

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-NOVEMBER 3, 2021

TAMIL NADU

- **On November 2, Chief Minister M K Stalin - laid the foundation stone for the first phase of a mega housing project for Sri Lankan Tamils**
- ✓ Under the government sponsored scheme, 3,510 houses are to be constructed at a cost of ₹142.16 crore for Sri Lankan Tamil people residing at Melmonavur rehabilitation camp in Vellore district.



- ✓ The government has proposed to construct houses and extend all basic amenities for Sri Lankan Tamil peoples in all the 106 rehabilitation camps across the state.
- ✓ The CM recalled his earlier announcement made in the assembly that Sri Lankan refugees' camps would be renamed as Sri Lankan rehabilitation camps.
- ✓ Earlier, the DMK government had allotted ₹100 crore to provide basic amenities in the camps across the state in 2009.
- ✓ The CM announced that the government would bear the tuition and hostel fees of the wards of Sri Lankan Tamil people pursuing engineering, agriculture and agricultural engineering and postgraduate courses.
- ✓ He also said that the government would extend enhanced financial assistance for the wards of Sri Lankan Tamil people pursuing art and science courses

- ✓ Further, the government would organize capacity building programmes for the students to boost their employment opportunities.
- ✓ Later in the day, Chief Minister M K Stalin inaugurated 'Arulmigu Kapaleeswarar' Arts and Science College, attached to Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (HR&CE) department, in Kolathur.
- **In a first, Health Minister Ma Subramanian - kicked off a mobile vaccination camp in the villages of Chengalpattu on November 2**



- ✓ The initiative aims to achieve 100% coverage in administering Covid-19 vaccines to people in the districts
- ✓ This door-to-door drive will cover as many as 79,395 villages, 1,064 corporation wards, 3,474 municipality wards, and 8,688 panchayat wards in the State
- ✓ A doctor and two nurses in the vehicle will visit towns and city wards for vaccinations on every day of the week.
- ✓ The aim of the initiative is to push first dose coverage from 71% to 100% by the end of November and encourage all people to take the second dose

NATIONAL

- **On November 2, Indian Oil - launched a cleaner and greener diesel 'XtraGreen' to 126 fuel stations across 63 cities in the country and also launched Indian Oil's fuel gift card, One4U.**
- ✓ The rollout of XtraGreen and the launch of One4U has been done in the presence of Indian Oil's Chairman Shrikant Madhav Vaidya at an Indian Oil fuel station in Agra
- ✓ The launch of XtraGreen is in sync with the Prime Minister's commitment to drive the country towards a greener future, continuous reduction of carbon emission and gradual achievement of the net-zero goal by 2070
- ✓ Indian Oil's R&D has provided the proprietary chemical formulation in the form of modified DMFA (Diesel Multi-Functional Additive), which is used for XtraGreen.



- ✓ The green diesel improves fuel economy by 5-6% and reduced CO2 emissions by 130 grams for every litre, CO emission by 5.29% and NOx emissions by 4.99%.

INTERNATIONAL

- On November 2, leaders at the COP26 global climate conference - agreed to stop deforestation by the end of the decade and cut emissions of the potent greenhouse gas methane to help slowing the climate change.



- ✓ Over 100 countries joined a US- and EU-led effort to cut emissions of methane 30% by 2030 from 2020 levels
- ✓ The Global Methane Pledge was launched on the day after being announced in September with just a few signatories
- ✓ It now covers countries representing nearly half of global methane emissions and 70% of global GDP
- ✓ Methane is highly short-lived in the atmosphere than carbon dioxide but 80 times more potent in warming the planet.
- ✓ It is estimated to have accounted for 30% of global warming since pre-industrial times

- ✓ Hence, cutting emissions of the methane gas is one of the most effective ways of slowing climate change.
- ✓ Among the signatories is Brazil, which is one of the five biggest emitters of methane, generated in cows' digestive systems, in landfill waste and in oil and gas production.
- ✓ Three others — China, Russia and India — have not signed up, while Australia has said it will not back the pledge.
- ✓ The US also unveiled its domestic proposal to cut methane emissions with a focus on the oil and gas sector, where leaky infrastructure allows methane to escape into the atmosphere.
- ✓ The COP26 aims a target global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels to reduce a greater damage than has already been caused by climate change.
- ✓ More than 100 national leaders also signed a promise to stop the destruction of the world's forests which absorb roughly 30% of carbon dioxide emissions
- ✓ In 2020, the world lost 258,000 sq km of forest — an area larger than the UK, according to WRI's Global Forest Watch.
- ✓ The signatories include Brazil, which has carried out deforestation exercise under right-wing President Jair Bolsonaro, Indonesia and the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- ✓ Together, these countries account for 85% of the world's forests.
- ✓ Under the agreement, 12 countries pledged to provide \$12 billion of public funding between 2021 and 2025 for developing countries to restore degraded land and tackle wildfires.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with his UK counterpart, Boris Johnson - launched a transnational grid initiative — One Sun One World One Grid (OSOWOG) — on the sidelines of the UN climate conference (COP26) in Glasgow, UK on November 2, 2021.**



- ✓ PM Modi addressed the world leaders at the session on 'Accelerating Clean Technology Innovation and Deployment' during the day
- ✓ US President Joe Biden spoke immediately after the Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

- ✓ OSOWOG is the first ever international network of global interconnected solar power renewable energy grids
 - ✓ The grid will be set up over the next few years by the International Solar Alliance (ISA), another initiative launched by India initially, to send solar power to different countries under its Green Grid Initiative.
 - ✓ During the launch, PM Modi also announced that the country's space agency, ISRO, would roll out a "solar calculator application" to detect availability of sunshine in different countries in real time manner.
 - ✓ PM Modi and Johnson also released the 'One Sun declaration' during the event, which was also attended by the US President Joe Biden and other leaders
 - ✓ According to the PM, the transnational grid would not only help in reducing global carbon footprints but also bring countries closer through cooperation to reduce their storage needs and enhance viability of solar projects
 - ✓ During the event, PM Modi reiterated that the idea for the One Sun One World One Grid (OSOWOG) initiative was put forth by him at the First Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) in October 2018
 - ✓ ISA also aims to mobilize US\$1 trillion of funding by 2030 to assist developing countries in expanding their solar power grids to meet their energy needs
 - ✓ In May 2021, the United Kingdom and India agreed to jointly launch the Green Grids Initiative and the One Sun One World One Grid initiative
 - ✓ GGI-OSOWOG has already been endorsed by more than 80 Member States of the International Solar Alliance (ISA).
 - ✓ On November 1, India declared to combat climate change by increasing its non-fossil fuel energy capacity to 500 GW by 2030 and meet 50% of its energy requirement from renewable energy by 2030
- **On November 2, India and the United Kingdom - jointly launched Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS) to help small island developing states (SIDS) build climate resilient infrastructure.**





- ✓ Australia is also a key partner in the initiative.
- ✓ The launch took place on the second day of the World Leaders' Summit
- ✓ PM Modi was joined by his British counterpart Boris Johnson, Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison and leaders of Mauritius, Fiji and Jamaica on the occasion.
- ✓ UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres was also present.
- ✓ The IRIS will help SIDS mobilise finance and technology for developing their infrastructure.
- ✓ It will be implemented by the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), an intergovernmental body launched at India's initiative in 2019
- ✓ Twenty-six countries, including the US, Germany, UK, Australia, Brazil, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, and Japan are already part of the coalition.
- ✓ The coalition will not create any new infrastructure, but will work towards making existing and upcoming infrastructure in member countries more robust and resilient against climate disasters such as floods, heat, cyclones, forest fires, and rain.



- ✓ During the launch event, PM Modi said that India's space agency ISRO will build a special data window to provide SIDS timely information on cyclones, coral-reef monitoring and coast-line monitoring through satellites.

SPORTS

- **India's Akash Kumar - secured the country's first medal after he booked his place in the semifinals at the ongoing AIBA World Men's Boxing Championships in the Serbian capital of Belgrade**



- ✓ On November 2, 21-year old debutant Akash Kumar advanced to the semifinals of the \$2.6 million event with a superb win over former Olympic silver-medallist Yoel Finol Rivas of Venezuela.
- ✓ The young, fearless boxer from Haryana's Bhiwani district is the reigning national champion in the 54kg category
- ✓ Rivas had originally won a bronze in the Rio 2016 Olympics but his medal was upgraded to silver after the original second place finisher failed a dope test
- ✓ Regardless of the result in the semifinal, Kumar has already made history, by becoming just the 7th Indian to win a medal at the World Championships.
- ✓ India returned with two medals from the previous edition—Amit Panghal (51kg) won silver and Manish Kaushik (63kg) bronze
- ✓ The best-ever finish for India at the Worlds has been the silver medal won by the reigning Asian Games champion Amit Panghal in the 2019 edition of the meet in Russia.
- ✓ Five other Indian men's boxers – Vijender Singh (Milan, 2009), Vikas Krishan (Baku, 2011), Shiva Thapa (Doha, 2015), Gaurav Bidhuri (Hamburg, 2017) and Manish Kaushik (Yekaterinburg, 2019) – have won bronze in the previous editions of the championships but none have won a gold.