social Harmony in the Socio Economic Development of Tamil Nadu	PAPER 1 Total Marks -100 Duration: 1hours 30minutes
TEST NO.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▲ Feminism - Socio - feminism, Literary feminism - Different Concepts and Perceptions.▲ Contemporary Tamil Language - Computer Tamil Diction - Legal Tamil - Tamil as Administrative Language - New genres.	PAPER 1 Total Marks -100 Duration: 1hours 30minutes

TEST SCHEDULE FOR TNPSC GROUP – II MAINS

MODULE 2: TEST NO.6 TO 10 ON PAPER 2

PAPER 2 - MODULE 2

S.NO	TEST TOPICS	PAPER / MARKS TIME
TEST NO.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▲ Preci Writing▲ Comprehension▲ Hints Development▲ Essay Writing on 'Thirukkural'▲ Letter writing (Official)	PAPER 2 Total Marks -300 Duration: 3hours
TEST NO.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▲ Preci Writing▲ Comprehension▲ Hints Development▲ Essay Writing on 'Thirukkural'▲ Letter writing (Official)	PAPER 2 Total Marks -300 Duration: 3hours
TEST NO.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▲ Preci Writing▲ Comprehension▲ Hints Development▲ Essay Writing on 'Thirukkural'▲ Letter writing (Official)	PAPER 2 Total Marks -300 Duration: 3hours
TEST NO.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▲ Preci Writing▲ Comprehension▲ Hints Development▲ Essay Writing on 'Thirukkural'▲ Letter writing (Official)	PAPER 2 Total Marks -300 Duration: 3hours
TEST NO.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▲ Preci Writing▲ Comprehension▲ Hints Development▲ Essay Writing on 'Thirukkural'▲ Letter writing (Official)	PAPER 2 Total Marks -300 Duration: 3hours

▲ **MODULE 1 : PAPER 1 (5 TEST)**

▲ **MODULE 2 : PAPER 2 (5 TEST)**

▲ **MODULE 3 TEST SCHEDULE (30 TEST) WILL BE GIVEN AFTER COMPLETION OF (MODULE 1 & 2)**

▲ **MODULE 3 : PAPER 1 AND PAPER 2 (30 TEST)**

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BASED ON REVISED SCHEME OF EXAMINATION

TEST SCHEDULE FOR TNPSC

GROUP - II/IIA PRELIMS

- ▲ SCHOOL BOOK TEST : 10
- ▲ SYLLABUS BASED : 10
- ▲ TOTAL TEST : 20

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MODULE 1: SCHOOL BOOK MANDATORY TEST SCHEDULE

S.NO	TITLE	NO.OF QUES
3.	CIVICS 6TH -8TH STD	100
4.	CIVICS 9TH -10TH STD	100
5.	POLITICAL SCIENCE 11TH AND 12TH	150
6.	GEOGRAPHY 6TH TO 10TH	150
7.	GEOGRAPHY 11TH AND 12TH	100
8.	ECONOMICS 6TH TO 12TH	150
9.	HISTORY 6TH TO 8TH STD	150
10.	HISTORY 9TH TO 12TH STD	150
11.	SCIENCE 6TH TO 10TH	200
12.	SCIENCE 11TH AND 12TH	150

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MODULE 2: SYLLABUS BASED TEST

DATE OF EXAM: Will Be Given Individually For Students Joining Test Batch

TEST NO	TITLE	NO.OF QUES
13.	UNIT-VI: INDIAN ECONOMY (i) Nature of Indian economy - Five year plan models - an assessment - Planning Commission and Niti Ayog. (ii) Sources of revenue - Reserve Bank of India - Fiscal Policy and Monetary Policy - Finance Commission - Resource sharing between Union and State Governments - Goods and Services Tax. (iii) Structure of Indian Economy and Employment Generation, Land reforms and Agriculture - Application of Science and Technology in agriculture - Industrial growth - Rural welfare oriented programmes - Social problems - Population, education, health, employment, poverty. APTITUDE ✓ Highest Common Factor (HCF) ✓ Lowest Common Multiple (LCM) CURRENT AFFAIRS ✓ 2020 CURRENT AFFAIRS	200 QUES
14.	UNIT- III: GEOGRAPHY OF INDIA (i) Location - Physical features - Monsoon, rainfall, weather and climate - Water resources - Rivers in India - Soil, minerals and natural resources - Forest and wildlife - Agricultural pattern. (ii) Transport - Communication. (iii) Social geography - Population density and distribution - Racial, linguistic groups and major tribes. (iv) Natural calamity - Disaster Management - Environmental pollution: Reasons and preventive measures - Climate change - Green energy. APTITUDE ✓ SIMPLIFICATION AND PERCENTAGE CURRENT AFFAIRS ✓ JAN&FEB 2020	150 QUES
15.	UNIT-VII: INDIAN NATIONAL MOVEMENT (i) National renaissance - Early uprising against British rule - Indian National Congress - Emergence of leaders - B.R.Ambedkar, Bhagat Singh, Bharathiar, V.O.Chidambaranar, Jawaharlal Nehru, Kamarajar,	150 QUES

	<p>Mahatma Gandhi, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Thanthai Periyar, Rajaji, Subash Chandra Bose and others.</p> <p>(ii) Different modes of Agitation: Growth of Satyagraha and Militant movements.</p> <p>(iii) Communalism and partition.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">APTITUDE</p> <p>✓ RATIO and PROPORTION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CURRENT AFFAIRS</p> <p>✓ MAR&APRIL&MAY 2020</p>	
16.	<p style="text-align: center;">UNIT-V: INDIAN POLITY</p> <p>(i) Constitution of India - Preamble to the Constitution - Salient features of the Constitution - Union, State and Union Territory.</p> <p>(ii) Citizenship, Fundamental rights, Fundamental duties, Directive Principles of State Policy.</p> <p>(iii) Union Executive, Union legislature - State Executive, State Legislature - Local governments, Panchayat Raj.</p> <p>(iv) Spirit of Federalism: Centre - State Relationships.</p> <p>(v) Election - Judiciary in India - Rule of law.</p> <p>(vi) Corruption in public life - Anti-corruption measures - Lokpal and LokAyukta - Right to Information - Empowerment of women - Consumer protection forums, Human rights charter.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">APTITUDE</p> <p>✓ SIMPLE and COMPOUND INTEREST</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CURRENT AFFAIRS</p> <p>✓ JUNE TO SEPT 2020</p>	200 QUES
17.	<p style="text-align: center;">UNIT - IV: HISTORY AND CULTURE OF INDIA</p> <p>(i) Indus valley civilization - Guptas, Delhi Sultans, Mughals and Marathas - Age of Vijayanagaram and Bahmani Kingdoms - South Indian history.</p> <p>(ii) Change and Continuity in the Socio - Cultural History of India.</p> <p>(iii) Characteristics of Indian culture, Unity in diversity - Race, language, custom.</p> <p>(iv) India as a Secular State, Social Harmony.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">UNIT- VIII : History, Culture, Heritage and Socio - Political Movements in Tamil Nadu</p> <p>(i) History of Tamil Society, related Archaeological discoveries, Tamil Literature from Sangam age till contemporary times.</p> <p>(ii) Thirukkural :</p>	175 QUES

	<p>(a) Significance as a Secular literature (b) Relevance to Everyday Life (c) Impact of Thirukkural on Humanity (d) Thirukkural and Universal Values - Equality, Humanism, etc (e) Relevance to Socio - Politico - Economic affairs (f) Philosophical content in Thirukkural (iii) Role of Tamil Nadu in freedom struggle - Early agitations against British Rule - Role of women in freedom struggle. (iv) Evolution of 19th and 20th Century Socio-Political movements in Tamil Nadu - Justice Party, Growth of Rationalism - Self Respect Movement, Dravidian movement and Principles underlying both these movements, Contributions of Thanthai Periyar and Perarignar Anna.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">APTITUDE</p> <p>✓ TIME AND WORK</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CURRENT AFFAIRS</p> <p>✓ OCT TO DEC 2020</p>	
18.	<p style="text-align: center;">UNIT - IX : Development Administration in Tamil Nadu</p> <p>(i) Human Development Indicators in Tamil Nadu and a comparative assessment across the Country - Impact of Social Reform movements in the Socio - Economic Development of Tamil Nadu. (ii) Political parties and Welfare schemes for various sections of people - Rationale behind Reservation Policy and access to Social Resources - Economic trends in Tamil Nadu - Role and impact of social welfare schemes in the Socio - economic development of Tamil Nadu. (iii) Social Justice and Social Harmony as the Cornerstones of Socio - Economic development. (iv) Education and Health systems in Tamil Nadu. (v) Geography of Tamil Nadu and its impact on Economic growth. (vi) Achievements of Tamil Nadu in various fields. (vii) e-governance in Tamil Nadu.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">APTITUDE</p> <p>✓ AREA AND VOLUME</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CURRENT AFFAIRS</p> <p>✓ JAN TO FEB 2021</p>	150 QUES

19.	<p style="text-align: center;">UNIT-I : GENERAL SCIENCE</p> <p>(i) Scientific Knowledge and Scientific temper - Power of Reasoning - Rote Learning Vs Conceptual Learning - Science as a tool to understand the past, present and future.</p> <p>(ii) Nature of Universe - General Scientific Laws - Mechanics - Properties of Matter, Force, Motion and Energy - Everyday application of the basic principles of Mechanics, Electricity and Magnetism, Light, Sound, Heat, Nuclear Physics, Laser, Electronics and Communications.</p> <p>(iii) Elements and Compounds, Acids, Bases, Salts, Petroleum Products, Fertilizers, Pesticides.</p> <p>(iv) Main concepts of Life Science, Classification of Living Organisms, Evolution, Genetics, Physiology, Nutrition, Health and Hygiene, Human diseases.</p> <p>(v) Environment and Ecology.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">APTITUDE</p> <p>✓ REASONING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CURRENT AFFAIRS</p> <p>✓ MARCH AND APRIL & MAY - 2021</p>	150 QUES
20.	MOCK TEST NO.1	200 QUES
21.	MOCK TEST NO.2	200 QUES
22.	MOCK TEST NO.3	200 QUES

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