Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu chief minister Edappadi K Palaniswami - received an Honorary doctorate (doctor of letters) from Dr MGR Educational and Research Institute (a deemed university) in Chennai on October 20

✓ As per the citation, the honoris causa was awarded for his exemplary services to the state as chief minister, during which Tamil Nadu has attained State GDP of 8.17%, while the national GDP is 6.81%
✓ Founder-chancellor of the Dr MGR Educational and Research Institute, A C Shanmugam, presented the honorary doctorate to the CM at the 28th convocation of the institution
✓ The incumbent CM of the state becomes the third AIADMK chief minister to receive the honour after M G Ramachandran and J Jayalalithaa
✓ On the occasion, the chief minister, in turn, conferred honorary doctorates on DRDO chairman G Satheesh Reddy, music director Harris Jayaraj, actor and dancer Shobana Chandrakumar and chairman and director of Ganga Hospital S Raja Sabapathy

State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamilnadu Ltd (Sipcot) – to set up an industrial park on 700 acres of land at Manallur village near Gummidipoondi in Tiruvallur district
✓ The proposed site is located 16km south of Sri City in neighboring Andhra Pradesh.
✓ Earlier, the State government has given its approval in 2009 to develop an industrial hub for pharmaceutical and chemical industries in the said land
However, now the government is planning to expand the scope of the park and develop it into a fully-fledged manufacturing cluster, including automobiles

Sri City is spread across more than 7,500 acres, housing a multi-product Special Economic Zone and electronics manufacturing cluster with 185 leading international companies from 27 countries.

**STATES**

- The Karnataka government – is planning to create a database of immigrants without documents and foreign nationals overstaying their visa.
  - As part of the process, the government is looking to inaugurate a detention centre in Nelamangala — an old social welfare department hostel — on the outskirts of Bengaluru city soon.
  - The detention centre will house immigrants during the process of deportation
  - The centre, once operational, will be a first in south India

**SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT**

- Experts from Chennai-based National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR) along with those from National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) – to use sonar signals to map depths of ocean along the country’s 7,500km long coastline

**Into the Blue**

Indian scientists are using echolocation to map ocean depths for improved weather forecasting for flood-prone coastal areas

- The high-resolution coastal seabed data gathered through seabed mapping will be used to forecast natural disasters like cyclones and tsunami
- The onboard research vessels will scan the bottom of Bay of Bengal to map seafloor contours up to a depth of 30m.
- Till now, a length of about 100km along the Tamil Nadu coast has been mapped.
Globally, seabed mapping is used to gather disaster management data for a range of scientific applications such as tsunami risk assessments, hazard identification and risk modelling, marine security and groundwater monitoring.

NCCR is also planning to take the expertise of National Institute of Oceanography, Goa, when mapping the west coast.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi – launched the book ‘Bridgital Nation’, written by Tata Sons chairman N Chandrasekaran and Roopa Purushothaman, chief economist and head of policy advocacy at the Tata Group.

Roopa was earlier part of the Goldman Sachs team that coined the term ‘BRIC’ to describe the potential that Brazil, Russia, India and China held.

The PM gave the first copy of the book to Ratan Tata, chairman emeritus of Tata Sons.