



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-SEPTEMBER 29,2021

TAMIL NADU

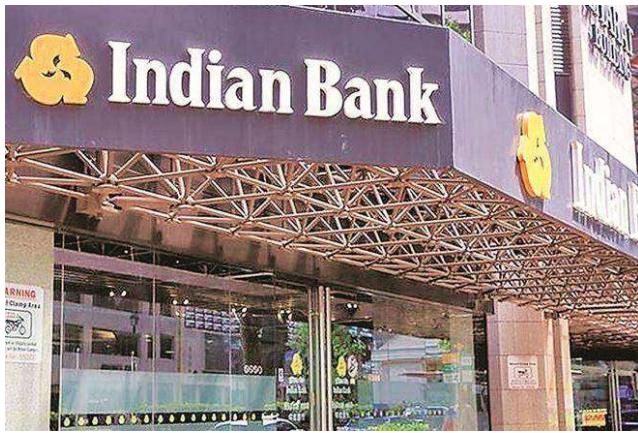
- Chief Minister, M K Stalin – inaugurated the Tamil Nadu police museum at Egmore in Chennai on September 28



- ✓ Home department principal secretary S K Prabhakar, DGP C Sylendra Babu, police commissioner Sankar Jiwal and others were present at the inauguration.
- ✓ Vellore native Usharani Narendra, one among the country's 21 first woman sub-inspectors of police, was invited for the inauguration ceremony
- ✓ The 67-year-old, who according to police records was directly recruited as SI in 1973, worked as chief security officer for former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi during the latter's visit to Chennai.
- ✓ The museum, a heritage building which had served as Chennai Police Commissioner's office for over 150 years, was converted as a police museum at a cost of about Rs 6.47 crore
- ✓ It displays objects, exhibits and collections representing the evolution, milestone events and the history of the modern police force in the state beginning in the British era
- ✓ Spread over 24,000 square feet, the museum hosts several artefacts, a bicycle dating to 19th Century used for patrol by policemen, arms, pistol, bullets, old uniforms, recovered idols, seized machine used to print counterfeit notes and so on

- ✓ The museum includes a November 8, 1799 letter from British army major Jone Bannerman to the then Madras Governor about the hanging of Veera Pandiya Kattabomman at Kayathar near Kovilpatti and one by former chief minister C N Annadurai about the police's problems.
- ✓ It also exhibits a chair made of swords and sickles, a siren from the old commissioner's office that could be heard more than 4km away and a Plymouth car used by many city police commissioners.
- ✓ Old VHF wireless sets as well as rare photographs from epochal events including the Rajiv Gandhi assassination, arrest of LTTE founder Prabakaran from Pondy Bazaar, the LIC building fire in 1972 and anti-Hindi agitation in 1965 were also on the display.
- ✓ The extensive range of swords used for duty, self-defence sports and ceremonial occasions from the 19th and 20th centuries was one of the attractions in the museum
- ✓ The Prime Minister's revolver won by W I Davaram — the best probationer of the 1963 IPS batch — is also exhibited in the museum.
- ✓ From October 1, the general public will be allowed in for an entry fee of Rs.10, while government school students with identity cards are permitted free entry.
- ✓ It is noteworthy that there is already a Police Museum in Coimbatore and the Chennai museum is second of its kind in the state

- **On September 28, Chief Minister M K Stalin - said the Centre had accorded in-principle nod for establishing a Medical Devices Park at Oragadam in Kancheepuram district.**
- ✓ The Centre is likely to grant around Rs.100 crore for creating infrastructure facilities at the park.
- ✓ An announcement for setting up such a park was made in the revised budget for 2020-21.
- ✓ The Medical Devices Park to come up at Oragadam is being planned by Sipcot at a cost of Rs 450 crore on about 350 acres.
- ✓ Three other such parks are coming up in Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.
- ✓ The proposed devices park will have the required facilities for making prototypes, calibration and testing centres of medical equipment.
- ✓ Units located in the park will manufacture ventilators, PP monitors and pace makers among several other parts and equipment.
- ✓ When fully functional, the park will attract around Rs 3,500 crore in investment and generate employment for about 10,000 people, according to the chief minister.
- **The state Government of Tamil Nadu - has appointed public sector bank Indian Bank, as its official partner bank for both offline and online collection of Tamil Nadu Treasury.**



- ✓ The bank will provide banking services to the treasury's Integrated Financial and Human Resources Management System (IFHRMS)
 - ✓ IFHRMS is a web portal that has been specially designed and developed by the Government of Tamil Nadu to integrate human resources and finance related services on one platform
 - ✓ The portal provides a comprehensive Finance and HR management system which has helped in improving operational efficiencies.
- **Chief Minister M K Stalin – announced that physical classes for students from I to VIII will restart in Tamil Nadu from November 1, after nearly 19 months.**
- ✓ On September 28, the state government has announced its decision to extend the Covid-19 lockdown across the state till October 31.
 - ✓ The CM also asked the school education department to make necessary arrangements for the reopening.
 - ✓ The government had already allowed physical classes for IX to XII from September 1.
 - ✓ The ban on social, political and cultural events and festivals and consecration ceremonies will continue and places of worship will remain closed from Friday to Sunday
 - ✓ Further, the state has allowed weekly public grievances meeting and monthly grievances meeting for farmers at collectorates.
 - ✓ All shops should place hand sanitizers with dispensers at the entrance and check the temperature of customers, as per the new operating procedure
 - ✓ Moreover, operation of air conditioners is banned and only limited number of people should be allowed to maintain social distancing in shops.

STATES

- **On September 28, the Haryana state pollution control board (HSPCB) - directed all 14 NCR districts in the state to impose a ban on the sale and use of firecrackers with immediate effect.**

- ✓ The order was issued in keeping with directions of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) and the Supreme Court on the restrictions on the use of crackers.
- ✓ The ban is in view of the deteriorating air quality that the region witnesses during this time of the year, which is aggravated by the bursting of crackers and stubble burning in nearby districts.
- ✓ The order followed a directive from the Commission for air quality management (CAQM) asking Haryana to strictly implement orders of the NGT and the apex court regarding bursting of crackers.
- ✓ Firecrackers will be allowed only in the remaining seven districts where air quality mostly hovers around the moderate level.
- ✓ Whenever firecrackers are burst in large numbers, harmful pollutants such as sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and suspended particulate matter are released in the air.

NATIONAL

- On September 28, Prime Minister - released 35 new indigenously developed crop varieties with special traits like climate resilience and higher nutrient-content to fight malnutrition

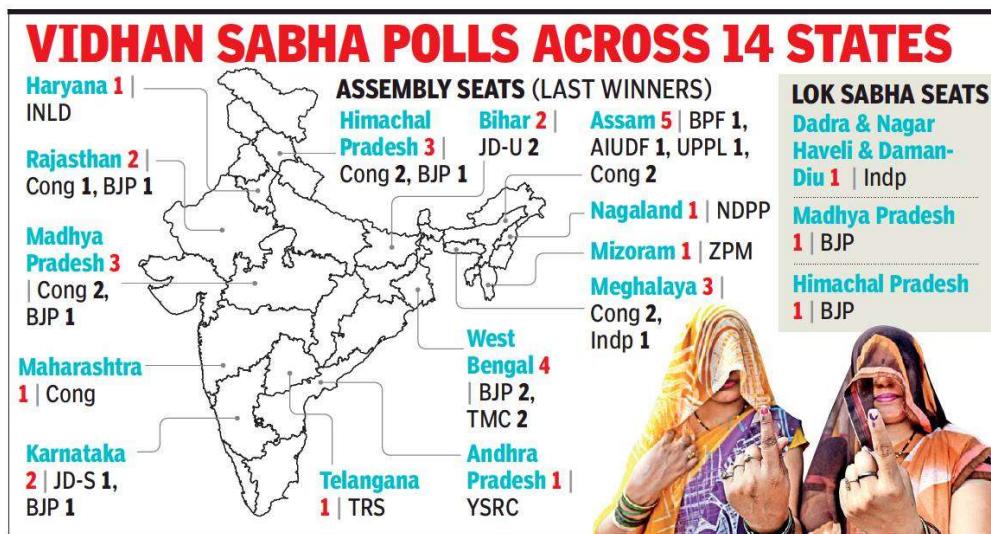
CLIMATE RESILIENT VARIETIES		
Crops	No. of varieties	Specific Traits
Rice	8	Bacterial blight resistant, Salinity tolerance (T), Low soil phosphorus T, Herbicide T
Wheat	6	High yielding with high Zinc, Rich in protein and iron
Maize	3	High provitamin & lysine, Suitable of all zones, Sterile baby corn
Soybean	3	Early maturing, Free from anti-nutritional factor, Amenable to mechanical harvesting
Mustard	2	High yielding, Erucic acid <2%
Pigeon pea	2	Early maturing, Resistant to wilt & sterility, Resistant to mosaic disease
Chickpea	2	Drought Tolerant, High protein (22.9%)
Pearl millet	2	Rich in iron, Resistance to downy mildew
Sorghum	2	Suitable for biofuel, Suitable for silage making
Quinoa	1	High protein & oil content
Buckwheat	1	High protein & iron
Winged bean	1	High pod yield, High protein
Faba bean	1	High seed yield, High protein
Forage sorghum	1	High biomass, Suitable for biofuel

- ✓ The new crop varieties were dedicated to the nation by the PM through a video conference organised at all ICAR institutes, State and Central agricultural universities and Krishi Vigyan Kendra.

- ✓ During a virtual ceremony, the Prime Minister also inaugurated the newly constructed campus of the National Institute of Biotic Stress Tolerance, Raipur, Chhattisgarh
 - ✓ He also distributed the 'Green Campus Award' to four agricultural universities
 - ✓ The PM interacted with five farmers from different states who use innovative methods, including two women farmers -- Zaitan Begum from Ganderbal district, Jammu and Kashmir, and Darshana Pedenkar from Bardez, Goa.
 - ✓ The PM also underlined the need to go back to the practice of 'multi-culture' (cultivation of different crops) farming instead of simply banking on 'monoculture' (single crop farming).
 - ✓ Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar and Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel were also present at the event.
 - ✓ The newly developed crop varieties possess special traits like drought tolerant, illness resistant and are biofortified meals crops with greater nutrient content material resembling protein, iron and zinc.
 - ✓ The new varieties are developed by various institutions of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
 - ✓ These include a drought tolerant chickpea (2 varieties), wilt and sterility mosaic resistant pigeon pea (2 varieties), early maturing soybean (3 varieties), disease resistant rice (8 varieties) and biofortified wheat (6 varieties), pearl millet (2 varieties), maize (3 varieties), mustard (2 varieties), sorghum (2 varieties) among others.
- **The Ministry of Social justice and empowerment – will launch a first-of-its-kind dedicated employment exchange portal ‘SACRED’ for senior citizens from October 1**
- ✓ The new portal ‘SACRED’, an acronym for ‘Senior Able Citizens for Re-Employment in Dignity’ will enable “virtual matching” of employable people aged 60 and above with employers who register on the platform
 - ✓ To bring in employers, the ministry has sought the collaboration of Confederation of Indian Industry, Ficci, Assocham and others.
 - ✓ The Ministry celebrates International Day of Older Persons every year on 1st October in honour of elderly persons.
 - ✓ On the day, the Ministry will organise VAYO NAMAN Programme in the honour of Senior Citizens at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
 - ✓ The Vice President of India, M Venkaiah Naidu will be the chief guest of the programme this year and will confer the Vayosheshta Samman awards.
 - ✓ The Vice President will also dedicate the Elderly Line 14567 to the Nation and launch the Senior Able Citizens Reemployment in Dignity (SACRED) & Senior Care Ageing Growth Engine (SAGE) Portals on this occasion.
 - ✓ The number of senior citizens has gone up from 1.98 crore in 1951 to 7.6 crore in 2001 and 10.38 crore in 2011.

- On September 28, Union home minister Amit Shah – addressed an event coinciding with the 17th foundation day of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)
- ✓ During the event, Shah said thousands of volunteers will be trained under a special programme to handle emergencies during natural disasters
- ✓ The programme, Aapda Mitra Yojana, will train the volunteers as 'first-responders' on saving lives during natural disasters.
- ✓ Home Minister Amit Shah launched the 'Aapda Mitra Yojana' (Disaster Friends Scheme) programme in 350 districts across India during the event.
- ✓ So far 28 states have signed memorandum of understandings with the NDMA in this regard.
- ✓ Aapda Mitra has started as a pilot project at 30 flood-prone districts in 25 states and consists of over 5,500 volunteers now
- ✓ The theme of this year's NDMA Foundation Day is "Wide effects of disaster events in the Himalayan region".
- ✓ The NDMA, headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is the apex body for disaster management in India

- On September 28, the Election Commission - announced the dates for the remaining bypolls to three Lok Sabha seats and 30 assembly seats across 14 states.
- ✓ Polling for all seats will be held on October 30.



- ✓ The parliamentary constituencies where polls were announced are Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Khandwa in Madhya Pradesh and Mandi in Himachal Pradesh.
- ✓ Assembly bypolls will be held for five seats in Assam, four in West Bengal, three each in Meghalaya, Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, two each in Rajasthan, Karnataka and Bihar, and one each in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Mizoram, Nagaland, Haryana and Maharashtra.
- ✓ The counting of votes will take place on November 2.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- Serum Institute of India (SII) - will now include children aged seven to 11 years for clinical trials of the Novavax Covid-19 vaccine.
- ✓ So far, the company was conducting trials on children of 12 to 17 years of age.
- ✓ The drugs controller general of India has allowed the Pune-based vaccine manufacturer to expand the cohort of the trial and enrol children between seven and eleven years.
- ✓ The Covovax vaccine is in the final stage of phase 2/3 trials in the country.
- ✓ Novavax Inc and its Indian partner SII have recently also filed regulatory submission for World Health Organisation (WHO) emergency use listing of the recombinant nanoparticle protein-based Covid-19 vaccine.
- ✓ The trials would roughly cover 920 children divided in multiple age groups

DEFENCE

- The Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) - will stand dissolved with effect from October 1



- ✓ Accordingly, its 41 factories, assets, employees and management are being transferred to the seven new public sector units in accordance with the Cabinet decision to corporatise the entity.
- ✓ According to the defence ministry order, the name of the seven defence PSUs will be Munitions India Ltd, Armoured Vehicles Nigam Ltd, Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Ltd, Troop Comforts Ltd, Yantra India Ltd, India Optel Ltd and Gliders India Ltd.
- ✓ Earlier, on June 16, the Union Cabinet had approved the splitting of the OFB into the seven 100% government-owned corporate entities
- ✓ The decision was meant to improve its functioning as the main supplier of arms, ammunition and clothing to the armed forces
- ✓ The OFB has an annual turnover of around Rs.19,000 crore and has around 70,000 employees

- ✓ Each of the new DPSUs will frame rules and regulations related to service conditions of the absorbed employees

OBITUARY

- **Management guru Bala V Balachandran (84 years) – passed away in Chicago after a brief illness on September 27**



- ✓ Bala, as he was referred to, was J L Kellogg Distinguished Professor of Accounting & Information Management (emeritus in service), Northwestern University.
- ✓ A passionate teacher, he was awarded the Padma Shri in 2001 for his contribution to education.
- ✓ Born in Pudukkottai, Bala completed his college education at the Annamalai University, Chidambaram and had a solid academic background – a BSc (Hons.) in Mathematics, MA (Statistics) in 1961 and MSc in Applied Statistics.
- ✓ He served in the Army briefly before heading to the US for Doctoral studies at Carnegie-Mellon University, Pittsburgh.
- ✓ Bala joined the Kellogg Graduate School of Management faculty in 1973 and chaired the Department of Accounting and Information Systems from 1979 to 1983.
- ✓ In 1984, he was appointed Distinguished Professor of Accounting and Information Systems and Decision Sciences.
- ✓ He was also director of the Accounting Research Center until 2006.
- ✓ From there, he began an illustrious career as professor, consultant, mentor, author, entrepreneur and life coach.
- ✓ He helped recruit the first set of faculty members to IIM Bangalore in the late 1960s
- ✓ Later, Bala set up the management department at the Management Development Institute at Gurgaon through a joint collaboration with United Nations Development Programme, the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.
- ✓ Bala's vision for a one-year-fast-track MBA program for working professionals was realized with the Indian School of Business, Hyderabad in 2000.

- ✓ In 2004, he set up Great Lakes Institute of Management which has emerged as a globally acclaimed institution, having another campus at Gurugram.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

- World Heart Day – September 29



- ✓ The World Heart Day is observed every year to raise awareness about the ways to prevent and control coronary heart disease or strokes.
- ✓ According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), more than 17 million people die from heart disease every year, accounting for over 31% of global deaths.
- ✓ Cardiovascular disease (CVD), including stroke and heart disease, is responsible for at least half of all non-communicable diseases (NCD) deaths, hence making it as world's number one killer disease.
- ✓ Theme 2021 – ‘Use Heart To Connect’
- ✓ World Heart Day was first observed on 24 September, 2000 by the World Heart Federation (WHF), which entered into collaboration with the WHO.
- ✓ The observance of this day was initiated by Antoni Baye de Luna, the former president of the WHF from 1997 to 2011, in the year 1999
- ✓ However, the day was celebrated on the last Sunday of September till 2011.
- ✓ But from 2012 onwards, World Heart Day was observed on 29 September after world leaders promised to reduce global mortality rates by 25% by 2025.
- ✓ India's National Health Policy 2017 too, aims to reduce premature mortality from CVDs, cancer, diabetes and chronic respiratory diseases by 25% by 2025.
- ✓ In India, the prevalence of CVDs is estimated to be around 54.5 million
- ✓ Furthermore, in Punjab, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, the prevalence of CVDs is at least 5000 per 100,000 people.
- ✓ Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh are the only two states where the prevalence of CVDs is less than 3,000 per 100,000 people.

