

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – OCTOBER 8, 2021

TAMIL NADU

- Tamil Nadu - has earned GI tag for five products — Kanyakumari clove, Thanjavur Netti works, Karuppur Kalamkari paintings and wood carvings of Arumbavur and Kallakurichi.



- ✓ The Geographical Indications (GI) tags were issued by the Chennai registry for 51 new products this year, which includes a German beer (Muncener Bier), Italian veined blue cheese (gorgonzola), a plant resin (Chios Mastiha) from Greece and a variety of seed cone (zatecky chmel) from Czech Republic
- ✓ Four western countries had filed applications with the Chennai office for the prestigious GI tag for 12 products.
- ✓ With this list, 421 products ranging from handicraft to agriculture have been given GI tag in India.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu and Karnataka share the top rank with 43 GI products for each state.
- ✓ P. Sanjai Gandhi, GI attorney and designated nodal officer for Tamil Nadu Handicrafts Development Corporation, has obtained GI tags for 25 products so far.
- ✓ In the latest list, out of five, four applications were filed by Sanjai Gandhi.

- ✓ Tamil Nadu has filed at least a dozen more applications, which are still pending, including products like Salem mango, Madurai marikozhundu, Myladi (Kanyakumari) statue and Manapparai murukku.
- ✓ For Thanjavur Netti Works and Arumbavur Wood Carvings, the GI tag application was submitted by the Tamil Nadu Handicrafts Development Corporation (Poompuhar), Government of Tamil Nadu in 2013.
- ✓ Thanjavur Netti Works (Thanjavur Pith Work) is crafted from Netti (pith), a marshy plant known as Aeschynomene Aspera.
- ✓ Netti Works are visible in the Brihadeeswara Temple, garlands, idols of Hindu deities, door hangings and decorative items
- ✓ Netti works are produced in Thanjavur, Kumbakonam and Pudukkottai.
- ✓ The Arumbavur wood carvings made by the artisans of Perambalur are mainly made out of wooden logs of lingam tree, mango, Indian ash tree, neem and rosewood tree.
- ✓ The wood supply comes from the Pachamalai Hills along the Trichy - Perambalur boundary and the Thanjavur - Kumbakonam zone.
- ✓ The main feature of Arumbavur work is that the whole object is carved out of a single block of wood due to the reason that even one mistake can damage the whole work.
- ✓ In the latest list, nine products, including Banaras hand block print, Mirzapur Pital Bartan and Manu Saree are from Uttar Pradesh.
- ✓ The hill-state of Uttarakhand has six products, including Kumaon Chyura Oil, Ringal craft and Thulma, to its credit.
- ✓ Kerala's Kuttiaattoor Mango and Edayur chilli are in the list along with Tamenglong orange and Hathei chilli of Manipur.
- ✓ Himachal Pradesh has got GI tag for Lahauli Knitted Socks and Gloves and Chamba chappal.
- ✓ Telia Rumal of Telangana, Sojar Mehndi of Rajasthan, Manjusha Art of Bihar, Sohrai-Khoovar painting of Jharkhand, Mizo Ginger of Mizoram, Dalle Khursani of Sikkim, Naga Cucumber of Nagaland, Harmal Chilli of Goa, Judima and Joha Rice of Assam and Pithora of Gujarat are the other products that are granted the GI tag.
- ✓ The Geographical Indication (GI) tag is given to the products exclusive to a specific geographical area in the country in order to prevent the misuse of their popularity of the products by other persons.

NATIONAL

- **The Ministry of Affairs - will start granting fresh tourist visas in phased manner to foreigners coming to India via chartered flights from October 15 onwards**
- ✓ The facility will be extended to foreigners coming in flights other than chartered ones from November 15, 2021.

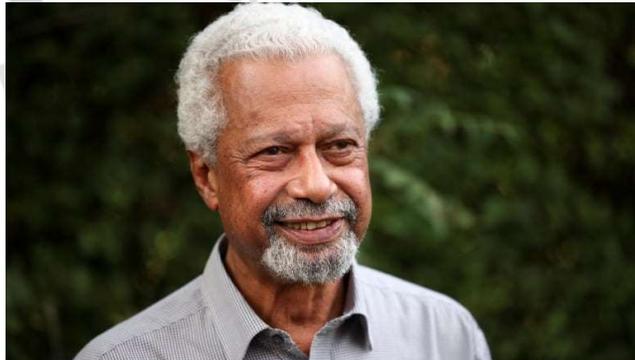
- ✓ Once the demand picks up and commercial flights also start operating, tourist visas will be issued for those entering India by commercial flights.
- ✓ All due protocols and norms relating to Covid-19, as notified by the ministry of health & family welfare from time to time, shall be adhered to by the foreign tourists, carriers bringing them into India and all other stakeholders at landing stations.

HIGH COURT VERDICT

- **On October 7, the Madras high court - directed the state government to remove all statues of leaders installed on roads and other public places within six months and create a 'Leaders Park' to relocate them.**
- ✓ Justice S M Subramaniam ordered the government not to give permission henceforth for putting up structures or statues in highways, public places, and poramboke land parcels
- ✓ The court also ordered the government to create 'leaders' park' at several places across the state.
- ✓ Only statues erected with proper permission must be relocated and maintained at the park and the cost of maintaining the statues must be recovered from those who had erected them, the court said.

AWARDS

- **UK-based Tanzanian writer Abdulrazak Gurnah – was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature on October 7**



- ✓ The Swedish Academy said the award was in recognition of his "uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism."
- ✓ Gurnah, whose native language is Swahili, writes in English and recently retired as a professor of postcolonial literatures at the University of Kent
- ✓ Born in 1948 on the island of Zanzibar, now part of Tanzania, Gurnah moved to Britain as a teenage refugee in 1968.
- ✓ Gurnah is the author of 10 novels, including "Memory of Departure", "Pilgrims Way", "Paradise" — shortlisted for the Booker Prize in 1994 — "By the Sea", "Desertion" and "Afterlives".
- ✓ Gurnah is only the sixth Africa-born author to be awarded the Nobel for literature.

- ✓ Gurnah is the first African writer to win the award since the Zimbabwean Doris Lessing in 2007, and only the second writer of colour from sub-Saharan Africa, after Nigeria's Wole Soyinka, who won in 1986.
- ✓ Last year's prize went to American poet and professor of English at Yale University, Louise Glück for what the judges described as her "unmistakable poetic voice that with austere beauty makes individual existence universal."
- ✓ The prestigious award comes with a gold medal and 10 million Swedish kronor (1.14 million US dollars).
- ✓ The prize money comes from a bequest left by the prize's creator, Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel, who died in 1895.
- ✓ Gurnah's was the second literature Nobel in a row, and the fourth of the last six, to go to a writer in English, an unusually long stretch for the prize to be dominated by a single language.
- ✓ The Nobel Prizes, which have been awarded since 1901, recognise achievement in literature, science, peace and latterly economics.
- ✓ The Academy has recognised 117 people for their literary creations, so far, of which 16 are women.

SPORTS

- **India's Anshu Malik - became the first Indian woman to win silver in World Championships on October 7**



- ✓ Anshu has to settle for a silver medal after losing her 57kg final to 2016 Olympic champion and two-time world champion, Helen Lousie Marouli at the World wrestling championships in Oslo, Norway
- ✓ Maroulis, the Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist (57kg), finished off the contest with a 'victory by fall' (VFO) by pinning Anshu to the mat with both her shoulders fixed on the mat.
- ✓ Anshu, the reigning Asian Champion, became the only fifth Indian woman to win the worlds' medal and so far the best one.
- ✓ Till now, Geeta Phogat (2012), Babita Phogat (2012), Pooja Dhanda (2018) and Vinesh Phogat (2019) have won a bronze each.

- ✓ Overall, Anshu became the sixth Indian to fight for gold at the world championships.
- ✓ Sushil Kumar was the lone gold medal winner (2010), while Bishambar Singh (1967), Amit Dahiya (2013), Bajrang Punia (2018) and Deepak Punia (2019) had to settle for silver.
- ✓ In the bronze medal playoff match in the women's 59kg division, reigning Asian champion Sarita Mor defeated Sweden's Sara Johanna Lindborg 8-2 on points

RANKINGS

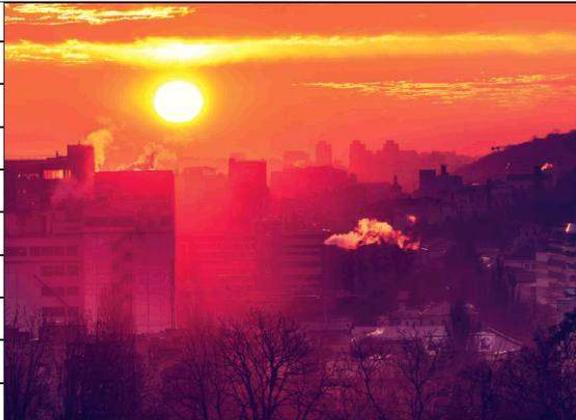
- **India - contributed to more than half of the global increase in urban heat exposure since the 1980s, according to a study published this week.**

TOP 10 CITIES ON THE HEAT INDEX

These cities saw the greatest annual increase in population exposed to extreme heat between 1983-2016. Extreme heat was defined as a wet bulb temperature of 30

degrees centigrade. Wet bulb temperatures take humidity into account. The increase was due to expanding urban population as well as rising temperatures.

1. Dhaka
2. **Delhi**
3. **Kolkata**
4. Bangkok
5. **Mumbai**
6. Karachi
7. **Chennai**
8. Dubai
9. **Lahore**
10. Manila



- ✓ The trend, concentrated in south Asia, the Middle East, and parts of Africa, was caused by urban population growth as well as rising temperatures, as per the study.
- ✓ Globally, urban exposure to extreme heat and humidity saw a threefold increase from 40 billion 'person-days' in 1983 to 119 billion 'person-days' in 2016
- ✓ 'Person-days' refers to the number of extreme heat days in a year multiplied by the exposed population
- ✓ This was revealed in an analysis of high-resolution data for 13,115 cities around the world in a study led by scientists from the University of California.
- ✓ India contributed to 52% of the increase, with four cities — New Delhi (2), Kolkata (3), Mumbai (5), and Chennai (7) — in the top 10, while Bangladesh capital, Dhaka topped the list.

- ✓ Two-thirds of the overall increase in heat exposure was due to increased urban population while a third was due to rising temperatures.
- ✓ In India, population growth was the main cause of the trend in New Delhi, while temperature increase was a bigger factor in Kolkata.

