



## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

### TAMIL NADU

- **The Tamil Nadu government - has proposed to start excavation at three new sites — Vembakottai in Virudhunagar, Thulukkarpatti in Tiruvelveli and Perumpalai in Dharmapuri district**
  - ✓ The new excavations seek to unearth archaeological remains of ancient civilizations
  - ✓ The government had sanctioned Rs. 5 crore for carrying out excavations at various sites.
  - ✓ This was announced by minister for Tamil official language, Tamil culture and archaeology Thangam Thennarasu in the assembly on September 4.
  - ✓ There are already four archaeological sites in the state at present.
  - ✓ The government had sanctioned Rs.1.6 crore to maintain the upcoming world-class on-site museum at Kondagai in Sivagangai district
  - ✓ The minister said Keeladi excavation had scientifically proven the supremacy of Tamil language and culture.
  - ✓ The excavations have proved that Tamil race had achieved high level of literacy in 6th century BC, while the date of Tamil (Tamil-Brahmi script) has been pushed back to 6th BC
  - ✓ The department would document more than 90 rock arts in Keelvalai, Alambadi, Thirumalai, Sirumalai, Karikiyoor and Mayiladuthurai in the next two years spending Rs. 60 lakh.
  
- **On September 3, Tamil Nadu chief minister M K Stalin - announced cancellation of 1% market cess levied on cotton and cotton waste.**
  - ✓ The state government would bring a bill in the ongoing assembly session to amend the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Produce Marketing Regulation Act, 1987 to give effect to the announcement
  - ✓ Chief Minister MK Stalin announced the waiver while making a suo motu statement in the assembly

- ✓ According to the chief minister, the cess should be levied only on cotton bales, but was being levied on cotton and cotton waste as well.
  - ✓ The waiver is expected to benefit the owners of cotton mills and those who procure cotton, by bringing down the price of cotton
  - ✓ Tamil Nadu constituted one-third of the textile industry in the country and 45% of the yarn industry, while about 95% of cotton was procured from other states.
- **The government – is planning to introduce ferry services along the Marina, a floating restaurant at Muttukadu and helicopter tourism on the Madurai-Kodaikanal-Rameswaram route.**
- ✓ This was announced by the Minister for tourism Dr M Mathiventhan in the assembly on September 4
  - ✓ According to the Minister, wind sailing, motor ferry services and speed boat operations would be introduced off the Marina in association with the Royal Madras Yacht Club.
  - ✓ While a floating restaurant at Muttukadu would be launched for the first time, the government is also planning to provide beach sports at Mudaliarkuppam.
  - ✓ A helipad would be established at an estimated Rs.1 crore to promote helicopter tourism linking Madurai, Kodaikanal and Rameswaram to reduce travel time.
  - ✓ A new tourism policy will be prepared along with a master plan to promote 300 tourism spots.
  - ✓ The department will install 3-D laser lighting facility to showcase the 133-ft Thiruvalluvar statue in Kanyakumari during night hours
  - ✓ Further, the Minister said that Kolli Hills would be developed into an eco-tourism spot.

## STATES

- **On September 4, Karnataka cabinet - approved the Karnataka Police (Amendment) Bill which seeks to ban all kinds of online games involving profit or gain.**
- ✓ As per the Bill, online gaming for money and betting in Karnataka is likely to be considered a criminal activity that could attract imprisonment of up to three years or Rs.1 lakh fine.
  - ✓ The government has banned online games played using computers, mobile phones and on social media platforms and betting in the form of tokens, electronic transfer of money and virtual currency.
  - ✓ However, lottery and horse races run on race courses within and outside the state do not come under the purview of the bill.
  - ✓ A month ago, the Madras high court had declared a similar law enacted by the Tamil Nadu government to ban online betting games against the Constitution.

- **Haryana's Kurukshetra University – to teach a new course on the Saraswati river in the upcoming academic session of 2022-23 under the New Education Policy (NEP)**
  - ✓ According to the instructions of Haryana chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar, a plan has been prepared to add this course in the school curriculum also
  - ✓ The new subject seeks to educate the younger generation about the history of the holy Saraswati river and the ancient civilisation on it
  - ✓ Students will have the option to choose this course from the session of 2022-23 and will also be able to do research work on the Saraswati river sites.
  
- **Bengaluru - is the district where the most number of languages are spoken in the country**
  - ✓ This was revealed based on a recent analysis of the 2011 Census
  - ✓ In Bengalure, 107 languages are spoken, which includes 22 scheduled and 84 non-scheduled languages.
  - ✓ The other districts where more than 100 languages are spoken are Dimapur of Nagaland (103) and Sonitpur of Assam (101)
  - ✓ The list of districts where more than 90 languages are spoken includes Jalpaiguri in West Bengal (98), East Khasi Hills in Meghalaya (96), South West Delhi (97), Karbi Anglong in Assam (95), Pune (93) and Darjeeling (91), while Mumbai suburban has speakers of 88 languages.
  - ✓ The least diverse districts include Yanam (Puducherry), Kaimur (Bhabua, Bihar), Kaushambi and Kanpur Dehat (Uttar Pradesh) and Ariyalur (Tamil Nadu), where less than 20 languages are spoken.
  - ✓ In Bengaluru, the total percentage of people who speak Kannada is 44%.
  - ✓ The other major languages include Tamil (15%), Telugu (14%), Urdu (12%), Hindi (6%), Malayalam (3%), Marathi (2%), Konkani (0.6%), Bengali (0.6%) and Odia (0.5%).
  - ✓ Languages like Pochury, Kondh, Sangtam and Wancho have the least number of speakers in Bengaluru.

## NATIONAL

- **The representatives of the Centre, Assam government and five Karbi-Anglong ultra groups – signed a tripartite peace accord on September 4**



- ✓ The agreement was signed in the presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Union Minister of Shipping and Waterways, Assam chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and the representatives of Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council in New Delhi.
- ✓ The five groups are Karbi Longri NC Hills Liberation Front (KLNLFF), People's Democratic Council of Karbi Longri (PDCK), Kuki Liberation Front (KLF), United Peoples Liberation Army (UPLA) and Karbi People's Liberation Tiger (KPLT).
- ✓ The historic Karbi Anglong Agreement promises to fulfil all the conditions for development of the Karbi people within the stipulated time.
- ✓ After signing the agreement, over 1,000 cadres of five different organizations have laid down their arms to join the mainstream.
- ✓ As per the agreement, the Centre and the Assam government shall release a Rs.1,000-crore Special Development Package over the next five years for undertaking specific projects for development of Karbi areas.
- ✓ The agreement assures greater devolution of autonomy to the Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council without affecting the territorial and administrative integrity of Assam and protection of identity, language and culture of Karbi people.
- ✓ The pact seeks to provide reservation for the people of Karbi for the first time, rehabilitation for the surrendered militants, setting up of Karbi Welfare Council by the Assam government and supplementing resources of Karbi Autonomous Council by augmenting consolidated fund of the state
- ✓ Located in central Assam, Karbi Anglong is the state's largest district inhabited by various tribal groups
- ✓ The Karbis, a major ethnic community of Assam, have been demanding a separate state since 1946 and intensified their armed movement in 1990s.
- ✓ Earlier this year, a total of 1,040 militants of five militant groups surrendered along with their weapons during an event at Guwahati in Assam on February 25
- ✓ The union government had signed three key peace accords with insurgent groups active in the northeast –
  - ✓ The NLFT Tripura Agreement signed on August 10, 2019,
  - ✓ Bru Accord finalised on January 1, 2020 for permanent settlement of 6,959 Bru families (37,136 persons) in Tripura and
  - ✓ Bodo Peace Accord signed on January 27, 2020 under which 1,615 cadres of NDFB groups surrendered their weapons.
- **National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and Navy chief Admiral Karambir Singh - are expected to commission India's first satellite and ballistic nuclear missile tracking ship INS Dhruv from Visakhapatnam on September 10.**
- ✓ INS Dhruv will be the country's first specialised research ship to track incoming nuclear-tipped ballistic missiles and aircraft at long ranges as well as monitor low earth orbit (LEO) satellites
- ✓ It also has the capability to also map ocean beds for research and detection of enemy submarines.



- ✓ The indigenously-built 15,000-tonne missile range instrumentation ship is packed with long-range radars, dome-shaped tracking antennae and advanced electronics
- ✓ With INS Dhruv, India joins a select group of countries like the US, UK, Russia, China and France to have such specialized vessels.
- ✓ The 175-meter-long missile-tracking vessel, earlier codenamed 'VC 11184' as part of a classified project, has been underconstruction at the Hindustan Shipyard Ltd at Vizag since 2013-2014.
- ✓ The ship will be manned by personnel from the Navy, National Technical Research Organisation (NTRO) and Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)
- ✓ INS Dhruv is a huge ship, with a wide array of advanced technical equipment and even a helicopter deck.
- ✓ It will act as an early-warning system on the high seas to detect and track hostile ballistic missiles, with even multiple manoeuvrable warheads, launched from land or submarines against Indian mainland targets
- ✓ This will add to the Indian Navy's capability to monitor the region from the Gulf of Aden to the routes to the South China Sea via Malacca, Sunda, Lombok, Ombai and Wetar straits.

## INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

- **India and the US - have signed an agreement for cooperation in the development of air-launched unmanned aerial vehicles (ALUAVs)**
- ✓ The pact could lead to joint manufacture of artificial intelligence-enabled drone swarms capable of being launched from aircraft to attack enemy's air defence systems.
- ✓ The two countries will work to co-develop the ALUAV prototype at an initial cost of \$11 million each under the overall framework of the bilateral defence technology and trade initiative (DTTI), launched in 2012.

- ✓ It is a long-term project signed between Ministry of Defense and the US Department of Defence, and will probably take three to four years to develop the ALUAV prototype
- ✓ The ALUAV will be carried like a bomb on an aircraft and will be launched from the air, instead of the ground-launched conventional UAV.
- ✓ According to the defence ministry, the Project Agreement for the ALUAV was signed under the joint working group for air systems under the DTTI on July 30.
- ✓ India and the US had earlier agreed on seven projects under the DTTI.
- ✓ In June 2016, the US had designated India as a “Major Defence Partner”.
- ✓ The two countries have also inked key defence and security pacts over the past few years
- ✓ The two sides have signed the Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA) in 2016 that allows their militaries to use each other’s bases for repair and replenishment of supplies.
- ✓ In the year 2018, the two countries have also signed COMCASA (Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement) that provides for interoperability between the two militaries and the sale of high-end technology from the US to India.
- ✓ In October 2020, India and the US inked the BECA (Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement) to share high-end military technology, logistics and geospatial maps between the two countries.

## SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **A team of researchers from the Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) and Indian Institute of Science (IISc) - has developed a new device to carry out biological experiments in outer space**
- ✓ The new modular, self-contained device is designed to cultivate microorganisms and assist in understanding how microbes behave in extreme environments.
- ✓ The new device can be used to activate and track the growth of a bacterium called ‘Sporosarcina pasteurii’ over several days, with minimal human involvement.
- ✓ The discovery could provide valuable insights for human space missions such as ‘Gaganyaan,’ India’s first crewed spacecraft set to be launched in 2022

## DEFENCE

- **The 28th edition of Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX) - was conducted from September 2 to 4 in the South China sea**
- ✓ Indian Navy and Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) warships took part in the exercise to commemorate ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’
- ✓ The Indian Navy was represented by Guided Missile Destroyer INS Ranvijay with a ship borne helicopter, ASW Corvette INS Kiltan and Guided Missile Corvette INS Kora and one P8I Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft.



- ✓ The Singapore Navy fielded RSS Steadfast, RSS Vigour, one Archer Class Submarine and one Fokker-50 Maritime Patrol Aircraft
- ✓ Four F-16 fighter aircraft of the Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF) also participated in the exercise during the Air Defence Drills.
- ✓ The two sides carried out live weapon firing and advanced naval warfare serials, including anti-submarine, anti-air and anti-ship warfare drills.
- ✓ Initiated in 1994, SIMBEX is the Indian Navy's longest uninterrupted bilateral maritime exercise with any foreign navy
- ✓ Owing to the ongoing pandemic-related constraints, this year's SIMBEX was planned without any physical interactions as an 'at-sea only' exercise hosted by the RSN in the southern part of the South China Sea
- ✓ Both navies have a representation in each other's Maritime Information Fusion Centres and have also recently signed an agreement on mutual submarine rescue support and coordination

## SPORTS

- **On September 4, India – bagged 2 gold, a silver and a bronze medal to take the country's medal tally to 17**
- ✓ This is the highest ever medal tally for the country, since the time India started competing at these Games in 1972.

MEDAL TALLY					
TOKYO 2020 PARALYMPIC GAMES					
	Country	G	S	B	T
1	CHN	93	57	50	<b>200</b>
2	GBR	41	38	43	<b>122</b>
3	RPC	36	32	49	<b>117</b>
4	USA	35	36	30	<b>101</b>
5	NED	25	17	16	<b>58</b>
6	UKR	24	47	27	<b>98</b>
7	BRA	22	19	30	<b>71</b>
8	AUS	20	28	30	<b>78</b>
9	ITA	14	29	26	<b>69</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>India</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>17</b>

- ✓ The 19-year-old Manish Narwal, competing in P4 Mixed 50m Pistol SH1 category, broke a Paralympic record to clinch a historic gold in his debut Games.
- ✓ Shooter Narwal shot a total of 218.2 for a Paralympic record after leading the final from the beginning.
- ✓ Narwal is a multiple-time gold medallist at the para shooting World Cups and Asian Games
- ✓ His senior compatriot Singhraj Adhana bagged the silver in the same event to make it a sensational one-two finish for the country.
- ✓ The 39-year-old Adhana, who competes with polio-impaired lower limbs, has joined the elite club of Indians with multiple medals in the same edition of the Paralympics.
- ✓ The para shooter had earlier secured a bronze in the P1 men's 10m air pistol SH1 category on August 31

India continued its victory march at the Tokyo Paralympics, winning 2 gold, a silver and a bronze on Saturday. With 4 gold, 7 silver and 6 bronze medals, India is placed 26th with a day left at the Games

**Tokyo Haul Higher** Than All Past Games Put Together  **17 medals** so far in Tokyo Paralympics  **12 medals** won by India since 1972 till 2016 Rio Paralympics 

<p><b>Manish Narwal</b> Shooter Narwal, competing in P4 Mixed 50m Pistol SH1 category, smashed a Paralympic record to clinch <b>gold in his debut Games</b>. The 19-year-old from Ballabgarh, with a congenital ailment in his right hand, has won gold at para shooting World Cups</p> 	<p><b>Pramod Bhagat</b> The world no. 1 para badminton player lived up to his seeding, beating Britain's Daniel Bethell in the men's singles SL3 class final to become the <b>first Indian to win a gold in the sport</b>. Bhagat, 33, from a farmers' family in a remote Odisha village of Attabira, was infected with polio at age 5. Also an Asian champ, he initially competed against able-bodied players before getting into para badminton in 2005 at the insistence of his father</p> 
<p><b>Singhraj Adhana</b> Narwal's compatriot Singhraj Adhana bagged <b>silver</b> to make it a <b>sensational one-two finish for India</b> in P4 Mixed 50m Pistol SH1 event. The 39-year-old with polio-impaired lower limbs, joins an elite club of Indians with multiple medals in the same Games. He bagged bronze in Men's 10m Pistol SH1</p> 	<p><b>Manoj Sarkar</b> The 31-year-old from Uttarakhand <b>bagged a bronze</b> after defeating Japan's Daisuke Fujihara in the third-place play-off in men's singles SL3 class badminton, <b>the event in which Bhagat won gold</b>. Sarkar had contracted polio during his teenage years and took up para badminton</p> 

**INDIA ASSURED OF AT LEAST 2 MORE**  
Two Indian shuttlers — Noida DM Suhas Yathiraj in men's singles SL4 and Krishna Nagar in the SH6 category — advanced to gold medal matches. Three other para shuttlers — Tarun Dhillon in men's singles SL4, Pramod Bhagat and Palak Kohli in mixed doubles SL3-SU5 category — will compete in bronze medal playoffs

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- ✓ The World No. 1 para badminton player Pramod Bhagat became the first Indian to win a gold in the sport in the men's singles SL3 class final
- ✓ One of the best para badminton players in the country, Bhagat has so far won 45 international medals, including four World Championship gold and a gold and bronze at the 2018 Asian Para Games.
- ✓ Bhagat is a native of Hajipur in Vaishali district but now settled at Bhubaneswar in Odisha.
- ✓ He is the second person from Bihar to get a medal in Paralympics after Sharad Kumar who won the bronze in men's high jump.

- ✓ Badminton has made its debut at the Paralympics this year.
- ✓ Another shuttler, Manoj Sarkar bagged bronze after beating Japan's Daisuke Fujihara in the third-place play-off in the men's singles SL3 class
- ✓ Meanwhile, Suhas Lalinakere Yathiraj, the district magistrate of Noida since last March made history after reaching the Paralympic badminton final in Tokyo.
- ✓ The 37-year-old Suhas, who will play for gold, is already assured of a silver.
- ✓ He will be the first civil servant from India to win a medal at the Paralympics.
- ✓ Currently, Suhas is ranked World No. 3.
- ✓ He played his first international match in Turkey in 2016, winning gold medal
- ✓ Suhas has served as DM of Prayagraj, Gorakhpur, Bulandshahar and Deoria.
- ✓ More recently, he was appointed principal secretary (medical, health and family welfare).
- ✓ A computer engineer, Suhas is a 2007-batch IAS officer of the UP cadre

## RANKINGS

- **India – ranked 14 in terms of administering total vaccine doses per 100 people and 17 in terms of the percentage of population fully vaccinated.**

**GLOBAL NUMBERS**

Country	Total vaccinations per 100	People vaccinated per 100	People fully vaccinated per 100	Total cases per million
China	143.2	74.3	61.6	66
UK	133.4	70.5	62.9	1,00,531
France	129.4	71.6	59.3	1,01,652
Italy	129	70.6	60.7	75,314
Germany	121.4	64.7	60.1	47,435
Turkey	110.7	56.8	43.6	75,400
US	110.1	61	51.8	1,18,337
Japan	103.9	57.4	46.4	11,991
Brazil	89.5	62.9	28.7	97,219
South Korea	85.4	57.1	30.7	4,978
Colombia	69	45.7	28.7	95,796
Mexico	65.2	44.4	26	25,869
Russia	55	30	25	46,868
<b>India</b>	<b>46.3</b>	<b>35.7</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>23,581</b>
Thailand	45.4	33.5	11.1	17,354
Indonesia	35.8	22.8	13	14,836
Iran	30.8	21.5	9.3	59,100
Philippines	30.4	NA	12.6	18,046
Pakistan	25.2	19.5	7.8	5,185
South Africa	20.9	15.7	10	46,421
Vietnam	20.3	17.7	2.7	4,824
Bangladesh	15.9	11.2	4.8	9,042
Myanmar	11.4	8.1	3.3	7,347
Egypt	8.4	5.4	3	2,769
Kenya	5	3.6	1.5	4,308
Ethiopia	2.1	2.1	NA	2,624
Nigeria	2	1.3	0.7	913
Tanzania	0.5	0.5	0.5	22
DRC Congo	0.1	0.1	0	597
<b>World</b>	<b>67.8</b>	<b>39.6</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27,737</b>

Source: ourworldindata.org. Data as of Sep 1, 2021.

- ✓ The global average is 68.4 doses per 100 people against 47.5 per 100 in India, the world's leading manufacturer of vaccines.
- ✓ The rankings have been done among the 29 countries with populations of over 50 million
- ✓ China and UK top the list along with several European countries but there are developing countries like Brazil, Colombia and Mexico which have also done better.
- ✓ India's rank among the 30 countries in terms of doses per 100 people has remained unchanged since mid-June.

