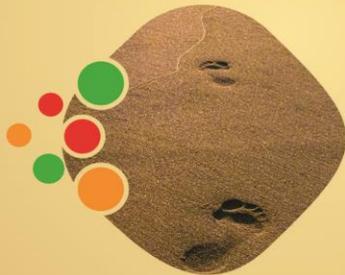


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(Compilation of Current Events)



TAMIL NADU



STATES



NATIONAL



INDIA & THE WORLD



INTERNATIONAL



SCHEMES



DEFENCE



SCIENCE &  
TECHNOLOGY



EVS



ECONOMY



COURT VERDICTS



CONFERENCES &  
SUMMITS



AWARDS



PERSONALITIES



BOOKS & AUTHORS



SPORTS



RANKS & REPORTS



DAYS



OBITUARY



NEWS OF THE MONTH



KNOWLEDGE



APPOINTMENTS



COMMITTEES



APPS / PORTALS



MISCELLANEOUS

**CURRENT AFFAIRS – JUNE (1 - 30), 2021**

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# TAMIL NADU

## ➤ **Child Rights and You (CRY)**

- ✓ Child Rights and You (CRY), a non-governmental organisation, published a report recently saying that child marriages had increased by 40% in 10 blocks and 72 tribal villages in Salem, Dharmapuri, Ramanathapuram and Dindigul districts.
- ✓ During May 2020, 98 child marriage cases were reported in these districts, as against 60 cases reported during the corresponding period in 2019.

## ➤ **Tamil Nadu Government - has decided to grant 'All Pass'**

- ✓ According to RTE Act, no child shall be held back in any class or expelled from school till the completion of elementary education. Based on the act, all students studying in all types of schools should be declared pass.

## ➤ **Genome Sequencing**

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu public health laboratory - to set up a genome sequencing lab for the state by the end of June.

## ➤ **The 98th birth anniversary of former chief minister, M Karunanidhi**

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government - made **six announcements** related to literature, health care infrastructure and agriculture to mark the 98th birth anniversary of **former chief minister, M Karunanidhi**
- ✓ The government announced '**Ilakkiya Mamani**' awards for three Tamil writers every year.
- ✓ The award will carry a cash prize of ₹5 lakh and a citation
- ✓ **A Kalaingar Memorial Library**, spread across 2 lakh square feet, will also be constructed in Madurai at a cost of ₹70 crore
- ✓ Earlier, the CM had ordered **the 'free ride' scheme** for women on his first day as chief minister on May.

## ➤ **Tamil Nadu - has risen to second rank in NITI Aayog's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Index for 2020-21 from the third position during 2019-20.**

- ✓ As per the report released on June 3, overall, Tamil Nadu had a score of 74 and was behind Kerala which retained the first rank with a score of 75.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu, which topped the country in '**no poverty**' and '**affordable and clean energy**', was placed second in '**goal of industry, innovation and infrastructure**'.

- ✓ The state ranked third in 'good health and well-being' and was among the five states that are close to achieving the target in institutional deliveries with a value of 99.9%.
  - ✓ It was also the fifth best performing state in 'quality education' and 'decent work and economic growth' and fourth in gender equality.
- **14-member task force chaired under IAS officer R Poornalingam**
- ✓ The expert committee headed by CM MK Stalin for management of Covid-19 activities
  - ✓ The committee will have an advisory role and will conduct meetings periodically.
- **A nine-year-old lioness - died of suspected coronavirus infection on June at the Arignar Anna Zoological Park (AAZP) in Vandalur near Chennai.**
- **Justice A K Rajan- Impact of NEET**
- ✓ On June , Chief minister M K Stalin - formed a committee headed by retired HC judge Justice A K Rajan to study the impact of NEET on medical admissions
- **The Hindu religious and charitable endowments (HR&CE) department - has tied up with ELCOT to digitize and store property documents of temples under its control**
- ✓ The HR&CE is doing the work with the help of Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency.
  - ✓ The digitised documents would be stored in the Elcot facility at Perungudi in Chennai, Tamil Nadu Disaster Recovery Centre in Trichy and National Informatics Centre in Pune.
- **Tamil nadu -State Development Policy Council (SDPC)**
- ✓ **Chairman** -Thiru M.K. Stalin Hon'ble chief Minister
  - ✓ **Vice** - Chairman Dr. J. Jeyaranjan
  - ✓ **Full Time Member** - Prof. Srinivasan

Name	Sector
M Vijayabaskar	Professor, Madras Institute of Development Studies
K Deenabandu	Retired IAS officer
Dr Sultan Ahmed Ismail	Director Ecoscience Research Foundation and former Head of Department of Biotechnology, New College, Chennai
Dr G Sivaraman	Siddha physician
NarthakiNataraj	Bharatanatyam dancer

MallikaSrinivasan	Managing Director of Tractors and Farm Equipment Limited
Dr. T.R.B. Rajaa	MLA
Dr. J. Amalorpavanathan	Retired Doctor

➤ **Tamil Nadu - has been ranked 3rd in the Performance Grading Index (PGI) report released by the Union ministry of education on June.**

➤ **Citizen's Corner**

✓ The Tamil Nadu Disaster Management Authority (TNDMA) - has launched a 24X7 helpline (a WhatsApp number) to allow the public to report the actual situation and problems in their locality during natural disasters.

➤ **The seventh phase of excavation - was resumed in Keeladi and surrounding villages on June.**

✓ In the seventh phase, burial urns with skeletons, a cubical terracotta dice, terracotta pots, and black red earthenware were discovered along with a gold ornament in April 2021.

➤ **Tamil Nadu government - announced the members of a nine-member panel headed by retired Madras high court judge Justice A K Rajan to study the impact of NEET on admissions to medical colleges.**

➤ **Tamil Nadu - has a gross enrolment ratio (GER) of 51.4% in higher education, almost double the national average of 27.1%**

✓ This was revealed in the All-India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) for 2019- 20 released on June 10

✓ Also, Tamil Nadu's GER exceeds the National Education Policy's target of 50% to be achieved in the year 2030.

➤ **Ten-member panel to decide on the evaluation criteria**

Name	Sector
1. Kakarla Usha	School Education Secretary.
2. D Karthikeyan	Higher education secretary.
3. K Nanthakumar	School education commissioner.
4. Mr.S Gowri	Madras University vice-chancellor.
5. C Usharani	Director of government examinations.
6. N Latha	Director- SCERT (State Council for Education Research and Training).

7. S Karupasamy	Director of matriculation schools.
8. A Stella Amalorpava Mary	Headmaster- Tirupur. (Govt school)
9. U Ganesan	Headmaster-Tirunelveli.(Govt-aided)
10. H James Sathyaraj	Headmaster- Chennai.(private)

- **Chief minister M K Stalin - announced a commission headed by former chief justice of the Delhi high court Justice, D Murugesan**
  - ✓ The panel will study the poor enrolment of government school students in professional courses like engineering, agriculture, veterinary, fisheries and law.
  - ✓ Earlier, the state government introduced 7.5% special reservation for government school students in medical admissions last year.
  - ✓ The commission will study the social and economic background of government school students to identify the obstacles faced by them
  - ✓ It will recommend remedial measures if the enrolment of government school students is considerably poor in the professional courses.
  - ✓ The commission is to submit its report to the government within a month
- **Centre allocates Rs 3,691 Crore to TamilNadu under Jal Jeevan Mission**
  - ✓ The Centre has also released the first instalment of ₹614.3 crore to Tamil Nadu.
  - ✓ The mission, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2019, aims at providing tap water to every household in the country by 2024.
  - ✓ As of now, in Tamil Nadu, 88.8 lakh households are to be given tap water connections before the scheduled target.
  - ✓ The target set for 2020-21 was only 16.1 lakh tap water connections-78
- **Jal Jeevan Mission was launched in 2019**
  - ✓ Tamil Nadu had 21.6 lakh rural households with tap water connection.
  - ✓ The state government has been asked by the centre to focus on 18 districts this year, where more than 70% of the rural households have no tap water connections.
  - ✓ They are Salem, Virudhunagar, Tiruvannamalai, Cuddalore, Tiruvallur, Krishnagiri, Villupuram, Madurai, Sivaganga, Nagapattinam, Tuticorin, Pudukkottai, Dharmapuri, Tirupur, Kallakurichi, Thanjavur, Ramanathapuram and Erode.
  - ✓ The Nilgiris is one of the 15 districts where more than 75% households do not have tap water connection.
  - ✓ Tamil Nadu has an assured availability of ₹4,068.7 crore Central grant, including ₹3,691.2 crore of Central allocation and ₹377.5 crore unspent balance left at the end of the last financial year.

- ✓ The corresponding state's matching share for this year is ₹4,359.5 crore, including shortfall of ₹290.8 crore during last fiscal.
  - ✓ The total assured fund availability for the implementation of the Mission in the state for this year is ₹8,428.2 crore.
- **'ChediPutta'-GI Tag**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu - has applied for the Geographical Indications (GI) tag to the famous 'ChediPutta' handloom sari, done on artificial silk and cotton mix fabric
  - ✓ "Chedi" means "plant" in Tamil and "Putta" means border and pallu (edge of the saree)
  - ✓ **ChediPutta** is a traditional handloom sari weaved in Veeravanallur and the neighboring towns like Pudukkudi, Karukurichi and Vellanguli in Ambasamudramtaluk of Tirunelveli district.
  - ✓ Tamil Nadu has so far obtained GI tag for about 40 handicraft and agricultural products.
  - ✓ Some of the important products that now enjoy the GI tag are **Kancheepuram Silk, ThanjavurVeenai, Srivilliputtur milk gova, Dindigul lock, Madurai Chungudi sari, Salem white silk veshti.**
  - ✓ India has about 320 GI products, with Karnataka topping the list with about 50 products.
- **CM's first visit to Delhi**
- ✓ The CM presented a memorandum to the PM containing 25 demands for Tamil Nadu in various sectors
  - ✓ Water Resources Minister DuraiMurugan, DMK Parliamentary party leader T R Baalu and Chief Secretary V IraiAnbu were present on the occasion.
  - ✓ The key issues raised during the meeting include the withdrawal of Chennai- **Salem greenfield expressway project**, scrapping NEET and similar entrance exams, early commencement of vaccine production at the **HLL Biotech Chengalpattu complex and Pasteur Institute in Coonoor.**
- **CM announces scheme for delta farmers**
- ✓ The package is being announced by the State government after a gap of three years.
  - ✓ The scheme, to be implemented at a cost of `61.09 crore, is expected to benefit over 2.07 lakh farmers in the region.
  - ✓ It aims to provide input and equipment subsidies to farmers involved in the cultivation of kuruvai in the Cauvery delta region, according to an official release.

- ✓ While an amount of `50 crore has been earmarked for providing farm equipment to farmers on subsidies, another `11.09 crore would be spent for effective use of water, such as farm ponds.
- ✓ The scheme will be completely implemented in **Thanjavur, Nagapattinam, Mayiladuthurai, Tiruvarur districts completely and partly in Cuddalore, Ariyalur and Tiruchi districts.**
- ✓ Usually, kuruvasi cultivation is undertaken in about 3.2 lakh acre in the delta districts.
- ✓ Instructions have been given to the Agriculture Department to ensure sufficient supply of paddy seeds, artificial and biofertilizers, other inputs and equipment

➤ **Highlights of the Governor's address**

- ✓ The Governor addressed the Government of India as the 'Union' and never as the 'Centre', reflecting the stand of the government on 'federalism'
- ✓ **Singara Chennai 2.0** would be launched to create modern technology-based infrastructure in the state capital.
- ✓ Satellite towns will be developed in suburban areas with modern amenities to decongest large cities in the state.
- ✓ **Right to Services Act** would be enacted to streamline the delivery of various public services by government agencies
- ✓ **Lokayukta** would be revitalised to deal with complaints against public authorities including elected representatives and government officials.
- ✓ State would **promote industrially-backward northern districts, Chennai Kanyakumari Industrial Corridor and Chennai-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor**
- ✓ **UzhavarSandhais** (farmers' markets) established by former Chief Minister **M. Karunanidhi** would be revitalised, and more such markets would be created.
- ✓ The government would pass a legislation scrapping the medical entrance test once **Justice A K Rajan** committee's recommendations are in place.
- ✓ **Mass Rapid Transit System (MRTS)** for Madurai, Tiruchy, Salem and Tirunelveli

➤ **TN Economic Advisory Council - consist of**

- ✓ Nobel laureate **Prof Esther Duflo,**
- ✓ Former RBI Governor **RaghuramRajan,**
- ✓ Former chief economic advisor to the Union government **Arvind Subramanian,**
- ✓ Development economist **Prof Jean Dreze of Delhi School of Economics** and former Union finance **secretary S Narayan**

- **Kattur in Tiruvarur**
  - ✓ First village in Tamil Nadu to achieve 100% vaccination (at least 1 dose) for all eligible adults
  - ✓ Earlier this month, Weyan, a remote village in Bandipora district in Jammu and Kashmir, had become **the first village in the country to vaccinate all its adult population against Covid-19.**
  
- **Tamil Nadu assembly - adopted three Amendment bills and adjourned the House sine die**
  - ✓ The **TN Fiscal Responsibility Act 2003** was amended to extend the time limit to eliminate revenue deficit and reduce fiscal deficit to 3% of Gross State Domestic Product (GDP) by 31 March 2024
  - ✓ This legislation is amended based on the recommendations of the 15th Finance Commission.
  
- **'ISAC-2020 - Indian Smart Cities Award Contest'**
  - ✓ Greater Chennai Corporation - won two awards at the Smart Cities Mission's sixth anniversary award contest 'ISAC-2020 - Indian Smart Cities Award Contest'
  
- **M K Stalin - announced a cash reward of ₹3 crore for sportspersons from Tamil Nadu who win gold medal at the upcoming Tokyo Olympics.**
  - ✓ For sportspersons taking part at international events, ₹25 lakh was being given by the Government
  - ✓ The 2020 Summer Olympics is scheduled to be held from July 23 to August 8, 2021 in Japan after it was postponed last year due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
  - ✓ NethraKumanan, VarunThakkar and K C Ganapathy (sailing), G Sathiyam and A Sharath Kamal (table tennis), C ABhavani Devi (fencing) and paralympian T Mariappan have qualified for the quadrennial games from Tamil Nadu.
  
- **Sero Survey**
  - ✓ The Tamil Nadu government - has initiated the **third sero survey** on June
  - ✓ The sero survey will determine the percentage of population that has been exposed to Covid-19 and has developed immunity towards coronavirus.
  - ✓ This survey will provide an estimate of those who developed antibodies from vaccination and those who were infected in the second wave
  - ✓ Around 25,000 samples from across the state's 38 districts will be collected as part of the survey
  - ✓ The second **sero survey** was completed in April, 2021.

- **Tamil Nadu Dr MGR Medical University - to soon get a whole Genome Sequencing lab to track mutation of SARSCoV-2, the virus Covid-19.**
  - ✓ The Directorate of Public Health had proposed to set up a whole genome sequencing lab to monitor the mutations undergone by the virus.
- **Minorities commission-chairman**
  - ✓ Senior Congress leader **S Peter Alphonsehad been appointed as chairman of state Minorities Commision**
- **C SylendraBabu - has been appointed as the Tamil Nadu Director General of Police (DGP) and Head of police force on June**
- **KudankulamNpp - Units 5 and 6<sup>th</sup>**
  - ✓ The construction of the 2,000 megawatt (2 X 1000) units 5 and 6 at Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP) - commenced with the 'first pour of concrete'.
- **Fifteen burial urns - have been unearthed from two adjacent clusters at Sivagalai in Tuticorin district**
  - ✓ The state archaeology department is undertaking the second phase of excavations at Sivagalai.
  - ✓ Sivagalai was suspected to be the burial site of a Sivagalai cluster, just like **Konthagai in Keeladi cluster.**
  - ✓ The ASI had given its approval to excavate six places in the cluster.
  - ✓ The second phase of excavation was being carried out at Sivagalai at a cost of ₹34 lakh.
  - ✓ So far 40 burial urns, ranging between two to four feet in height, had been found.
- **Thenpennai - Palaru river link Project : Minister, Duraimurugan**
  - ✓ The Thenpennai - Palaru river Link project will be launched soon. When the project is completed, the water the water flow in palaru river will be continuous for 3 months.
- **Police launch 'Operation Wind' against illicit liquor sale**
  - ✓ The Prohibition and Enforcement Wing (PEW) officials are conducting intensive operations against those involved in the preparation and sale of illicit liquor. PEW has launched a special drive "Operation Wind" from June 8.

- **50.79 ha of Kallar corridor declared a private forest**
  - ✓ In a step towards the protection of one of the most critical elephant corridors in Tamil Nadu, the Coimbatore District Collector has declared 50.79 hectares of private land in the Kallar elephant corridor area as private forest under the Tamil Nadu Preservation of Private Forests
- **TN CM announces relief measures for COVID-19 orphaned children**
  - ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin announced 5 lakh assistance to children whose both the parents died due to Covid-19.
- **ADB- India sign 3,548-cr loan for Tamil Nadu industrial corridor**
  - ✓ The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the central government signed a \$484 million loan in order to improve the transport connectivity and facilitate the industrial development in Chennai-Kanyakumari Industrial Corridor or CKIC in Tamil Nadu.
- **Tamil Nadu to present separate Budget for agriculture.**
  - ✓ The Tamil Nadu government will introduce a separate annual Budget for agriculture with the objective of increasing agricultural productivity and protecting farmers' welfare, Governor Banwarilal Purohit announced.
- **Revenue, fiscal deficits understated in 2018-19: CAG**
  - ✓ Tamil Nadu's revenue deficit of ₹23,459.44 crore during 2018-19 was understated by ₹3,757.23 crore and fiscal deficit by ₹1,300.49 crore primarily owing to short transfers totalling ₹1,366 crore towards various reserve funds, such as sinking fund and guarantee redemption fund, according to the Comptroller and Auditor-General's report on State finances for the year ended March 2019. There were also book adjustments of interest receipts to the tune of ₹2,461.48 crore.
- **Minnagam',- Tangedco launches dedicated helpline**
  - ✓ The Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation (Tangedco) has launched 'Minnagam', a service call centre to register various electricity complaints by the consumers

# STATES

- **“One Nation, One MSP, One DBT”**
  - ✓ Punjab and Haryana - have become the last two states in the country to implement direct cash transfer of the minimum support price (MSP) under the “One Nation, One MSP, One DBT” scheme of the government.
- **‘Smart Kitchen Project’**
  - ✓ The project would be implemented through the Kerala State Financial Enterprises (KSFE), a state-run chit fund and lending firm.
  - ✓ Chief Minister of Kerala, Pinarayi Vijayan announced a secretary level committee to formulate guidelines and recommendations on implementation of the project
  - ✓ Under the scheme, KSFE would give **soft loans to women** for purchasing household gadgets or equipment.
- **WEYAN-100% inoculation- first village in the country**
  - ✓ **Weyan village of Bandipora** district in Jammu & Kashmir - has become the first village in the country to record 100% inoculation of all people over 18 years for Covid-19
- **New National parks- ASSAM**
  - ✓ The two new national parks in Assam are **Dihing Patkai and Raimona**. Assam already has **five national parks** – Kaziranga, Manas, Dibru-Saikhowa, Nameri and Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park.
  - ✓ Among them, Kaziranga & Manas are **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**, while Kaziranga, Manas, Nameri and Orang are tiger reserves.
  - ✓ With this, Assam will have the third highest numbers of national parks in the country after Madhya Pradesh (12) and Andaman and Nicobar Islands (9)
- **Goa - has become the first state in the country to be free of Rabies**
  - ✓ The state has not reported a single rabies case in last three years, as per Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant.

# NATIONAL

- **“AmbiTAG”**
  - ✓ AmbiTAG” is India’s first indigenous temperature data logger developed for cold chain management by IIT-Ropar.
  - ✓ Shaped like a USB device, AmbiTag continuously records the temperature of its immediate surroundings “from -40 to +80 degrees in any time zone for a full 90 days
  
- **Model Tenancy Act (MTA)**
  - ✓ The Union Cabinet, chaired by the PM Narendra Modi - approved the Model Tenancy Act (MTA) which aims to protect the interests of both tenants and landlords.
  
- **Haffkine Biopharma**
  - ✓ Haffkine Biopharma, a Maharashtra-based PSU - to manufacture Covaxin under technology transfer arrangement with Bharat Biotech Limited.
  
- **SDG - 2030 Niti Aayog**
  - ✓ The SDG India Index was first launched in December 2018
  - ✓ It has become the primary tool for monitoring progress on the Sustainable Development Goals in the country
  - ✓ The index was developed in collaboration with the United Nations and India
  - ✓ It measures the progress at the national and sub-national level in the country's journey towards meeting the global goals and targets
  - ✓ **The first edition of the Index has covered 13 goals, 39 targets, and 62 indicators in 2018-19**
  - ✓ **The second edition of the Index has covered 17 goals, 54 targets and 100 indicators in the year 2019-20**
  - ✓ **The third edition of the index covers 17 goals, 70 targets, and 115 indicators.**
  - ✓ In 2015, all members of the United Nations adopted the 2030 agenda for sustainable development, consisting of 17 SDGs and a further 169 targets to be achieved by 2030
  
- **National Judicial Infrastructure Corporation (NJIC)**
  - ✓ Chief Justice of India N V Ramana - has unveiled an ambitious plan to set up a National Judicial Infrastructure Corporation (NJIC) to build modern and self-sufficient judicial infrastructure across India.

- ✓ Justice Ramana's plan envisages that the NJIC will be managed by a CJ-led committee comprising SC judges who would become CJs in future.
  - ✓ The NJIC managing committee will also include finance secretaries to the Union/state governments and HC CJs having long tenures.
- **Ethanol - blended petrol**
- ✓ India - has advanced the target date for achieving 20% ethanol-blending in petrol by five years to 2025 from 2030
  - ✓ This was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on June 5, after the release of 'ethanol blending road map 2020-25' on the occasion of World Environment Day.
- **Ayush Clinical Case Repository (ACCR) portal**
- ✓ Kiren Rijju - launched the Ayush Clinical Case Repository (ACCR) portal, and the third version of Ayush Sanjivani mobile app in a virtual event recently.
  - ✓ The Ayush Clinical Repository (ACCR) portal (<https://accr.ayush.gov.in/>) will serve as a platform to support both Ayush practitioners and general public.
- **SEHAT**
- ✓ Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh - has launched 'Services e-Health Assistance & Tele-consultation (SeHAT) OPD Portal' recently.
- **Central Bank of India and Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)**
- ✓ The cabinet recently approved the sale of government stake in IDBI Bank
  - ✓ The government is hoping to conclude the sale of IDBI Bank stake during the current financial year
  - ✓ Among the dozen state-run lenders, NITI Aayog is targeting Bank of Maharashtra, Punjab & Sind Bank, UCO Bank, Bank of India, IOB and Central Bank of India for strategic disinvestment
  - ✓ Based on the current share price, the two entities are together valued at around ₹44,000 crore with IOB's market cap estimated at ₹31,641 crore.
- **Nano Urea**
- ✓ Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) - will launch Nitrogen fertilizer-based Nano Urea in market in June 2021
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi - announced extension of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) till Diwali this year 2021.**

- ✓ The extension entitles each beneficiary to 5kg of free foodgrain every month, bringing relief to the nearly 80 crore poor
  - ✓ This is in addition to the monthly 5kg highly subsidised foodgrain they get under the National Food Security Act (NFSA).
- **Live - streaming of High court and Trial court**
- ✓ The Union government - published draft rules framed by the Supreme Court e-Committee for live-streaming of proceedings in all high courts and trial courts.
  - ✓ Recently, CJI N V Ramana had said he was actively considering live telecast of SC proceedings.
  - ✓ The e-Committee laid down detailed procedures for live streaming from each district court complex with a time lag of 10 minutes
  - ✓ This time lag was basically to give judges control over eliminating untoward incidents from reaching people
- **Inching Closer to Reality**
- ✓ The **Supreme Court e - committee** headed by **Justice DY Chandrachud** framed draft rules for live streaming of proceedings in all high courts and trial courts.
  - ✓ The Centre has now sought responses from stakeholders and the general public
  - ✓ No one other than the court will be able to **live stream** the proceedings, or record it.
  - ✓ Violators will be punishable under the contempt of court law, besides copyright and information Technology Laws.
  - ✓ There will be no live telecast for matrimonial matters and cases involving sexual offences, including POCSO Act cases, among others.
  - ✓ Chief Justices of HCs can allow or deny live streaming of any case.
- **YUVA - PM Scheme**
- ✓ The Ministry of Education - has recently launched "YUVA- Prime Minister's Scheme for Mentoring Young Authors"
  - ✓ YUVA stands for "Young, Upcoming and Versatile Authors"
  - ✓ The scheme will be implemented by "National Book Trust of India" under Ministry of Education
  - ✓ Under the YUVA scheme, a total of 75 authors will be selected by an All-India Contest and the winners will be announced on August 15, 2021
  - ✓ The published books will be launched in January 2022 on the occasion of National Youth Day.

- **AISHE - Report**
  - ✓ India - has a gross enrolment ratio (GER) of 27.1% in higher education, with the GER of women at 27.3% compared to men's 26.9%
  - ✓ All-India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) for 2019- 20 released on June.
  
- **44- GST Council**
  - ✓ Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman - chaired the 44th GST Council meeting held through video conference on June.
  
- **FAME II scheme**
  - ✓ The government - has restructured the Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid) and Electric Vehicles II (FAME II) scheme by announcing various incentives on June
  - ✓ According to the new revisions, **the incentive on Electric Two Wheelers is being increased from Rs 10,000 per kWh to Rs. 15,000 per kWh.**
  
- **3-D- anti - Viral mask**
  - ✓ Pune-based startup, Thincr Technologies India Private Ltd - has developed a special kind of cost-effective 3D-printed anti-viral mask.
  
- **'Operation Olivia'**
  - ✓ Indian Coast Guard - have **launched 'Operation Olivia'** to protect the **endangered Olive Ridley turtles in Odisha**
  - ✓ Operation Olivia aims to protect the population of Olive Ridley turtles during their nesting seasons from May to December every year
  - ✓ **Initiated first during the early 1980s, Operation Olivia** is carried out off the coast of Odisha, the primary habitat range of the turtles, where they congregate along the coast for breeding and nesting.
  - ✓ The Olive Ridley is classified as 'vulnerable' according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
  
- **'JivanVayu'**
  - ✓ Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar - has developed a device 'JivanVayu', which can be used as a substitute for CPAP (Continuous positive airway pressure) machine
  - ✓ **'JivanVayu'** can deliver high flow oxygen in the range from 20 to 60 Litres per minute, while maintaining a continuous positive pressure of up to 20 cm H<sub>2</sub>O.

➤ **Deep Ocean Mission**

- ✓ The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister - has recently approved 'Deep Ocean Mission' project
- ✓ The Mission was proposed by Ministry of Earth Sciences
- ✓ It seeks to explore deep ocean for resources and develop deep sea technologies for sustainable use of ocean resources.
- ✓ The mission is to be implemented in a phase-wise manner.
- ✓ The United Nations (UN) has declared the decade, 2021-2030 as the 'Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development'
- ✓ The Government of India's 'Vision of New India by 2030' released in February 2019 highlighted the 'Blue Economy' as one of the ten core dimensions of growth.

➤ **UNECOSOC - India**

- ✓ India - was recently elected to the United Nations, Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) for the period 2022-2024 under Asia-Pacific States category.

➤ **NISHTHA**

- ✓ 'NISHTHA capacity-building programme' for Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS)
- ✓ It was launched by the Department of School Education and Literacy as a national mission under the SamagraShiksha Scheme in 2019-20.
- ✓ The initiative aims to develop the skill levels of the teachers and school principals at the elementary stage, thereby improving the quality of school education
- ✓ The training of NCERT's flagship program was conducted in an online mode on the NISHTHA portal

➤ **World Investment FDI inflows Report 2021**

- ✓ India - becomes the fifth largest recipient of FDI inflows, after receiving \$64 billion in 2020
- ✓ As per the report, the FDI inflows into the country has increased by 27% to \$64 billion in 2020, from \$51 billion in 2019.

➤ **DivyagtakhelKendras**

- ✓ Union minister for Social Justice & Empowerment, ThaawarchandGehlot - announced to set up five "DivyangtaKhelKendras" across the country
- ✓ The proposed centres will support the interest of Divyangjans (Disabled persons) in sports for their good performance in Paralympics.

➤ **ICAR - CTCRI**

- ✓ ICAR-Central Tuber Crops Research Institute (CTCRI) – have identified ‘Tapioca’ or ‘Cassava’ as a source of raw material for bioethanol production
- ✓ The discovery will help the country to produce more bioethanol to meet the government’s ambitious Ethanol Blending Petrol (EBP) programme, targetted by 2025.

➤ **First genetically Modified Rubber Plant**

- ✓ The world’s first genetically modified (GM) rubber plant - was planted in a Rubber Board research farm in Assam on June
- ✓ The plant was developed at the Kerala-based Rubber Research Institute of India (RRII), located in Puthuppally, Kottayam
- ✓ The new plant variety was planted at the Rubber board’s Sarutari research farm in Guwahati, Assam
- ✓ The new crop is expected to reduce the maturity period of rubber, thereby improving chances for early yielding
- ✓ The GM rubber plant is the first of its kind developed exclusively for the northeast region.

➤ **The Thiruvananthapuram-based Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) - has developed three different types of ventilators and an oxygen concentrator**

- ✓ The 3 ventilators have been named as **Prana, VaUand Svasta** while oxygen concentrator has been named as **Shwaas**
- ✓ Prana is designed to deliver respiratory gas to the patient by automated compression of an Ambu bag

## COURT VERDICT

- **The Madras high court** - has asked state and central governments to take steps to conserve the rich temple heritage of Tamil Nadu.
- **On June, the Supreme Court** - directed the Tamil Nadu State Election Commission to conduct the local body elections in nine new districts of the state by **September 15**
  - ✓ The nine new districts carved out of four existing ones are Kancheepuram, Chengalpattu, Vellore, Tirupathur, Ranipet, Villupuram, Kallakurichi, Tirunelveli and Tenkasi.
- **One Nation One Ration**
  - ✓ The Supreme Court - has asked states, union territories to implement the 'one nation, one ration card' scheme (ONORC) by July
  - ✓ A bench of justices **Ashok Bhushan and M R Shah** issued orders and criticised the Centre over "**unpardonable delay**" in registration of unorganized sector workers, as per its August 21, 2018 direction.
  - ✓ The "**One Nation, One Ration card**" scheme allows migrant workers to get ration at the place of their work in other states as well where their ration cards are not registered.

# INTERNATIONAL

- **Kamala Harris calls PM Narendra Modi on US vaccines for India**
  - ✓ External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar met key officials in the Biden administration in Washington DC, the US announced that it will distribute Covid-19 vaccines to India as part of its strategy for global vaccine sharing.
  
- **Germany hosts the 8th Global Nitrogen Conference**
  - ✓ The 8th International Nitrogen Initiative Conference (INI2020) was held in Berlin, Germany
  
- **Israel's new prime minister**
  - ✓ **Naftali Bennett** was sworn in as Israel's new prime minister, after winning a confidence vote with the narrowest of margins, just 60 votes to 59. His victory ends a 12-year grip on power by former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu, the country's longest-serving leader
  
- **15th edition of Global Peace Index (GPI)**
  - ✓ The 15th edition of the Global Peace Index (GPI) announced by Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP) Sydney, the GPI is the world's leading measure of global peacefulness.
  
- **Third largest diamond in the world found in Botswana**
  - ✓ The World's third-largest diamond has been found in Botswana, South Africa. Botswana is also Africa's largest producer of diamonds.
  - ✓ The newly founded stone weighs a little less than the second-largest Lesedi la Rona diamond of 1,109 carats and the largest 3,106 carat Cullinan diamond also founded in South Africa.
  
- **China - Put an End to two children Policy**
  - ✓ This puts an end to **the two-child policy that has failed** to boost the country's declining birthrates
  - ✓ China faces a severe shortage of workers, thereby affecting the economy in the near future.
  
- **International Solar Alliance**
  - ✓ France - announced to make a direct contribution of €1 million to the International Solar Alliance.

- **US Politicians** - have introduced a new bipartisan bill, 'Equal access to green cards for legal employment', also known as the 'Eagle Act'
- **Bit Coin Legal Tender**
  - ✓ **El Salvador** - has become the first country in the world to adopt bitcoin as legal tender
- **'Red Tourism'**
  - ✓ **China** - to promote 'red tourism' on the occasion of 100th anniversary of Chinese Communist Party in 2021.
- **Build Back Better for World**
  - ✓ **US President Joe Biden and the G7** - announced a new plan, called "Build Back Better for the World", on June 12 at the G7- Summit held under the chairmanship of the United Kingdom
- **The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) committee** - proposed to list the Great Barrier Reef under 'in danger' category, due to climate change
- **UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)**
  - ✓ **UNCTAD** has released 21 June, said global FDI flows have been severely hit by the pandemic and they plunged by 35 per cent in 2020 to USD 1 trillion from USD 1.5 trillion the previous year.
- **The report said in India, FDI increased 27 per cent to USD 64 billion in 2020 from USD 51 billion in 2019, pushed up by acquisitions in the information and communication technology (ICT) industry, making the country the fifth largest FDI recipient in the world.**

**Top 3**

- ✓ **US-USD156 Billion**
- ✓ **China-USD 149 Billion**
- ✓ **Hong Kong-119 Billion**

# INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

## ➤ **Jalgaon Banana**

- ✓ India - has exported the first commercial consignment of GI certified Jardalu mangoes and Jalgaon Banana to dubai.

## ➤ **Solar Energy**

- ✓ India - has extended a \$100 million Line of Credit to Sri Lanka for funding the solar energy projects in the island nation.

## ➤ **Denmark - has signed the International Solar Alliance Framework Agreement (ISA FA) and Instrument of Ratification with India recently on June**

- ✓ ISA is an alliance of 121 countries, most of them being sunshine countries which lie either completely or partly between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.

## ➤ **G20 Foreign Ministers meeting at Matera in Italy**

- ✓ External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar took up Covishield authorisation for travel to Europe with Josep Borrell Fontelles, high representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, on the sidelines of the G-20 meeting of Foreign Ministers in Italy.

## ➤ **India to host 9th Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable in 2022**

- ✓ India will host the 9th Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable (AMER9) in 2022.
- ✓ This decision was taken after a virtual meeting was held recently between International Energy Forum (IEF) Secretary-General Joseph McMonigle and Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas, Dharmendra Pradhan

## CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

### ➤ **BRICS - Meetings**

- ✓ The 5-nation grouping, BRICS foreign ministers - held a virtual meeting on June 1, with the participation of External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar
- ✓ India hosted the meeting in its capacity as the chair of BRICS – Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa

### ➤ **NATO - 31st Meeting at Brussels**

- ✓ The leaders of NATO's 30 member countries - arrived at NATO Headquarters in **Brussels, Belgium on June 14** to participate in the 31st formal meeting of heads of government of NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation)

### ➤ **India - is to host a two-day summit on Green Hydrogen Initiatives through video conferencing on June 22, 2021 involving the BRICS nations.**

- ✓ The event will be anchored by India's state-run power major National Thermal Power Corporation Limited.
- ✓ The summit will provide a forum for the countries to share and promote their initiatives on utilisation of hydrogen alongwith their future plans.
- ✓ Hydrogen, when produced by electrolysis using renewable energy is known as 'Green Hydrogen', which has no carbon footprint and lead to zero emissions

# DEFENCE

- **INS Sahyadri was awarded the 'Best Ship' title 'Best Ship' title at the Fleet Awards 2021**
- **Indian Coast Guard inducts 3 indigenously-built advanced light helicopters ALH MK III**
- **As part of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Atmanirbhar Bharat vision, three indigenously built**
- **Advanced Light Helicopters (ALH) MKIII were inducted into Indian Coast Guard (ICG). Defence Secretary Dr Ajay Kumar said.**
  
- **EUNAVFOR**
  - ✓ In a first, the Indian Navy is participating in a joint exercise with the European Union Naval Force (EUNAVFOR). Stealth frigate INS Trikand, will participate in the two-day exercise in Gulf of Aden as it is already deployed in the region on anti-piracy operations
  
- **Sagar Purvi**
  - ✓ Sagar Purvi, one of the oldest coastal research vessels (CRV) belonging to Chennai-based National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) - has been decommissioned.
  - ✓ At present, the Ministry of Earth Sciences has a fleet of six ships including Sagar Kanya, Sagar Sampada, Sagar Nidhi, Sagar Manjusha and recently procured vessels Sagar Tara and Sagar Anveshika.
  
- **'Project-75 India (P-75I)' to construct six new-generation stealth submarines with foreign collaboration**
  - ✓ The defence acquisition council (DAC), India's apex procurement body headed by defence minister Rajnath Singh, approved the proposal and the navy is soon expected to issue requests for proposal (RFP) for the programme, called P-75 India.
  
- **Sajag**
  - ✓ National Security Advisor (NSA), Ajit Doval - has recently dedicated Indian Coast Guard Offshore Patrol Vessel 'Sajag' to the nation for safeguarding its maritime interests.
  
- **Second Rafale Squadron**
  - ✓ The Indian Air Force - has raised the second Rafale squadron, the 101 'Falcons of Chhamb and Akhnoor', in Ambala ahead of their formal induction at the Hasimara airbase in West Bengal

➤ **PINAKA**

- ✓ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) - has successfully test fired an extended range version of "Pinaka" rockets and 122mm Caliber rockets on June 24 and 25.

➤ **"Agni Prime"**

- ✓ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) - successfully tested the new generation **nuclear-capable 'Agni Prime' ballistic missile**
- ✓ The surface-to-surface advanced two-stage missile, having a range of 1000 to 2000 km, was test-fired from a mobile launcher from the Abdul Kalam Island near Balasore off Odisha coast.

➤ **India successfully test fires indigenous subsonic cruise missile Nirbhay**

- ✓ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully test-fired the subsonic cruise missile 'Nirbhay' on June

# ECONOMICS

- **GST collection for May at Rs 1.02 lakh crore**
  - ✓ The Goods and Service Tax Collection for the month of May came in at Rs 1.02 lakh crore, official data by the Finance Ministry showed on June 5. While this was the eighth consecutive month of GST collections being above Rs 1 lakh crore, it was also the lowest collection since September 2020
- **Centre announces hike in MSP for paddy, pulses, oilseeds**
  - ✓ The Central government has hiked the minimum support price (MSP) for common paddy to `1,940 a quintal for the coming kharif season, close to 4% higher than last year's price of `1,868.
- **GST brought down on 14 COVID relief goods**
  - ✓ The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council on Saturday decided to waive the tax levied on two critical drugs against COVID-19 and mucormycosis – tocilizumab and amphotericin B – and reset the tax rate to 5% for 14 major pandemic relief items, till September 30.
- **India's bank credit-to-GDP ratio grows 56% in 2020.**
  - ✓ According to the latest data from the Bank for International Settlements (BIS), India's bank credit-to-GDP ratio rose to 56 percent in 2020.
  - ✓ India's bank Credit-to-GDP ratio is still far behind emerging market peers and just half of the G20 average
- **NSO - Data on India Economy**
  - ✓ The Indian economy - grew 1.6% in the January-March quarter of 2020-21, according to the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) on May.
- **The RBI governor Shaktikanta Das said that India's foreign exchange reserves is likely to have crossed a new record of \$600 billion in the first week of June**
  - ✓ Officially, however, the weekly numbers released by the RBI pegged reserves at \$598.2 billion as on May 28, which is also a record.
- **'Centrum Finance'**
  - ✓ The Reserve Bank of India - granted an in-principle small finance bank licence to 'Centrum Finance' as part of its resolution for the Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative Bank.

- **Global rating agency, S&P - has lowered India's growth forecast for fiscal year 2021-2022 to 9.5% from the earlier projection of 11%**
  - ✓ The **domestic credit rating agency (Crisil)** has revised the GDP growth estimate for India in FY22 (2021-22) to 9.5 percent, from the earlier estimate of 11 percent. As per CRISIL, the economy had contracted by 7.3 percent in FY21.
  - ✓ The **World Bank** has projected India's economy to grow at 8.3 per cent in 2021 and 7.5 per cent in 2022.
  - ✓ The **domestic credit rating agency (ICRA)** has projected the gross domestic product (GDP) growth rate of India for the financial year 2021-22 to 8.5 per cent year-on-year. It expects the gross value added (GVA) at basic prices (at constant 2011-12 prices) to grow at 7.3 per cent in FY2022.

### ➤ **Inflation in India**

- ✓ India's retail inflation shot up to a **six-month high of 6.3 per cent** in May, after easing to a three month low of 4.23 per cent in April. Inflation, based on **Consumer Price Index (CPI)**, has breached the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) target range for the first time after five months.
- ✓ The **wholesale price-based inflation** accelerated to a **record high of 12.94 per cent** in May, on rising prices of crude oil and manufactured goods. The low base effect also contributed to the spike in WPI inflation in May 2021.
- ✓ The **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)** has estimated the gross domestic product (GDP) of India to grow at 9.5 per cent in the current financial year, i.e. FY 2021-22.

# RANKINGS

## ➤ World Giving Index 2021

- ✓ India - has been ranked at 14th spot among 114 countries in the 10th edition of **World Giving Index 2021**, released by the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF)

## ➤ SD - Report 2021

- ✓ Finland - has topped the annual Sustainable Development Report 2021
- ✓ This is the first time the Nordic country has been ranked at the top of the SDG Index.
- ✓ The SDG Index and dashboards were prepared by experts from the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and the Bertelsmann Stiftung
- ✓ It compares how countries implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- ✓ The Sustainable Development Report looks at the actions and initiatives of 193 countries.
- ✓ Finland also took the top spot as the happiest country in the world according to the World Happiness Report, released during March 2021

## ➤ India - was ranked at 117th spot on 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted as part of 2030 agenda

- ✓ This was revealed by the State of India's Environment Report 2021
- ✓ Last year, India was ranked at 115th place and slipped 2 places this year due to the non-performance related to SDG2, SDG 5 and SDG 9
- ✓ India is ranked below four South Asian countries – Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh
- ✓ The overall SDG score of India is 61.9 out of 100.

## ➤ Bengaluru Adjudged as India's Most Liveable City in Ease of Living Index 2020

- ✓ Bengaluru has been named as the most liveable city of India, in the Ease of Living Index 2020, released by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE).
- ✓ The Ease of Living Index 2020 is part of the report titled State of India's Environment 2021.
- ✓ Rank 1: Bengaluru  
Rank 2: Chennai  
Rank 3: Shimla  
Rank 4: Bhubaneshwar  
Rank 5: Mumbai

# APPOINTMENT

Name	Sector
Mr.Hasan Mohamed Jinnah	State government has appointed him as the State Public Prosecutor.
Mr.Jeyaranjan	M.K.Stalin appointed him as the Vice -chairmen of SDPCState Development Policy Council (SDPC)
Lt-General ManojPande	Appointed as the Chief of the Army's Eastern Command at Kolkata
Abdulla Shahid	Maldives' foreign minister ,New President of the UN General Assembly for the 76th session
Neftali - Bennet	Appointed as the 13th prime minister of Israel, replacing Benjamin Netanyahu, who served as Israel PM for 12 years
SatyaNadella	Chief Executive Officer of Microsoft, - has been elevated as its new chairman
Antonio Guterres	The UN General Assembly -had unanimously elected him to a <b>secondterm</b> as <b>secretary-general</b> on June
Rebecca Grynspan.	The U.N. General Assembly - has approved the appointment of Costa Rican economist as the Secretary-General of the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

# AWARDS

## ➤ **“Princess of Asturias Award”**

- ✓ Indian economist and Nobel Laureate, Amartya Kumar Sen - was conferred with **“Princess of Asturias Award”** in social sciences category
- ✓ He was selected for the Spain’s top prize, out of 41 candidates from 20 countries, for his best-known work- **“Poverty and Famines”**.
- ✓ In this acclaimed work, Sen has demonstrated, “hunger is not a result of lack of food, but is result of inequalities in its mechanisms of distribution.

## ➤ **Pulitzer Prize**

- ✓ **MeghaRajagopalan** of BuzzFeed News, an Indian-origin journalist along with two other colleagues, Alison Killing and Christo Buschek – won the US’ top journalism award **‘Pulitzer Prize’** in the International reporting category.

## ➤ **Acclaimed journalist, P. Sainath - was chosen as one of the three recipients of Fukuoka Prize 2021**

- ✓ Sainath was awarded for his work of creating a new form of knowledge through his writings and commentaries on rural India and for “promoting civil cooperation”.
- ✓ The Fukuoka Prize is given annually to distinguished people to increase awareness of Asian cultures, and for facilitating exchange and mutual learning among the Asian people.
- ✓ The Grand Prize has earlier been awarded to **Muhammad Yunus** from Bangladesh, **historian RomilaThapar**, and sarodmaestro **Amjad Ali Khan**.

## ➤ **Temple city grabs five spots in India Smart Cities Award Contest - 2020**

- ✓ The Tirupati Smart City bagged first place in two categories, besides grabbing the second and third spots in the India Smart Cities Award Contest (ISAC) - 2020.

## **BOOKS & AUTHORS**

- **Historian VikramSampath Authored Book 'Savarkar:**
  - ✓ A contested Legacy (1924-1966)' to hit stands in July 2021
  - ✓ Decorated historian and author VikramSampath has come out with the second and concluding volume of the book on the life and works of Veer Savarkar titled "Savarkar:
- **'Home in the World' - by AmartyaSen's memoir**
  - ✓ One of the world's leading public intellectuals of our time, Nobel laureate AmartyaSen has penned his memoir 'Home in the World'.

## **PERSONALITIES**

- **First blind Chinese mountaineer climbs Mount Everest**
  - ✓ The 46-year old China's Zhang Hong has scaled the tallest peak in the world from the Nepal side, becoming the first blind man in Asia and the third in the world to climb Mount Everest.
  - ✓ Zhang completed the 8,849 metre-high Himalayan feat on May 24 along with three high altitude guides, and returned to the base camp.
- **Hong Kong mountaineer, Tsang Yin-hung - recorded "world's fastest ascent of Everest by a woman" in just under 26 hours.**
- **Flying officer Mawya Sudan - has become the 12th woman to be commissioned into the fighter stream of IAF**

# SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **WHO Names Two Covid-19 Variants First Identified in India as 'Kappa' and 'Delta'**
  - ✓ The UN health agency, World Health Organisation (WHO), has given easy-to-say labels to two variants of the Covid-19, first found in India.
  - ✓ The two variants are B.1.617.1 and B.1.617.2.
  - ✓ The B.1.617.1 variant of the Covid 19 has been named as 'Kappa' while the B1.617.2 variant is named as 'Delta.'
  
- **NASA's Hubble Space Telescope - captured the photo of spiral galaxy called "NGC 691"**
  - ✓ The New General Catalogue of Nebulae and Clusters of Stars (NGC)
  - ✓ The Hubble Space Telescope is the largest and most versatile telescope still in operation.
  
- **Fengyun-4B satellite successfully into space**
  - ✓ China - recently launched Fengyun-4B satellite successfully into space aboard a Long March 3B rocket from Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in Sichuan Province.
  
- **Envision**
  - ✓ The European Space Agency (ESA) - has recently announced about the launch of a new probe called 'EnVision' to study Venus by 2030
  - ✓ Envision will be the next orbiter to circle Venus and study the planet from its inner core to upper atmosphere to determine its evolution vis-à-vis earth.
  
- **'WISA Woodsat'4**
  - ✓ World's first wooden satellite, called 'WISA Woodsat' - to be launched from New Zealand by the end of 2021
  
- **Interstellar space called 'Heliosphere'**
  - ✓ The heliosphere is a protective bubble created by the solar wind, which is a constant stream of magnetic field and particles released by the sun.
  
- **'Virtual Water Analysis'**
  - ✓ Researchers from Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati - have proposed better water management policies using the concept of 'Virtual Water analysis'.

# SPORTS

- Indian pugilist **Mary Kom**, lost to two-time world champion **Nazym Kyzaibay** of Kazakhstan, to settle for silver medal at the **2021 ASBC Asian Boxing Championships held in Dubai**
- India's **Rahi Sarnobat** clinched the **gold medal** in the women's **25m pistol** event at the **ISSF shooting World Cup**.
- She is the **first Indian to win** one silver and two bronze medals in the ongoing tournament. She scored 591 out of a maximum of 600 in
- **Winners of French Open Tennis Tournament 2021**
  - ✓ Men's Singles: Novak Djokovic (Serbia)
  - ✓ Women's Singles: Barbora Krejčíková (Czech Republic)
  - ✓ For Novak Djokovic (Serbia) This was his 19th Grand Slam title and the second French Open crown
  - ✓ Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal (20) are at the top of the list for most Grand Slam men's singles titles.
  - ✓ Djokovic was presented the Coupe des Mousquetaires by six-time champion, the legendary Swede Bjorn Borg.
- **Cristiano Ronaldo - equals the record for most number of international goals in men's football**
  - ✓ The 36-year old Ronaldo scored his 109th goal for Portugal in the Euro 2020 game against France on June 23 to equal former Iran striker and Asian football legend, Ali Daei's all-time international record.
- **Indian archer, Deepika Kumari - reclaims World No. 1 ranking for recurve women after winning triple gold medals in Archery World Cup Stage III in Paris on June**
- **Madhya Pradesh allrounder, Anshula Rao - becomes the first woman cricketer to be handed a four year ban by a panel of the National Anti Doping Agency (NADA) after failing a dope test**

# OBITUARY

## ➤ **Milkah Singh**

- ✓ Four-time Asian Games gold medallist, Milkha Singh (90 years) - passed away on June 18 due to post-Covid complications at the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) hospital in Chandigarh

## ➤ **S Elayaraja (43 years)**

- ✓ Realistic painter - died at a private hospital in Chennai due to Covid-related complications.

## ➤ **Sornam**

- ✓ Noted journalist, Tamil film dialogue writer and director, K Sornam - passed away on June 8 at the age of 88 following a brief illness
- ✓ Sornam, whose name appears as Swarnam or Swornam in film credits, had written dialogues for 17 films of MGR including 'Nam Naadu' and 'Adimai Penn'.
- ✓ He was the editor-in-charge for the magazine IlayaSuriyan and was in-charge of 'Pudhaiyal', a weekly supplement published in 'Murasoli' newspaper
- ✓ Sornam was honoured with the Kalaignar Award in 2005.
- ✓ Sornam went on to head the film institute in Chennai, besides being the secretary of Tamil EyallsaiNadagaManram, a stateowned body.

## ➤ **Padma Shri Awardee Eminent Environmentalist Radhamohan Passes Away**

- ✓ Padma Shri winning noted Economist and Environmentalist Prof Radhamohanji has passed away. He was 78.

# REPORT

- **Corbevax - Cheapest vaccine to be Available in India**
  - ✓ Biological E's Corbevax - could soon become the cheapest vaccine available by a fair margin in the country.
  
- **'Global Assessment Report (GAR) on Drought 2021'**
  - ✓ The report has estimated the "impact of severe droughts on India's GDP to be about 2-5% per annum"
  - ✓ Accordingly, the recent major droughts in Tamil Nadu contributed to 20% reduction in the primary sector causing an overall 5% drop in industry and a 3% reduction in the service sector

## IMPORTANT DAYS

Day	Theme	Significance
<b><u>June 1</u></b> <b>World Milk Day</b>	“Sustainability in the dairy sector with messages on nutrition”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The credit for the achievement of success in milk production in India goes to DrVergheeseKurien.</li> <li>➤ White Revolution in India was started by DrVergheeseKurien in 1970</li> </ul>
<b><u>June 3</u></b> <b>World Bicycle Day</b>	“Uniqueness, versatility, and longevity of the bicycle as a simple, sustainable, economical, and reliable mode of transportation”	The day aims at promoting the use of bicycles for a cleaner environment and a healthy lifestyle
<b><u>June 5</u></b> <b>World Environment Day (WED)</b>	The World Environment Day slogan - "Recreate, Reimagine, Restore" - focuses on reversing the damage and restoring our ecosystems.	On the eve of WED this year, the World Health Organization (WHO) has joined ‘UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration’ (2021-2030)
<b><u>June 8</u></b> <b>World Ocean Day</b>	‘The Ocean: Life and Livelihoods’.	The day aims to raise awareness about the impact of economic activities and human actions on ocean with a pledge to preserve them
<b><u>June 12</u></b> <b>World Day against Child Labour</b>	‘Act Now: End Child Labour.’	–
<b><u>June 17</u></b> <b>World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought</b>	“Restoration. Land. Recovery. We build back better with healthy land”	–
<b><u>June 21</u></b> <b>International Yoga Day</b>	'Yoga for well-being'	–

<b><u>June 23</u></b> <b>International Olympic Day</b>	Stay healthy, stay strong, stay active with the #OlympicDay workout	-
<b><u>June 25</u></b> <b>International Day of Seafarer</b>	'Seafarers: at the core of shipping's future'	-
<b><u>June 26</u></b> <b>International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking</b>	Share Facts on Drugs, Save Lives'	-
<b><u>June 29</u></b> <b>National Statistics Day</b>	End Hunger, Achieve Food Security and Improved Nutrition and Promote Sustainable Agriculture (Sustainable Development Goal or SDG 2 of the UN)	-

