

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – OCTOBER 4, 2021

STATES

- On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, World's largest khadi national flag weighing 1,000 kg - was unveiled in Leh, the capital of Ladakh



- ✓ Lieutenant Governor R K Mathura unveiled a gigantic handwoven national flag on the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's 152nd birth anniversary
- ✓ The historic event was organised by the Fire and Fury Corps at Leh Garrison on a hill overlooking the Leh valley
- ✓ The tricolor, which is 225-feet long and 150-feet wide, stretches across 37,500 sq feet
- ✓ It has been prepared by the 57 Engineer Regiment of the Indian Army
- ✓ At least 150 troops of Indian Army's 57 Engineer regiment carried the flag to the top of a hill at over 2,000 feet above the ground level in Leh.
- ✓ It took two hours for the troops to reach the top.
- ✓ The flag has been handwoven by Mumbai-based Khadi Dyers and Printers affiliated to the Khadi Village and Industries Commission (KVIC).

- ✓ Army Chief General Manoj Mukund Naravane, who is on a two-day visit to Ladakh, was also present along with other army officials during the inauguration of the flag.

NATIONAL

- **The national rollout of Zydus Cadila's Covid-19 vaccine, ZyCoV-D, as part of the country's immunization programme - is expected by October 15-20**
- ✓ Different batches of Zy-CoV-D are currently undergoing a final round of quality checks at the country's apex vaccine testing laboratory in Himachal Pradesh.
- ✓ The three-dose needle-free ZyCoV-D vaccine is the first vaccine in the country that has received emergency use authorization (EUA) for being administered to people aged 12 years and above.
- ✓ The vaccine is based on the plasmid DNA technology and follows a three-dose regimen with a 28-day gap between each dose.
- ✓ Developed in partnership with the department of biotechnology, ZyCoV-D is a first-of-its-kind DNA vaccine that produces the spike protein of the SARS-CoV-2 to elicit an immune response.
- ✓ It is an intra-dermal vaccine (below the skin) that must be applied using a 'needle-free injector', which will help in reducing side effects.
- ✓ The countrywide advanced human trials of the vaccine concluded in July this year.
- **On October 3, the government – has launched the 'Kamdhenu Deepawali 2021' campaign that will facilitate manufacture and marketing of more than 100 crore cow-dung based earthen lamps and Laxmi-Ganesh idols**



- ✓ Former cabinet minister and former chairman of Rashtriya Kamdhenu Aayog, Vallabhbhai Kathiria, and Fisheries & Animal Husbandry Minister Parshottam Rupala launched the campaign during a webinar
- ✓ Kamdhenu Deepawali campaign is launched to empower cow owners with economic use of cow dung, cow urine and dairy products such as milks, curd and ghee

- ✓ Rashtriya Kamdhenu Aayog provided training to several cow dung based start-ups along with many volunteer organizations across India.
- ✓ Using the Panchgavya from cow, more than 300 items are made now, which includes Deepak, Lamps, Candles, Sambrani cup, Dhoopbatti, incense sticks, Hard board, Wall piece, Laxmi-Ganesh idols etc.,

INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS

- **In a first, India - has conducted a special training course for diplomats of six Indian Ocean Region (IOR) countries**
- ✓ Thirty-five diplomats from Madagascar, Comoros, Seychelles, Mauritius, Sri Lanka and Maldives participated in the two-week special course held at the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service, New Delhi
- ✓ The course covered modules on India's polity, foreign policy, contemporary maritime issues, humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, international framework under UNCLOS, multilateral and economic diplomacy, diplomatic protocol, health diplomacy and climate change challenges
- ✓ According to the government, this first-ever course will further promote mutual understanding and cooperation between IOR countries

SPORTS

- **Hyderabad-based Indian shooter Dhanush Srikanth - created history by clinching the 10m air rifle men's team gold at the ISSF Junior World Championships in Lima, Peru, on October 2**



- ✓ Dhanush became the first Indian and perhaps the only shooter with hearing and speech impairment in the world to win a gold medal in the ISSF Worlds.
- ✓ Dhanush, along with Paarth Makhija and Rajpreet Singh, defeated a strong team from USA that included Tokyo Olympics gold medallist William Shaner, besides William Kissell and John Blanton.
- ✓ The Indian trio topped the second qualification round with a total score of 624.5, while the Americans shot 622.5 to qualify for the gold-medal match.
- ✓ Earlier, Dhanush bagged gold in the 10m air rifle mixed team event at the Asian Championships in 2019

- ✓ Meanwhile, India continued to win gold as Manu Bhaker scored a hat-trick by clinching her third gold on October 2.
- ✓ Manu, who had won gold in 10m air pistol individual and mixed team events, won her third through the 10m air pistol women's team event along with Rhythm Sangwan and Shikha Narwal.
- ✓ With six gold, six silver and two bronze, India now top the medals tally.
- ✓ USA are second with four gold, four silver and two bronze.
- ✓ Chinese shooters are not participating in the event.
- ✓ In the women's 10m air rifle team gold-medal match, India's Nisha Kanwar, Zeena Khitta and Atmika Gupta lost to Hungary's Eszter Meszaros, Eszter Denes and Lea Horvath, to settle for the silver medal.

NATIONAL DAY/WEEK

- **The 67th National Wildlife Week 2021 - is celebrated from 2nd October to 8th October**



- ✓ Theme 2021 - Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet
- ✓ The Wildlife week is observed every year to raise awareness on protecting and preserving the flora and fauna of the country
- ✓ The Indian Board of Wildlife was constituted and the idea of Wildlife Week was conceptualised in 1952
- ✓ Initially, in 1955 the first Wildlife day was celebrated which was later upgraded as the Wildlife Week in 1957.
- ✓ India is home to more than 7% of world's biodiversity, while accounting for 7.4% of the world's fauna.

