Tamil Nadu

- Finland based Phone parts maker Salcomp - has acquired a unit of Nokia and one of LiteOn-Mobile in Sriperumbudur for nearly $50 million (Rs 350 crore)
  - The company had also promised additional investments of Rs 2,000 crore within the next five years to create 10,000 direct jobs and 50,000 indirect jobs
  - Salcomp will revive the unit that has been shut since 2014 following a tax dispute and the new facility will become operational from March 2020
  - More than 55% of production facilities at Nokia SEZ are now owned by Salcomp
  - Salcomp would export 70% of the products made in India, mostly to China.
  - The deals are said to be part of the MoU signed by Salcomp with Tamil Nadu at the 2019 Global Investors Meet with an investment of around Rs 500 crore in electronics manufacturing
  - Salcomp develops and manufactures chargers and adapters for mobile phones and other electronic devices for both domestic and export purposes with a capacity of around 200 million chargers a year and it is a key supplier for Apple
  - With three existing facilities in India (two in Chennai, and one in Noida), Salcomp has almost half of its global workforce with around 7000 employees in Chennai.
  - Apple has recently begun commercial production of iPhone XR at the Taiwanese contract-maker Foxconn facility in Chennai and plans to start making the latest iPhone 11 variant in the city soon
  - Apple had initially begun local assembly in India in 2017 through Wistron, another Taiwanese maker that has a factory in Bangalore.

- Tamil Nadu discom Tangedco’s Madras Atomic Power Station (MAPS) - is set to resume power generation on December 1 in its Unit 1
  - Once it becomes operational, Tangedco will get additional 200MW of electricity starting next month
The unit was shut down in January 2018 for annual maintenance.
There are two units at MAPS with a capacity of 220MW each.
The units get fuel from within the country as it is not part of the India’s civil nuclear agreement.
Units under the civil nuclear agreement will be under the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), but both the units of MAPS come outside the purview of IAEA.

The school education department - has designated three special breaks – one each in the morning, at lunch and evening - during school hours into water breaks.
The move is aimed at ensuring students drink enough water during the day.
Currently, schools give two 10-minute breaks in the morning and evening.
Students also get a 45-minute lunch break.
Children need to drink at least two to three litres of water every day, to ensure the normal functioning of the body.
The Puducherry government had also instructed the school heads in the Union territory to ring ‘water bell’ thrice during class hours to remind the students to drink water.

The Tamil Nadu government - has announced that sugarcane farmers who have installed drip irrigation equipment on their farms will get an increase in subsidy from Rs 24,000 to Rs 39,000 depending on the land holding size and water source.
While small farmers with holdings less than 5 acres can get the drip irrigation system installed for free, those with larger holdings can avail a 75% subsidy while installing.
The state agriculture department has partnered with more than 35 companies, who have agents in the district, to provide and install the hardware.
So far, 290 hectares of 700 hectares under sugarcane cultivation is under micro irrigation, as the process reduces considerable water wastage.

STATES

Jammu & Kashmir - will celebrate the 70th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of India on November 26 for the first time this year.
The celebrations follow the abrogation of Article 370 that ended the J&K Constitution that was in place since 1957.
A campaign on fundamental duties would begin in the Union Territory on November 26, as part of a nation-wide drive, that will end on April 14 next year on Dr B R Ambedkar’s birth anniversary.
November 26 is being observed as Constitution Day, to remember the contribution made by the framers of the Constitution and to educate people regarding the values enshrined in it.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution.

All institutions, including government offices, will read out the Preamble to the Constitution at 11am, followed by a pledge to uphold the fundamental duties.

**NATIONAL**

- **Minister of State for Home G. Kishan Reddy** - introduced the Special Protection Group (Amendment) Bill, 2019 in the Lok Sabha on November 25.
  - As per the Bill, “SPG shall provide proximate security to the Prime Minister and his immediate family members residing with him at his official residence.”
  - The Bill also says that family members of a former PM who do not reside with him at his official residence will not have security cover by SPG commandos and those who reside with him will be guarded by the SPG only for 5 years.
  - The Bill says that in the existing Act, there is no cut-off period for providing SPG protection to former PMs or members of their immediate families.

- **The Rajya Sabha** – passes the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2019 without any amendments on November 26, 2019 by voice vote.
  - The Lok Sabha had passed the bill earlier during its monsoon session on August 5, 2019.
  - The bill was moved in the upper house by Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Thaawarchand Gehlot.
  - The bill will now be sent for Presidential nod, after which it will become a law.
  - The bill aims to protect the rights of transgender persons by granting them their due recognition and providing welfare provisions for them.
  - It defines a transgender person as one whose gender does not match the gender that was assigned at birth.
  - The bill recommends that a transgender person may submit an application with the District Magistrate to get a certificate of identity, which states the gender as ‘transgender’.
  - The bill also criminalizes denial of services or denial of use of public places to transgender persons and the removal of transgenders from a village or a household.
  - The Transgender Bill proposes the establishment of National Council for Transgender Persons, comprising members from various central ministries, state governments, Niti Aayog and NHRC Governments.
  - The Council will monitor the impact of policies, legislation and projects relating to transgender persons and address their grievances.
Justice Pinaki Chandra, the Chairman of Lokpal, launched the logo and motto of Lokpal on November 26.

✓ The motto of Lokpal is - “मा गृधः कस्यस्स्िद्धनम्” which means “Do not be greedy for anyone’s wealth.”

**SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT**

Cartosat-3 – will lift off onboard PSLV-C47 from the second launch pad at Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), Sriharikota on November 27, and will be placed at an altitude of 509km

✓ Cartosat-3, the first of the third-generation, will carry the onboard camera, which is expected to have the highest resolution of less than 30cm, far better than its predecessors -- Cartosat-1 with 2.5m resolution and Cartosat-2 series with less than 1m resolution

✓ The 1625 kg, Cartosat-3 will be the ninth in the Cartosat series since the first launch in 2005

✓ The resolution of Cartosat-3 is such that the third-generation satellite can delineate existing buildings, study built-up patterns and road networks, which are crucial in urban planning.

✓ The data from the satellite will also help in military reconnaissance and mapping.

✓ During the launch, 13 nanosatellites – 12 Flock-4P earth observation satellites and 1 Meshbed communication testbed from USA – will also be carried along with Cartosat-3.

Greenhouse gases in the atmosphere - hit a new record in 2018, according to the World Meteorological Organization

✓ The concentration of carbon dioxide increased from 405.5 ppm in 2017 to 407.8 ppm in 2018, exceeding the average annual increase of 2.06 ppm in 2005-2015.

✓ The annual increase in methane was the highest since 1998
DEFENCE

- India and China - will conduct a bilateral military exercise ‘Hand in Hand’ that will begin on December 7, 2019.
  - It will be a 13-day exercise that will be held from 7 to 20 December at Umroi near Shillong.

AWARDS

- Chairman of Sundram Fasteners Ltd, Suresh Krishna - was conferred the ‘Quality Ratna’ award by the CII Institute of Quality recently
  - Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers D.V. Sadananda Gowda presented the award to Mr. Krishna.

SPORTS

- Three Indians - have finished as No. 1 in the year-end World rankings and will receive the International Shooting Sports Federation’s (ISSF) ‘The Golden Target’ award in Munich, Germany, on December 7
  - The Golden Target is the award given by the ISSF from this year onwards
  - It is awarded as a “tribute to the best athletes of the year according to the annual ranking in each of the individual Olympic events”.
  - Divyansh Singh Panwar and Elavenil Valarivan have topped the men’s and women’s 10m air rifle categories respectively, while Saurabh Chaudhary has ended the year as No. 1 in men’s 10m air pistol event.
  - Out of the 12 Olympic categories (individual), India has maximum No. 1s (3), followed by China and USA (2 each).
The 20-year-old Elavenil had ended the season by winning gold in the World Cup final in China.
She had earlier won the gold in the World Cup in Rio and was placed fourth in the World Cup in Munich.
The 17-year-old Divyansh won two gold medals in the World Cups in Beijing and Munich, which also gave him the Olympic quota.
He finished the season with gold in the World Cup final in Putian, China, in both men’s air rifle and the mixed air rifle.
Saurabh Chaudhary did not win the individual medal in the World Cup in China, but had won two gold medals in Delhi and Beijing, apart from the bronze in Rio.
Saurabh who won the Olympic quota in Delhi in the first World Cup of the season, had also bagged all the four World Cup gold medals in mixed air pistol with Manu Bhaker.
Indian shooters had topped the medals table in each of the four World Cups for rifle and pistol in Delhi, Beijing, Munich and Rio, apart from the World Cup final in Putian, China.

- Lakshya Sen – wins four titles in last three months.
The Scottish Open triumph at Glasgow on November 24 was his fourth title in five tournaments since September, the other three being, SaarLorLux Open, Dutch Open, and Belgian International.
He had lost in the second round of the Irish Open
Currently world No. 41, The 18-year old Lakshya from Uttarakhand is set to break into the top-35 when the BWF releases its latest rankings and move closer to a direct qualification in the top grade 2 events.
In February 2017, Lakshya Sen became the world no. 1 in BWF World Junior rankings.

- Spain - lifts their sixth Davis Cup success on November 24 after they beat Canada in the final in Madrid
- The 33-year-old Rafael Nadal won eight out of eight rubbers and then the decisive match that clinched the title against Shapovalov.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

- National Milk Day – November 26

- The day marks the birthday of Dr. Verghese Kurien, who was the father of the White Revolution in India
- The day is celebrated to create awareness among people about the importance of milk and milk products
- Indian milk production has witnessed a growth of 6.28% during 2014 and 2016.
- Also, per capita, milk consumption capacity increased from 307 gm per day (2013-14) to 340 gm per day (2015-16).
- World Milk Day is observed on 1 June every year by the United Nations.
- The Indian Dairy Association (IDA), in 2014, took the initiative to celebrate this day
- The first National Milk Day was celebrated on 26 November 2014 where various milk producers from 22 states participated.
Verghese Kurien is famous for his ‘Operation Flood’ the world's largest agricultural development program.

- He was awarded the Ramon Magsaysay Award in 1963 and World Food Prize in 1989.
- He was awarded Padma Shri in the year 1965, the Padma Bhushan in the year 1966 and the Padma Vibhusan in 1999 by the Government of India.
- India became the largest producer of milk in 1998, surpassing the US, thanks to the untiring efforts of Dr. Verghese Kurien.

**Constitution Day – November 26**

- On this special day Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, the creator of the Constitution, is remembered.
- On 26 November 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India formally adopted the draft Constitution of India.
- Total of 284 members of the Constituent Assembly signed the document on 24 January 1950.
- It was implemented two days later on 26 January 1950.
- It was declared by the government of India on 19 November 2015 to celebrate 26 November as Constitution Day every year.
- Once the constitution was drafted, it became the largest constitution in the world, comprising 448 Articles, 12 Schedules and 94 Amendments.
- It took 2 years 11 months and 17 days to prepare the Indian constitution.