

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JULY 5, 2021

TAMIL NADU

- **Archaeologists - have identified seven human skeletons in a single quadrant in Konthagai in the Keeladi cluster.**
- ✓ Keeladi is considered to have been the industrial hub of a 2,600-year-old civilization
- ✓ Its neighbouring villages of Konthagai, Agaram and Manalur are also treated as part of this civilization.
- ✓ At present, the seventh phase of excavation is taking place in Keeladi cluster
- ✓ The second phase of excavation is being carried out in the three neighbouring villages of Konthagai, Agaram and Manalur by the Tamil Nadu state department of archaeology



- ✓ As per the recent findings, Konthagai was supposed to be the burial site of the Keeladi civilization.
- ✓ A total of thirteen burial urns and about nine skeletons - the remains of surface burials, have been found in Konthagai.
- ✓ Over twenty five burial urns and an equal number of skeletons were found in the first phase of excavation.

STATES

- **The Srinagar district administration - banned storage, sale, possession, use and transportation of drones and similar unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) in its territorial jurisdiction**



- ✓ The decision follows a week after the drone attack on Jammu Air Force Station on June 27
- ✓ The restriction is aimed to secure the aerial space near vital installations and highly populated areas
- ✓ The use of drones in all social and cultural gatherings is also banned to eliminate any risk to life and damage to property.
- ✓ As per the order, people already having drone cameras/similar UAVs in their possession shall deposit the same in the local police station under proper receipt.

NATIONAL

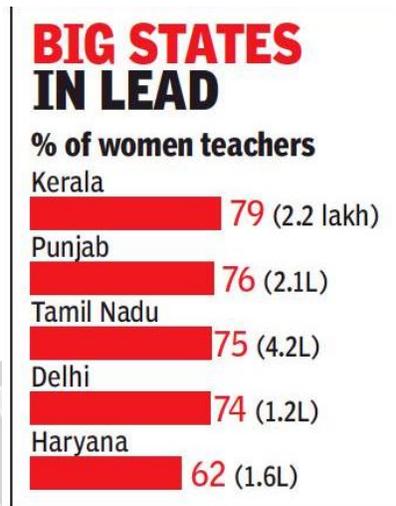
- **On June 30, the Union Cabinet - approved public private partnership mode for the rollout of BharatNet project for broadband services in all inhabited villages across 16 states in the country**
- ✓ The revised strategy also includes creation, upgradation, operation, maintenance and utilization of BharatNet beyond Gram Panchayats (GPs) in these 16 States
- ✓ The estimated maximum viability gap funding approved for the PPP model is Rs. 19,041 crore.
- ✓ The States covered under the scheme are Kerala, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh
- ✓ The new project aims to cover around 3.61 lakh villages including Gram Panchayats
- ✓ For the remaining states and UTs, the Cabinet, headed by PM Narendra Modi, also accorded in-principle approval for extending the scheme to all the villages
- ✓ The PPP Model will ensure private sector efficiency for operation, maintenance, utilization and revenue generation and is expected to result in faster roll out of BharatNet scheme.

- ✓ It will also enable online education, telemedicine, skill development, e-commerce and other related applications of broadband.
- ✓ The PPP model for BharatNet will enhance efficiency, quality of service, consumer experience, apart from providing revenue resources and income generation for unemployed persons.
- **Union Minister of State for Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Mansukh Mandaviya – inaugurated the loading operation on the maiden voyage of Green Freight Corridor 2**



- ✓ On June 30, the Coastal Shipping Service, Green Freight Corridor 2 was launched from Cochin port to Beypore and Azhikkal ports in Kerala
- ✓ According to the ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Green Freight Corridor Service is operated by Round The Coast Private Limited, Mumbai, which is a JM Baxi Group company
- ✓ The items that would be shipped would include Rice, Salt, Wheat, Cement, Construction Material, etc. unloaded at Cochin from Gujarat.
- ✓ The service will link Kochi-Beypore-Azhikkal at present and Kollam port will be added later to this service
- ✓ It aims to provide seaborne connectivity to the trade and industries in the minor ports, minimize congestion on the rail and road other than bringing down logistics costs.
- ✓ The service seeks to shift the mode of containers transportation as well as ease the congestion on the road and minimize carbon footprint.
- ✓ Further, to promote coastal shipping of containers, a 50% rebate is being offered by Cochin Port in vessel-related charges
- ✓ Similarly, the Kerala government has offered an operational incentive @10% above the road transportation cost for coastal shipping in the state's minor ports for one year period from 23 January 2021.
- **India - has more number of women schoolteachers than their male counterparts**
- ✓ This was revealed in the Unified District Information on School Education (U-DISE) report for 2019-20 released recently.

- ✓ The country has a total of 96.8 lakh teachers, out of which 49.2 lakh are women and 47.6 lakh are men.
- ✓ In 2012-13, there were 35.8 lakh women teachers in India against 42.4 lakh men.
- ✓ In general, women teachers outnumber male teachers only at the primary level.
- ✓ From upper primary, the number of male teachers continues to be higher than women.
- ✓ This trend is seen across all the states, barring a few like Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Delhi, and Punjab.
- ✓ In these states, the number of women teachers is higher than men even in secondary and higher secondary classes.

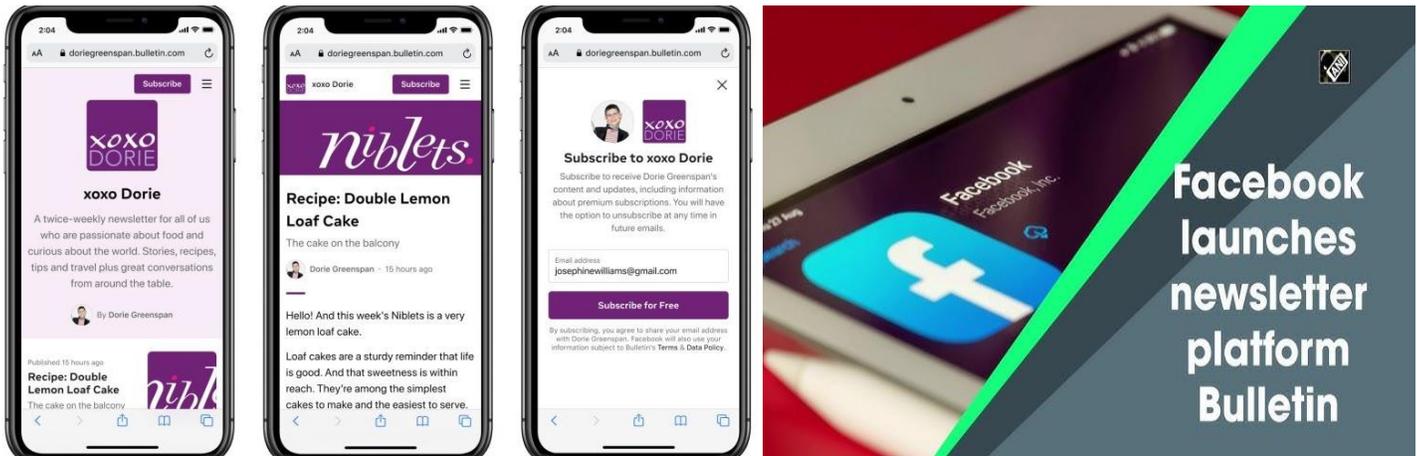


- ✓ In government and aided schools, the number of male teachers is higher and in private unaided schools, the number of female teachers is high.
- ✓ The U-DISE report is released annually by the department of school education and literacy under the Union ministry of education.

INTERNATIONAL

- **The United Arab Emirates - has overtaken Seychelles to become the world's most vaccinated nation**
- ✓ This was revealed in the Bloomberg's vaccine tracker.
- ✓ The UAE has so far administered 15.5 million doses covering about 72.1% of its mostly expatriate population.
- ✓ The Seychelles has given enough doses to cover 71.7% of its population to cover around 100,000 people .
- ✓ UAE's vaccination programme is mainly dependent on Sinopharm, which is being produced locally
- ✓ On July 4, the UAE approved Moderna Inc.'s vaccine, while shots from Pfizer Inc. and AstraZeneca Plc are already available for use

➤ Facebook – launches its standalone subscription newsletter platform ‘Bulletin’



- ✓ The new platform allows writers to publish free and paid newsletters that can be posted in web or sent to subscribers' inboxes, and shared across Facebook in United States
- ✓ Facebook won't charge any fee from writers during the initial launch period and writers retain full ownership of their work and subscriber list
- ✓ The new platform is focused on empowering independent writers, helping them reach new audiences and power their businesses
- ✓ At launch, Facebook has signed up several acclaimed writers to cover a range of topics, from sports and finance to science and medicine
- ✓ Bulletin will be integrated with Facebook Pages to enable publishing across different multimedia formats
- ✓ Each Bulletin creator will be provided with website under their brand and they can customise their publication's name, logo, style and colour.
- ✓ Bulletin is seen as an alternative to Substack and other newsletter products.
- ✓ Twitter also recently purchased Revue, another newsletter platform, which is not yet integrated into the social network yet
- ✓ Substack takes a 10% cut of subscriptions, while Revue takes a 5% cut.

RANKINGS

- **India - has been ranked at 10th position with a score of 97.5 in the Global Cyber Security Index (GCI) 2020, moving up by 37 places from the 2019 index**
- ✓ The GCI is a composite index created, analyzed and published by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), a specialized agency of the United Nations for Information and Communication Technologies
- ✓ The index measures the commitment to cybersecurity of its 194 member countries to raise cybersecurity awareness.

ITU Global Cybersecurity Index 2020

**India ranked
amongst top 10
nations**



- ✓ The latest report is the fourth GCI edition by the ITU, while the first edition was launched six years ago.
- ✓ Each country's development or engagement is assessed along five pillars – (i) Legal measures, (ii) Technical measures, (iii) Organizational measures, (iv) Capacity development, and (v) Cooperation- and then aggregated into a composite score
- ✓ The rankings underscore India's efforts on cybersecurity and comes just ahead of the sixth anniversary of Digital India on July 1
- ✓ The US topped the chart with a score of 100, followed by the UK and Saudi Arabia tied on the second position with a score of 99.54, while Estonia was ranked third in the index.
- ✓ In the Asia Pacific region, South Korea and Singapore are on top with a score of 98.52, which ranks fourth globally.
- ✓ Other countries at the top of the index include Russia, the United Arab Emirates and Malaysia (98.06) at fifth place, Lithuania at sixth, Japan at seventh and Canada, France at the eighth and ninth positions respectively

