

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JUNE 14, 2021

TAMIL NADU

- **The Tamil Nadu government – has decided not to print any grades or marks on mark sheets of Class X students passed out this year.**
- ✓ Earlier, the state government has announced its decision to give all-pass to nearly nine lakh Class X students in February 2020
- ✓ The mark sheets for state board Class X students of 2020-21 batch will just have 'all pass' printed on it.
- ✓ Admission to Class XI and polytechnic colleges will be based on Class IX marks.
- ✓ No half-yearly or quarterly exam or common test was held for these students as schools were mostly closed due to the pandemic.
- **Anna University and 10 other institutions in Tamil Nadu - have been allowed to offer full-fledged online degree programmes, as per a notification issued by the University Grants Commission**
- ✓ Students will be enrolled in nearly 80 online courses, including MCA, MBA, BBA, BCom, BCA, MA and MSc, from July this year.

UGC NOD NOT MUST FOR 38 INSTITUTES

➤ Students can enrol for MCA, MBA, BBA, BCom, BCA, MA and MSc degrees from next month

➤ Thirty-eight institutes from across India, including Bharathidasan University, Alagappa University and Madurai Kamaraj University,

now don't need UGC's prior approval to start these programmes



➤ At least six deemed universities in Tamil Nadu that are within the top 100 in NIRF ranking have also been allowed to offer these programmes

- ✓ Thirty-eight institutes from across the country, including Bharathidasan University, Alagappa University and Madurai Kamaraj University, now don't require UGC's prior approval to start these 'online' programmes.

- ✓ At least six deemed universities in the state that are within the top 100 in NIRF ranking have also been allowed to offer these programmes.

STATES

- **Kerala government - has announced the launch of 'Kerala Knowledge Mission' to provide employment to the educated 'knowledge workers' under a single programme**

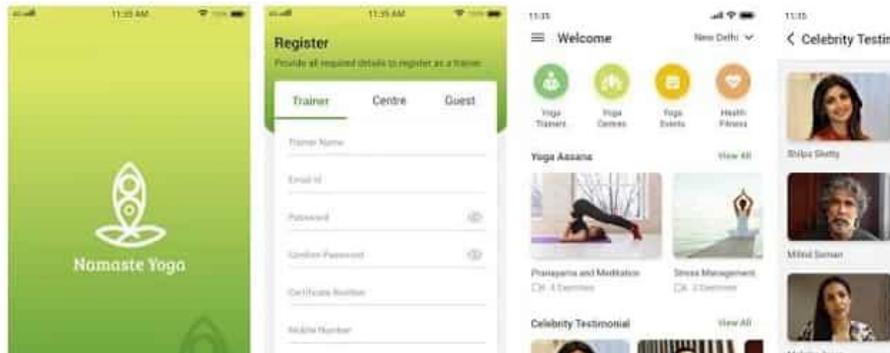


- ✓ Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated the project in Thiruvananthapuram on June 8.
- ✓ The mission will promote innovative ideas, coordinate knowledge initiatives and support young people with updated skills
- ✓ The aim of the initiative is to develop a comprehensive digital platform for educated youngsters in order to enhance knowledge and upskill them
- ✓ The Kerala government has hiked the funding for the scheme, which aims to create atleast three lakh jobs in a year, from ₹200 crore to ₹300 crore.
- ✓ Further, Kerala government also provides benefits such as insurance and loan assistance for the entrepreneurs through this platform
- ✓ Trained and educated youth can register on the portal for suitable jobs, while job training will also be given to unemployed educated youth based on their skills and demands from companies.
- ✓ Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council (K-DISC), a strategic think tank and advisory body set up by the government of Kerala, is spearheading the mission.
- ✓ The digital platform was developed in collaboration with Kerala University of Digital Sciences, Innovation and Technology (formerly IIITM-K)
- ✓ The project is also supported by Kerala Startup Mission and ICT Academy.

NATIONAL

- **The Centre – is planning to set up 50 innovative modular hospitals across the country in the next two to three months, to face any new surge in Covid-19 cases**

- ✓ These modular hospitals will be built adjacent to an existing hospital building, as an extension of operational infrastructure
 - ✓ A 100-bedded modular hospital with a dedicated zone of Intensive Care Units (ICUs) can be set up at an estimated cost of nearly ₹3 crore in three weeks
 - ✓ They will be made fully operational in about six to seven weeks.
 - ✓ The project, initiated by the office of principal scientific adviser K Vijay Raghavan, will be implemented in state-run and philanthropic hospitals, to startwith.
 - ✓ These rapidly deployable hospitals will be highly helpful especially in rural areas and smaller towns.
 - ✓ Any government hospital, having basic facilities such as electricity and water supply, and oxygen pipeline, will be eligible to have a modular hospital attached to it
 - ✓ The first phase consisting of 100-bed modular hospitals will be commissioned in Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh), Amravati, Pune and Jalna (Maharashtra) and Mohali (Punjab), along with a 20-bed hospital in Raipur (Chhattisgarh).
 - ✓ Further, Bengaluru will have one hospital each of 20, 50, and 100 beds in the first batch
- **The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) in collaboration with Microsoft - to introduce coding and data science subjects in school curriculum from 2021-2022 academic year**
- ✓ Coding will be introduced for students of Class 6 to class 8 while data science will be introduced for Class 8 to class 12 as new skilling subjects.
 - ✓ As announced in the New Education Policy 2020, the introduction of these courses is aimed at building next-generation skills and to develop skill-based curriculum for students.
 - ✓ Microsoft has developed supplementary handbooks in both coding and data sciences as per the NCERT patterns and structures
 - ✓ It will cover real-life examples aimed at building exposure to the ethical dimensions.
 - ✓ Further, the course also includes exposure to Microsoft MakeCode, an open-source platform
 - ✓ MakeCode will enable students to learn better in a gamified manner across all disciplines including mathematics, languages, and social sciences
 - ✓ This also builds the foundation for AI-based applications of data science.
- **A new mobile App called 'Namaste Yoga' – was launched recently on June 11 in the 'online' curtain raiser event for 7th International Day of Yoga (IDY)**
- ✓ The event was organised by Ministry of Ayush in association with Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY).
 - ✓ Namaste Yoga app was launched to raise awareness about yoga and to reach it to a larger community.



- ✓ The Information and Broadcasting Prakash Javadekar and the Union Minister of State for Ayush Kiren Rijju participated in the event
- ✓ The 7th IDY will be observed on 21st June this year under the theme- “Be with Yoga, Be at home”.
- ✓ India had proposed the idea of IDY during the opening of 69th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 2014.
- ✓ The UN passed resolution in December 2014 and proclaimed 21st June as IDY.
- ✓ The first ever International Yoga Day was celebrated in 2015 at Rajpath, New Delhi.
- ✓ It created Guinness World Records for being world’s largest yoga session with the participation of 35,985 people from 84 countries

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi - was invited to speak as the lead speaker on a session on ‘Open Societies’ at the G-7 summit on June 13**



- ✓ Describing India as a natural ally of G7, PM Modi said that open societies were particularly vulnerable to disinformation and cyber attacks
- ✓ The leaders later adopted the 'Open Societies Statement' that hailed, among other things, freedom of expression in both online and offline modes.
- ✓ Further, the G7 leaders underlined their commitment to a free, open and a rules-based Indo-Pacific and resolved to collaborate with partners in the region.
- ✓ In another session on 'Climate change', PM Modi highlighted the planet's atmosphere, biodiversity and oceans could only be protected by countries acting together on climate change.
- ✓ Speaking about India's unwavering commitment to climate action, he mentioned the commitment by Indian Railways to achieve net zero emissions by 2030.

PERSONALITIES

- **For the first time ever, three women guards – were deployed in the forests of the country's second highest mountain, Nanda Devi, at over 25,000 feet high**
- ✓ Durga Sati, 32, Roshni Negi, 25, and Mamta Kanwasi, 33 have been chosen to patrol the mountains at 14,500 feet
- ✓ The guards will help protecting rare animals — like snow leopards, Himalayan bears and blue sheep — and plants — Himalayan viagra and thousands of medicinal herbs



- ✓ Till now, the women forest guards would go up to 11,150 feet till Laata.
- ✓ Now, the three women guards went up to Dharasi (14,500 feet), their final destination through trekking the hills.
- ✓ Both Durga and Mamta have been forest guards for 12 years.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **The European Space Agency (ESA) – has recently announced about the launch of a new probe called 'EnVision' to study Venus by 2030**
- ✓ Recently, it has to be recalled that American Space agency NASA decided to send two robotic missions - DAVINCI+ and VERITAS - to the planet.
- ✓ Envision will be the next orbiter to circle Venus and study the planet from its inner core to upper atmosphere to determine its evolution vis-à-vis earth.

- ✓ However, NASA's two missions will enter into atmosphere of Venus for performing experiments.
 - ✓ Venus is the closest planet of Earth in inner solar system and is similar in size & composition to Earth.
 - ✓ However, Venus is not inhabitable like Earth and has a toxic atmosphere with thick sulphuric acid-rich clouds.
- **Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)-Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR) – was granted the patent for black pepper micronutrient foliar formulation technology**
- ✓ The technology improves quality of produce and is environment-friendly
 - ✓ ICAR-IISR submitted an application for patent in 2013 to the patent office under Central government.
 - ✓ The black pepper-specific micronutrient formulation was developed by a team comprising of three scientists- Dr. V. Srinivasan, Dr. S. Hamza and Dr. R. Dinesh.
 - ✓ Seven entrepreneurs have expressed interest in the technology for commercial production
 - ✓ ICAR-IISR has developed similar micronutrient foliar formulations for major spices like black pepper, turmeric, ginger and cardamom to overcome micronutrient deficiencies.
 - ✓ Micronutrient mixture for black pepper was developed to fulfil requirements of black pepper crop by maintaining optimal ratio of secondary micronutrients such as zinc, magnesium and boron in leaf.
 - ✓ This method is recommended for black pepper as a foliar spray during spike initiation as the monsoon begins.

APPOINTMENTS

- **The U.N. General Assembly - has approved the appointment of Costa Rican economist Rebecca Grynspan, as the Secretary-General of the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).**



- ✓ Former vice president of Costa Rica, Rebecca is the first woman and a first person from a Central American country to be appointed as the Secretary General of the UN body, promoting trade and development.

- ✓ She was nominated to the post by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.
- ✓ Rebecca has held several high-level positions including, among others, former under secretary-general of the UN and associate administrator of the UN Development Programme (UNDP) from 2010 to 2014
- ✓ Since 2014, Rebecca has been secretary-general of the Ibero-American General Secretariat, which makes preparations for Ibero-American summits
- ✓ She has also served as UNDP's regional director for Latin America and the Caribbean, a member of the High-level Panel on Financing for Development, and vice president of Costa Rica (1994 to 1998).

OBITUARY

- **Mahavir Chakra (MVC) awardee Brig (Retd) Raghubir Singh Rajawat – passed away due to age-related issues on June 13 in Jaipur.**



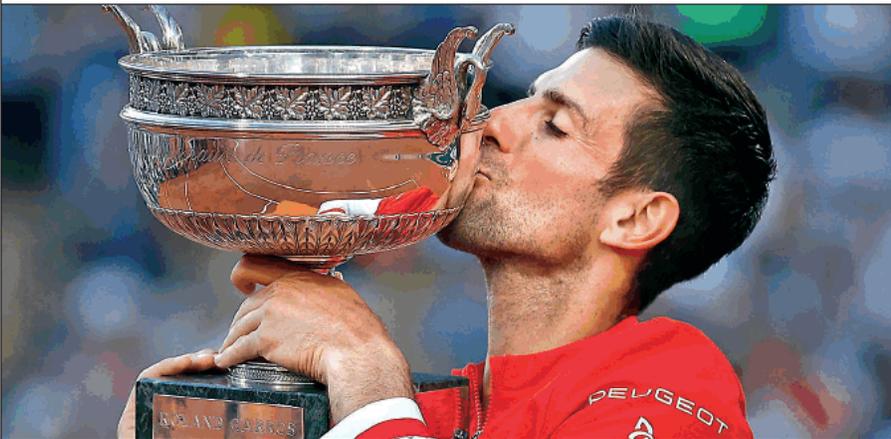
- ✓ Singh was from 18 Rajputana Rifles and had received a sword from Maharaja Sawai Man Singh as a token of honour.
- ✓ He handled the post of Provost Marshal of Military Police with the responsibility to monitor 1 lakh Pakistani soldiers in the Bangladesh surrender camp.
- ✓ He was also the sarpanch of Soda village, a position which was held by his granddaughter Chhavi Rajawat 20 years later
- ✓ Chhavi Rajawat was the first woman sarpanch in the country with an MBA degree.
- ✓ Singh was commissioned in the Sawaiman Guards as a second lieutenant in 1943 and fought several wars, including World War II.
- ✓ He participated in the Burma war in 1944 and went to Japan to fight.
- ✓ Thereafter, he fought in the Indo-Pak war of 1947-48 in the Uri sector immediately after Independence.
- ✓ During the war of North and South Korea in 1954, he was posted as chairman of the Neutral Nations Representative Commission (NNRC) as part of the peacekeeping force.
- ✓ During the 1958-59 Israel-Egypt war, he was part of the United Nations Emergency Force.

- ✓ Singh commanded his battalion 18 Rajputana Rifles (later 11 Mechanised Infantry) during the 1965 Indo-Pak war, that destroyed 22 Patton tanks of the enemy

SPORTS

- **On June 13, Serbia's Novak Djokovic – became the first man in the Open Era to win at least two titles in each major championship.**
- ✓ Djokovic created tennis history by defeating first-time finalist Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece after coming from behind in a five set thriller that lasted 4 hours and 11 minutes at the court Philippe Chatrier in Roland Garros, Paris

DJOKO SLAMS INTO HISTORY BOOKS



FEAT OF CLAY | Novak Djokovic (34) came from two sets down to beat Greece's Stefanis Tsitsipas (22) 6-7, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4 to win the French Open. By an incredible coincidence, the final and the epic semifinal between Djokovic and Rafael Nadal both lasted exactly 4 hours and 11 min

- The Serbian is the 3rd man in history and first in the Open Era to win all four Grand Slam tournaments at least twice. Roy Emerson and Rod Laver are the only other players to have won each Grand Slam on 2 or more occasions
- Djokovic's 19th Slam title came in his 29th final. He is now just one victory behind Roger Federer and Nadal (20 each), who jointly hold the record for most Grand Slam men's singles titles
- Djokovic's second Roland Garros title came five years after his first. It is the longest gap between first and second French Open men's singles titles in the Open era
- The world No. 1's victory on Sunday is his seventh Grand Slam triumph since turning 30 – an Open era record for most men's singles titles won after the age of 30 | **P 17**

“ It has been an unforgettable few moments for me in my life and my career. I will definitely remember these last 48 hours in my life **”**
–NOVAK DJOKOVIC

GRAND SLAM TITLES WON BY THE 'BIG THREE'

ROGER FEDERER

Total titles	20
Aus Open	2004, 2006, 2007, 2010, 2017, 2018
French Open	2009
Wimbledon	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012, 2017
US Open	2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008

RAFA NADAL

Total titles	20
Aus Open	2009
French Open	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020
Wimbledon	2008, 2010
US Open	2010, 2013, 2017, 2019

NOVAK DJOKOVIC

Total titles	19
Aus Open	2008, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2019, 2020, 2021
French Open	2016, 2021
Wimbledon	2011, 2014, 2015, 2018, 2019
US Open	2011, 2015, 2018

- ✓ This was his 19th Grand Slam title and the second French Open crown
- ✓ Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal (20) are at the top of the list for most Grand Slam men's singles titles.
- ✓ Djokovic was presented the Coupe des Mousquetaires by six-time champion, the legendary Swede Bjorn Borg.

