

CURRENT AFFAIRS – SEPTEMBER 1-30, 2023

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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

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TAMIL NADU

➤ **AdvantEdge Innovation Conclave**

- ✓ Minister for Information Technology and Digital Services Palanivel Thiaga Rajan inaugurated AdvantEdge Innovation Conclave aimed at revolutionising micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in Coimbatore on Wednesday.



- ✓ The conclave is aimed at revolutionizing the MSMEs. The two-day intensive workshop will address various issues and provide solutions by experts.
- ✓ Strategies ensuring directed and sustained growth trajectories, 30-day dedicated team support for MSMEs and an annual innovation expert network, and tailor-made solutions for steering businesses towards an exponential growth arc, will be part of the workshop.

➤ **Salem Sago Gets GI Tag**

- ✓ Salem district in the state of Tamil Nadu has gained acclaim for its sago production, which is widely recognized as Sabudana. Salem Sago, locally known as Javvarisi, is derived from the wet starch powder extracted from tapioca roots.



- ✓ Salem district utilizes nearly 35,000 hectares of land for tapioca cultivation, with yields averaging between 25-30 tonnes per hectare.
- ✓ Sago has a low calorific value (310 kcal/100g) and ranges in size from 2 to 4.5 mm. Remarkably, one kilogram of tapioca sago can be produced from five kilograms of tapioca tubers.

- ✓ Sago finds applications in diverse industries, including food, paper, construction, textiles, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, mining, and alcohol, underscoring its economic significance.
- **Kalaignar Centenary Medical Research Centre**
- ✓ The Kalaignar Centenary Medical Research Centre will be set up for 100 crore in Dr. MGR Medical University, said minister of health and family welfare Ma. Subramanian.



- ✓ Currently, the public works department is engaged in preparing a project report for the facility that would be set up on the campus of the Tamil Nadu Dr M G R Medical University, Guindy.
- ✓ Chief Minister M K Stalin would take part in the foundation stone laying ceremony of the proposed facility, Subramanian, also the Pro-Chancellor of the University, said.
- **Scheme Granting Monthly Aid To Over 1 Crore Women**
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government is all set to launch the Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam, the largest social welfare initiative aimed at providing monthly financial assistance. This scheme is set to benefit over 1.06 crore eligible women who are the heads of their families.



- ✓ Under this scheme, eligible beneficiaries will receive a monthly sum of Rs 1,000. This financial aid will be directly transferred into the bank accounts of the beneficiaries.
- ✓ To facilitate easy access to the funds, ATM cards will be issued to the eligible women, allowing them to withdraw the allocated amount as needed.
- **Board for Welfare of Adi Dravidars and Tribals**
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government has reconstituted its State-level Tribal Welfare Board.



**TN Adi
Dravidar and
Tribal
Welfare Dept**

- ✓ The Minister for Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare would be the ex-officio chairperson of the Board.
- ✓ The panel has eight official and 17 non-official members.
- ✓ The panel was constituted in 2007 for the overall development of the Scheduled Tribes in the fields of education, economic development and social welfare.
- **Kalaighnar Magalir Urimai Thittam**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Friday, September 15, 2023, launched the Kalaighnar Magalir Urimai Thittam in Kancheepuram on the occasion of the birth anniversary of former Chief Minister and Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) founder C.N. Annadurai.



- ✓ Under the scheme, 1,000 will be given as a rights grant every month to 1.06 crore women heads of family in the State.
- ✓ During an official function in Kancheepuram district, the birth place of former CM Annadurai, Mr. Stalin formally launched the scheme at the Pachaiyappa's College for Men, and also launched the distribution of ATM cards to beneficiaries.

➤ **TrackD**

- ✓ TrackD application makes it easy to monitor the movement of criminals.
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu police has implemented TrackD, an application and integrated data management system for criminal profiling and tracking.



- ✓ Profiles of around 30,000 history-sheeted antisocial elements were digitized for constant watch by supervisory police officers.
- ✓ Prem Anand Sinha, Additional Commissioner of Police, Law and Order, South, Greater Chennai Police, conceptualised the app called TrackD (Tracking Known Delinquents) and ensured its implementation across the State.

➤ **T.N. Women to become Assistant Priests in Temples**

- ✓ In a first, 3 T.N. women to become assistant priests in temples.
- ✓ In a year's time S. Krishnaveni, S. Ramya and N. Ranjitha will become assistant priests at Vaishnavite temples in Tamil Nadu following the Pancharatra Agama.



- ✓ They are the first three women to have undergone training as Bhattars in the State and studied at the Archakar Training School run by the Sri Ranganathar Temple in Srirangam.

➤ **Co-creation Fund**

- ✓ The government of Tamil Nadu will set up a 100 crore 'Co-creation Fund', a unique model designed to participate in private sector venture capital (VC) funds.



- ✓ According to details in the 'Tamil Nadu Startup and Innovation Policy 2023' that was released by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Wednesday, the fund, to be managed by investors and coordinated by The Tamil Nadu Startup and Innovation Mission (StartupTN), is inspired by the Yozma (meaning 'initiative') model, established by the Israeli Government in the 1990s to kick-start innovative industries by investing in new venture capital funds.
 - ✓ The State government will contribute 40% (with a ceiling of 10 crore) in regional, rural impact, women and climate action-focused funds and 20% (with a ceiling of 5 crore) in other thematic funds promoted by the private sector.
- #### ➤ **Organ Donors to get 'State Funeral' in TN**
- ✓ Organ donors will be accorded full state honours during their funeral in Tamil Nadu, chief minister M K Stalin announced on the State Organ Donation Day on Saturday.

- ✓ September 23 is observed as the organ donation day in the state every year since 2008.



- ✓ Organ donations are possible because the families of brain-dead patients make the sacrifice at the time of grief, he said.
- ✓ Dr N Gopalakrishnan, member secretary of Trans-plant Authority of Tamil Nadu, said the state was encouraging doctors and nurses to do an “honour walk” for deceased organ donors.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu continues to be the leading state in the country in giving life to hundreds of patients through organ donation.
- **Tamil Nadu Leads India In Electric Vehicle Manufacturing**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu Leads India In Electric Vehicle Manufacturing, Accounting For 40% Of The Country's Production
- ✓ Tamil Nadu has emerged as a prominent Electric Vehicle (EV) producer in India. In the current year, out of the ten lakh EVs sold in the country, more than four lakh were manufactured in Tamil Nadu.



- ✓ These electric vehicles encompass a variety of types, including two-wheelers, four-wheelers, and cars, produced by ten different companies located within the state.

- ✓ According to data from the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways' Vahan Dashboard, Tamil Nadu has emerged as a prominent Electric Vehicle (EV) producer in India.
- ✓ In the current year, out of the ten lakh EVs sold in the country, more than four lakh were manufactured in Tamil Nadu.
- **T.N. Unveils Tourism Policy**
- ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Tuesday released the Tamil Nadu Tourism Policy, 2023, which aims to attract investments of 20,000 crore into the sector over the next five years.



- ✓ The policy envisions the enhancing and upgrading of the existing tourism infrastructure and implementing of new green-field projects.
- ✓ It would be valid for a period of five years from the date of its notification, or till a new policy is announced.
- ✓ The Tourism Department has also set targets for the next five years, which include contributing at least 12% to the GSDP annually and employing 25 lakh people.

STATE

➤ **Kashmir to Host Miss World 2023**

- ✓ Julia Eric Morely, CEO of Miss World, reveals that the 71st Miss World competition will be held in Kashmir in December 2023.



- ✓ The announcement was made during a press conference in Kashmir, with Morely expressing excitement and emotion about the event.
- ✓ CEO Morely praised the warmth and hospitality of the people of Kashmir and expressed the Miss World organization's eagerness for the event.

➤ **Chokuwa Rice: Assam's "Magic Rice" - GI Tag**

- ✓ Chokuwa Rice, renowned as Assam's "Magic Rice," receives the prestigious Geographical Indication (GI) tag, recognizing its unique heritage and characteristics.



- ✓ With roots in the history of the Ahom dynasty, Chokuwa is a semi-glutinous Sali rice primarily cultivated around the Brahmaputra River region.
- ✓ Known for its ease of preparation and nutritional value, it pairs well with various accompaniments and plays a central role in Assamese cuisine.
- ✓ The GI tag grants legal protection and authenticity to products originating from specific geographic areas, emphasizing their unique heritage.

➤ **Bhaderwah Rajma & Ramban Sulai Honey - GI Tag**

- ✓ Bhaderwah Rajmash and Sulai honey, both hailing from the picturesque districts of Doda and Ramban in Jammu and Kashmir, have been granted coveted Geographical Indication (GI) tags.



- ✓ **Bhaderwah Rajmash**, often referred to as **red beans** holds a special place in the hearts and palates of those in the **Chenab Valley**. With its distinct flavour and texture, this legume is not only a **staple food** item but also a **cultural symbol** of the region.
 - ✓ The Sulai honey of **Ramban district** has gained recognition not only for its exquisite taste but also for its **organic nature**. In fact, in 2015, Prime Minister Narendra Modi presented organic Sulai honey to **Queen Elizabeth** during his visit to Britain, showcasing the region's natural bounty to the world.
- **Utkela Airport Inaugurated in Odisha Under UDAN Scheme**



- ✓ Utkela Airport inaugurated in Odisha under UDAN scheme. Direct flight route between Utkela and Bhubaneshwar introduced.
- ✓ Flight covers the distance in just one hour and twenty minutes. Nine-seater Cessna C-208 aircraft deployed.
- ✓ Utkela Airport boasts a well-designed runway with a length of 917 meters.
- ✓ Odisha's aviation infrastructure now includes a total of five airports.

➤ **India's First Solar City**

- ✓ The World Heritage Site Sanchi in Madhya Pradesh's Raisen district has become India's first solar city.



- ✓ It has a capacity of 3 megawatts in Nagauri near Sanchi, which will reduce annual carbon dioxide emissions by 13,747 tonnes. This is equivalent to more than 2,38,000 trees.
 - ✓ Sanchi has become India's first solar city. The production of electricity from coal and other resources causes a negative impact on the environment.
 - ✓ The citizens of Sanchi, the Renewable Energy Department, and all scientists have done a commendable task by resorting to solar energy option.
- **Pension And OBC Status For The Transgender Community**
- ✓ The Jharkhand government has taken a progressive step by including the transgender community in its universal pension scheme.



- ✓ The council of ministers has approved the proposal of Mukhyamantri Rajya Samajik Suraksha Pension Yojana for transgender people under the social assistance scheme. The eligible beneficiary will receive Rs 1,000 per month as financial aid.
- ✓ Transgender individuals who do not fall under any caste reservation category will also receive the benefits of the backward class-2 category. This move ensures

that those who have historically faced discrimination and marginalization receive the necessary support.

➤ **Hyderabad Liberation Day**

- ✓ Officially known as Kalyana-Karnataka Liberation Day (Vimochana Diwas), Hyderabad-Karnataka Liberation Day is an important annual observance celebrated across various districts of Karnataka, India. This event, held on the 17th of September each year, commemorates the integration of Hyderabad into India in 1948.
- ✓ The historical significance of this day dates back to September 17, 1948, when the formerly Nizam-ruled Hyderabad state became a part of the Indian union, marking a pivotal moment in India's post-independence history.

➤ **Biswanath Ghat - Assam**

- ✓ The Ministry of Tourism has declared Biswanath Ghat in Assam as the Best Tourism Village of India for the year 2023.
- ✓ This recognition comes after an extensive selection process that involved reviewing 791 applications from 31 different states and union territories across the country.



- ✓ Biswanath Ghat, situated to the south of Biswanath Chariali Town, is famously referred to as 'Gupta Kashi.'
 - ✓ This name is derived from the ancient Biswanath temple in the town and draws a parallel with Kashi during the illustrious Gupta Empire era.
 - ✓ This picturesque ghat is adorned with a collection of temples dedicated to various deities.
- **54th Tiger Reserve - Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve**
- ✓ The Madhya Pradesh Government has unveiled the Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve, becoming the seventh tiger reserve in the state and the 54th in India.



- ✓ It circumscribes an area of 2,339 square kilometres. It will encompass areas within the Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary and Durgavati Wildlife Sanctuary. A green corridor linking Panna Tiger Reserve (PTR) with Durgavati will be developed for the natural movement of the tiger to the new reserve.
- ✓ MP retained the “tiger state” status in the 2022 census with the number of big cats in the state rising to 785 from 526 in 2018.

➤ **Country’s First Cartography Museum**

- ✓ The Minister of Tourism and Culture of Uttarakhand, **Satpal Maharaj**, inaugurated the **George Everest Cartography Museum** in the picturesque town of **Mussoorie, Uttarakhand**, on the occasion of **World Tourism Day**.



- ✓ The museum is situated in **Park Estate**, which used to be the residence of the famous surveyor Sir George Everest, known for whom Mount Everest is named. This estate can be found in the **Hathipaon region** of the hill town.
- ✓ The minister also named a **helipad** at the George Everest estate after the brilliant mathematician **Radhanath Sikdar**.
- ✓ Sikdar’s historic accomplishment was no less than calculating the height of the world’s highest peak, Mount Everest, for the first time in history.
- ✓ This remarkable feat laid the foundation for subsequent mountaineering and surveying endeavors in the Himalayas.

➤ **Second Tiger Reserve In Kaimur District**

- ✓ Bihar is preparing to establish its second tiger reserve within the Kaimur district. With the growing tiger population and concerted efforts by the State Forest Department, this new reserve is expected to bolster tiger conservation efforts and enrich the state's biodiversity.



- ✓ The upcoming tiger reserve in Kaimur district will complement the existing Valmiki Tiger Reserve (VTR) located in the West Champaran district of Bihar.
 - ✓ The establishment of a second tiger reserve signifies a proactive approach to protect and conserve the majestic big cats and their habitat.
- As per recent reports, Bihar currently boasts a total tiger population of 54.

NATIONAL

➤ NITI Aayog and UNDP Collaborate to Advance India's SDGs



- ✓ NITI Aayog and UNDP join forces to accelerate India's progress towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- ✓ The collaboration focuses on localizing SDGs, enhancing data-driven monitoring, uplifting underdeveloped regions, and promoting cooperative federalism.
- ✓ It emphasizes initiatives like the Aspirational Districts and Blocks program to transform underdeveloped areas.
- ✓ The partnership aims to showcase India's successes in realizing its development priorities and inspire other nations.

➤ 'One Nation, One Election'

- ✓ On 1st September, the Indian government announced the formation of a committee led by former President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, to delve into the feasibility of 'One Nation, One Election.'



- ✓ This development follows the government's announcement to hold a special parliamentary session from September 18th to 22nd, 2023, which has led to curiosity about the session's purpose.
- ✓ 'One Nation, One Election' is a concept aimed at synchronizing elections for the **Lok Sabha (the lower house of India's Parliament)** and all state assemblies.

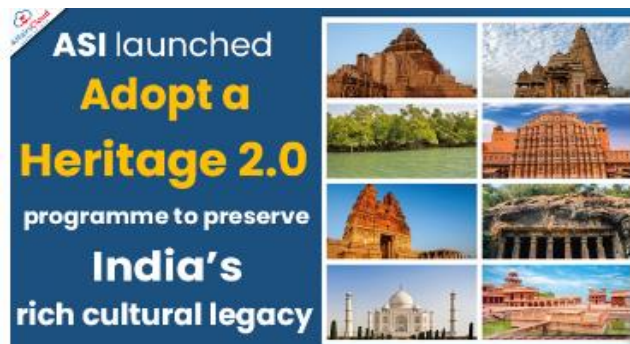
- ✓ The central idea is to hold these elections simultaneously on a single day or within a specific time frame.

➤ **Tele-Law 2.0**

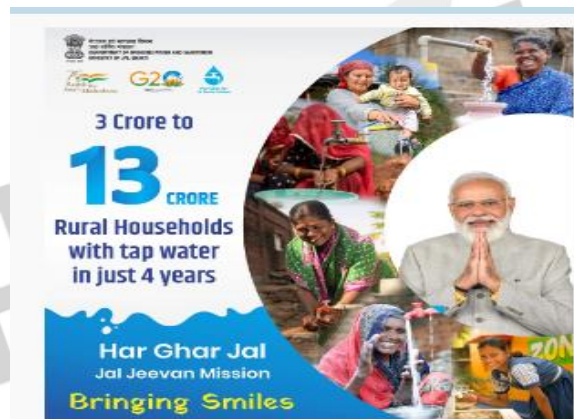
- ✓ In a significant stride towards achieving this goal, the Union Minister of Law and Justice recently launched **Tele-Law 2.0**, a revamped version of the **Tele-Law** program.



- ✓ This initiative, operating under the **DISHA Scheme** by the **Department of Justice, Ministry of Law & Justice**, aims to provide free legal aid to the rural and marginalized sections of society through video conferencing.
 - ✓ Tele-Law is an initiative launched by the Government of India to provide legal assistance and advice to citizens, especially those residing in rural and remote areas, who have limited access to legal services.
 - ✓ The initiative utilizes technology to bridge the gap between citizens and legal professionals, making legal aid accessible to all.
- **Adopt a Heritage 2.0 Programme**
- ✓ To ensure the preservation and enhancement of India's rich cultural heritage and its invaluable cultural legacy, the ASI (Archaeological Survey of India) is set to launch the "Adopt a Heritage 2.0" programme on September 4, 2023, at the Samvet Auditorium, IGNCA, New Delhi.



- ✓ This program is designed to facilitate corporate stakeholders' active involvement in improving amenities at heritage sites by utilizing their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds.
 - ✓ In conjunction with the "Adopt a Heritage 2.0" programme, a user-friendly mobile app named 'Indian Heritage' will be launched on the same day. This innovative app will serve as a digital showcase of India's rich heritage monuments.
- **Jal Jeevan Mission - Milestone**
- ✓ In a significant achievement, the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) has provided tap water connections to an impressive milestone of 13 crore rural households, marking a remarkable journey since its launch on India's 73rd Independence Day, August 15, 2019.



- ✓ This mission, guided by the principles of speed and scale, has rapidly expanded access to clean water in rural areas, progressing from 3.23 crore households in August 2019 to the current milestone in just four years.
 - ✓ Several states and union territories, including Goa, Telangana, Haryana, Gujarat, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Puducherry, Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, and the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, have achieved 100% tap water coverage.
- **Malaviya Mission**
- ✓ Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan launches Malaviya Mission- Teachers Training Programme by UGC to improve quality of education.



- ✓ The programme aims to provide tailored training programmes for teachers and faculty members in higher educational institutions.
- ✓ The programme will be conducted through 111 Malaviya Mission centres across India.
- ✓ The programme will help in building capacities of 15 lakh teachers of Higher Educational Institutions.
- **World's Tallest Nataraja Statue - G20 Summit Venue**
- ✓ At the venue of the G20 Summit, world leaders will be greeted by a breathtaking 27-foot-tall statue of Nataraja, Lord Shiva in his cosmic dance.



- ✓ This magnificent sculpture, made from an eight-metal alloy known as ashtadhatu, weighs a staggering 18 tonnes, requiring a trailer with 36 tires for transportation to Delhi.
- ✓ This masterpiece seamlessly blends tradition with modernity, drawing inspiration from ancient Nataraja idols.
- ✓ The primary sculptors behind this masterpiece are 61-year-old Srikanda Sthapathy, along with his brothers Radhakrishna Sthapathy and Swaminatha Sthapathy.

➤ **PM Narendra Modi Co-Chairs 20th ASEAN-India Summit**

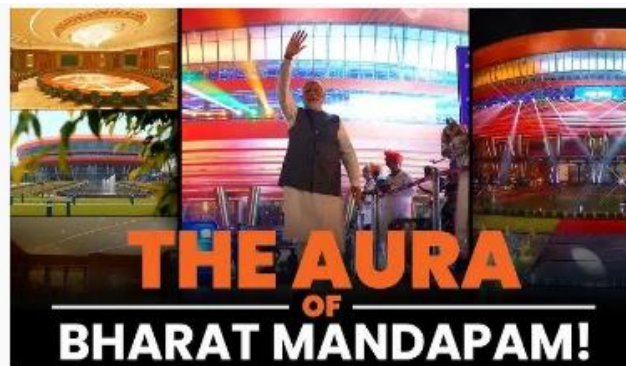
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the 20th ASEAN-India Summit in Jakarta, Indonesia.



- ✓ He acknowledged the enduring India-ASEAN partnership, marking its fourth decade. ASEAN holds a crucial role in India's Act East policy and Indo Pacific initiative.
- ✓ India and ASEAN celebrated their comprehensive strategic partnership last year. Shared history, geography, values, and belief in peace unite India and ASEAN.
- ✓ PM Modi announced the opening of an Indian Embassy in Dili, Timor-Leste.
- ✓ Additionally, he participated in the East Asia Summit, discussing strategic regional matters.

➤ **Bharat Mandapam**

- ✓ Situated within New Delhi's Pragati Maidan, Bharat Mandapam stands as a symbol of India's hosting of the G20 Summit.

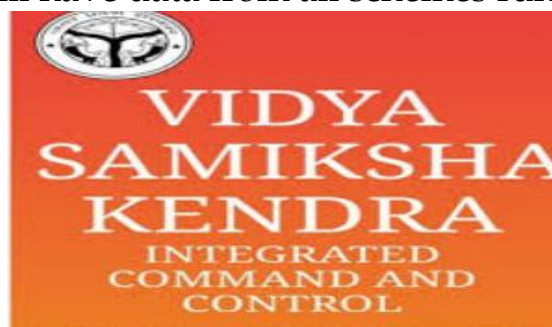


- ✓ This remarkable venue will serve as the backdrop for pivotal discussions among world leaders.
- ✓ Covering an expansive area of 123 acres, Bharat Mandapam is developed as India's largest MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions) destination.

- ✓ Its world-class facilities and vast campus position it among the top exhibition and convention complexes globally.
- **Country's First Underground Power Transformer**
- ✓ Energy Minister KJ George inaugurated the country's inaugural underground transformer center, a significant step towards modernizing the city's power distribution infrastructure.



- ✓ With a budget of Rs 1.98 crore, this pioneering project boasts a 500 KVA capacity transformer. Historically, underground power transformer stations have primarily been found in Western countries, where governments prioritize public convenience and safety.
- ✓ At a depth of 10 feet below the road's surface, this innovative center sets new standards in power distribution.
- **Vidya Samiksha Kendras (VSKs)**
- ✓ Under the National Digital Education Architecture (NDEAR), the Education Ministry is pushing States to open Vidya Samiksha Kendras (VSKs), which are data repositories that will have data from all schemes run by the Ministry.



- ✓ This will include regularly updated data from the PMPOSHAN midday meal programmes; teacher training data from the National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement portal; textbook content from the Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing; school dropout and attendance-related

data on the Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE+); students' learning outcomes from the National Achievement Survey; and Performance Grading Index which evaluates school education system at the State and Union Territory (UT) level.

➤ **“Bharat: The Mother Of Democracy” Portal**

- ✓ On the eve of the G20 leadership summit, the Ministry of Culture unveiled a remarkable online portal titled “Bharat: The Mother of Democracy.”



- ✓ This portal serves as a comprehensive digital exhibition chronicling the rich history of democracy in India, spanning an astonishing 7,000 years – from the Sindhu-Saraswati civilization to the year 2019.
- ✓ The portal is meticulously curated by the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), ensuring the accuracy and richness of the content.
- ✓ The portal is thoughtfully organized into five main sections, each with 22 sub-sections. These sections encapsulate different eras and aspects of India's democratic journey.

➤ **First Global Symposium On Farmers' Rights**



- ✓ President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the First Global Symposium on Farmers' Rights in New Delhi.

- ✓ This symposium, organized by the Secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (International Treaty) of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Rome, was hosted by the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
 - ✓ President Murmu, in her address, underscored the pivotal role of the global farming community as the foremost conservers of crop diversity.
- **Ayushman Bhav Campaign**
- ✓ Ayushman Bhav campaign launched to enhance accessibility and affordability of healthcare services, especially for underserved communities.



- ✓ Multi-ministerial approach to bring healthcare services to the remotest corners of India.
 - ✓ Involvement of local governance and gram panchayats recognized as Ayushman Gram Panchayats.
 - ✓ Seva Pakwada initiative to ensure essential health services reach every individual.
 - ✓ Three components of Ayushman Bhav: Ayushman – Apke Dwar 3.0, Ayushman Melas at HWC and CHC, and Ayushman Sabhas.
 - ✓ India's digital inclusion efforts ensuring access to healthcare facilities in every village and district.
- **Swachhata Pakhwada-2023**
- ✓ The Ministry of Railways in India, in its unwavering commitment to cleanliness, has officially launched the Swachhata Pakhwada 2023 campaign.
 - ✓ This initiative, aimed at promoting cleanliness and environmental consciousness, commenced on the 15th of September, 2023.



- ✓ The Swachhata Pakhwada 2023 is observed from the 16th of September to the 30th of September.
- ✓ However, in an extraordinary display of dedication, the Ministry of Railways has extended it suo-moto (at their own initiative) until the 2nd of October, culminating with Mahatma Gandhi's Jayanti, a day that epitomizes the values of cleanliness and sustainable living.

➤ **Hoysala Temples - India's 42nd UNESCO's World Heritage Site**

- ✓ The Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysala, the famed Hoysala temples of Belur, Halebid and Somananthpura in Karnataka have been added to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage list.



- ✓ This inclusion marks the 42nd UNESCO World Heritage Site in India and comes just a day after Rabindranath Tagore's Santiniketan also received this distinguished recognition.
- **Women Reservation Bill Granting 33% Seats To Women In Parliament**
- ✓ The Union Cabinet took a historic step by approving the Women Reservation Bill, The Bill mandates that one-third of the seats in the Lok Sabha and state assemblies will be reserved for women candidates.



- ✓ This provision aims to promote gender equality and increase women's representation in India's legislative bodies.
- ✓ To ensure fairness and equitable distribution, the reserved seats will be rotated after each general election. This mechanism prevents the monopolization of reserved seats by specific political parties or individuals.
- ✓ The Bill also proposes sub-reservation within the 33 percent quota for Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), and Anglo-Indians.

➤ **Gandhi Walk**

- ✓ The 35th edition of the annual Gandhi Walk, a cherished event in the predominantly Indian suburb of Lenasia in Johannesburg, finally returned after being postponed for three long years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



- ✓ The event witnessed the enthusiastic participation of over two thousand people who embraced the new format – a delightful six-kilometre walk, accompanied by an array of entertainment.
- ✓ This year's walk was a departure from the traditional format, emphasizing enjoyment over competition.

➤ **India's First Lighthouse Festival**

- ✓ On September 23, India witnessed a historic event as the country's first-ever lighthouse festival illuminated the picturesque state of Goa.



- ✓ Organized by the Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways, this festival is part of a grand vision to transform 75 lighthouses across India into thriving tourist hubs.
 - ✓ The Indian Lighthouse Festival in Goa, which commenced on September 23 and extends to September 25, marks a significant milestone in the journey to resurrect these historic structures.
 - ✓ The festival kicked off with a grand inauguration ceremony at the iconic Fort Aguada Lighthouse in Panjim, Goa.
- **75% Of Villages Declaring ODF Plus Status**
- ✓ India's Jal Shakti minister, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, recently announced a significant achievement in the country's sanitation efforts.
 - ✓ He reported that 75% of Indian villages, totaling about 4.4 lakh, have attained the coveted 'Open Defecation Free Plus' (ODF Plus) status.



- ✓ This milestone signifies a crucial step toward fulfilling the goals of the second phase of the Swachh Bharat Mission Gramin by 2024-25.
- ✓ An 'ODF Plus' village is one that has not only maintained its Open Defecation Free (ODF) status but has also successfully implemented either solid or liquid waste management systems.

➤ **First Green Hydrogen-Run Bus**

- ✓ The Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) achieved a significant milestone in India's transition to clean energy by unveiling the nation's first green hydrogen-powered bus.



- ✓ IOC is leading the charge in harnessing the power of green hydrogen, produced through the electrolysis of water using electricity from renewable sources.
- ✓ This green hydrogen will be utilized to fuel two buses, which are slated for trial runs in the national capital region.
- ✓ Hydrogen is hailed as the fuel of the future and holds immense potential in aiding India's decarbonization efforts.

➤ **'Sankalp Saptaah' Programme for Aspirational Blocks**

- ✓ PM Modi will launch a unique week-long programme for Aspirational Blocks in New Delhi.
- ✓ The programme has been named as Sankalp Saptaah.
- ✓ It is aimed at improving governance at the block level to enhance the quality of life of citizens.
- ✓ Sankalp Saptaah will be observed in all of the 500 Aspirational Blocks across 329 districts in the country.
- ✓ Its primary objective is to uplift the living standards of citizens by enhancing governance and public services delivery in these areas.

INTERNATIONAL

➤ Hindu Heritage Month

- ✓ In a significant move, Governor Brian Kemp of the U.S. state of Georgia has officially declared that the month of October will be celebrated as 'Hindu Heritage Month' within the state.



- ✓ This proclamation aligns Georgia with several other states across the United States that have taken similar steps to honor and commemorate Hindu heritage, culture, values, and traditions.
- ✓ Georgia joins a growing list of states that have recognized the importance of Hindu heritage and culture.

➤ African Union Becomes Permanent Member Of G20

- ✓ During the opening session of the two-day G20 Summit, the African Union (AU) received an official invitation to join the Group of 20 largest economies (G20) as a permanent member.

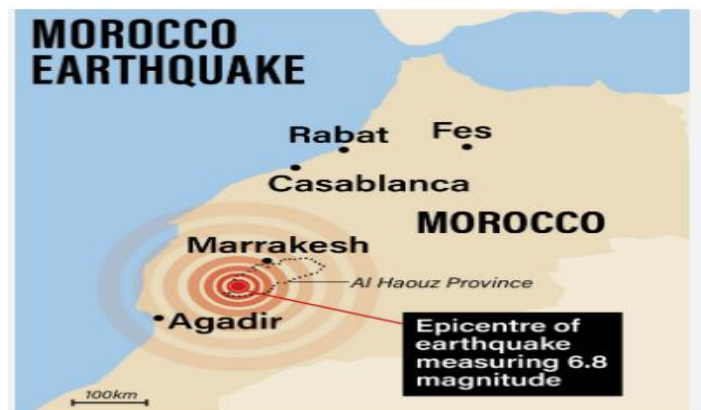


- ✓ Following Prime Minister Modi's announcement, Union of Comoros President and AU Chairperson Azali Assoumani assumed his seat as a full member of the G20.

- ✓ This marked a moment of pride and triumph for the African Union, as it secured its place among the world's most influential economies.
- ✓ The African Union, comprising 55 member states from across the African continent, wields substantial influence in regional and global affairs.
- ✓ Its permanent membership in the G20 reflects the increasing recognition of Africa's economic and geopolitical importance.

➤ **Morocco- Earthquake**

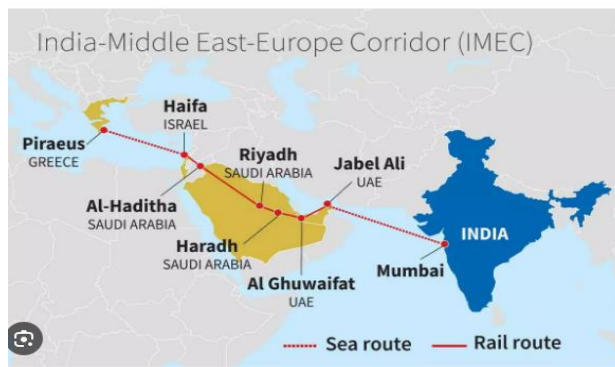
- ✓ In Morocco, The death Toll from A 6.8 Magnitude Earthquake has risen over 2000 while about 1400 are said to be injured.



- ✓ The devastating quake on Friday night was epicentered at a sparsely-populated area of the High Atlas Mountains, around 71km Southwest of Marrakesh.
- ✓ The 6.8 magnitude quake is the biggest to jolt the North African Country in the past 120 years.
- ✓ Several People are still suspected to be trapped under the rubble and debris of the fallen structures that were Age-Old and could not withstand The Earthquake.

➤ **India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)**

- ✓ The G20 Summit announced the launch of the India-Middle East-Europe economic corridor.
- ✓ The economic corridor will include shipping and railway links, making trade between India and Europe 40% faster.



- ✓ It aims to boost trade, transport energy resources, and improve digital connectivity.
- ✓ The corridor involves countries like India, UAE, Saudi Arabia, EU, France, Italy, Germany, and the US.
- ✓ It aims to bolster economic development by fostering connectivity and economic integration between Asia, the Arabian Gulf, and Europe.
- ✓ It is considered to be a counter to China's Belt and Road Initiative.

➤ **What Is India-Middle East-Europe Mega Economic Corridor Project?**

- ✓ In a significant announcement during the G20 summit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled plans for the India-Middle East-Europe economic corridor, a ground-breaking initiative that promises to reshape global trade and connectivity.



- ✓ The corridor, which involves India, UAE, Saudi Arabia, European Union, Italy, Germany and the United States, is poised to be historic venture, surpassing even the legendary Silk and Spice routes of the past.
- ✓ India-Middle East-Europe mega economic corridor project aims to boost trade between the participating nations, with a particular focus on facilitating the exchange of energy-related goods.

➤ **India - Bangladesh's - Largest Export Partner**

- ✓ India surpasses Japan and China to become Bangladesh's leading export partner.
- ✓ India has become Bangladesh's largest export partner, with exports surging from \$450 million to \$2 billion.



- ✓ The Agartala-Akhaura rail link project is nearing completion, promising to enhance connectivity and trade ties.
- ✓ The project is expected to be inaugurated by the end of the year and will be the seventh rail link connecting India and Bangladesh.
- ✓ India's Act East Policy is not solely centered on trade and investment, but also on connectivity and people-to-people ties.

➤ **I2U2 Group**

- ✓ The I2U2 group comprising India, Israel, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and the United States has unveiled an ambitious joint space venture.



- ✓ This collaborative initiative aims to create a groundbreaking space-based tool with wide-ranging applications for policymakers, institutions, and entrepreneurs.
- ✓ Against the backdrop of India's triumphant lunar soft-landing, the I2U2 group, consisting of four nations deeply engaged in space exploration, has come together to pioneer a unique space-based tool.

INDIA & OTHER COUNTRIES

- **Indo-US Task Force to Boost Electronics Trade to \$100 Billion by 2033**
- ✓ ICEA sets up task force to increase Indo-US electronics trade from \$8 billion to \$100 billion within a decade.



1.

- ✓ The task force will focus on policy and regulatory adaptations, technology sharing, and co-production.
 - ✓ The partnership is expected to create new jobs and opportunities for Indian businesses and start-ups.
- **India, Bangladesh Sign 3 MoUs**
 - ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bangladesh counterpart Sheikh Hasina signed three MoUs on 8 September 2023.



- ✓ The MoU on Digital Payment was signed between NPCI and Bangladesh Bank.
- ✓ Another MoU focused on the renewal of the Cultural Exchange Program between India and Bangladesh.
- ✓ The third MoU was signed between ICAR and BARC for agricultural research cooperation.

- **12th Economic and Financial Dialogue (EFD)**
- ✓ The 12th Round of Ministerial India-UK Economic and Financial Dialogue was held in New Delhi.



- ✓ The Indian delegation was led by Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs.
 - ✓ The two countries announced the India-UK Infrastructure Finance Bridge, a collaborative initiative to leverage expertise and investment in support of India's National Infrastructure Pipeline.
- **India-Saudi Investment Forum 2023**
- ✓ An India-Saudi Arabia Investment Forum 2023 was organized in New Delhi during the state visit of Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince.



- ✓ This marked a significant milestone as the first formal investment symposium between the two nations.
- ✓ Over 500 companies from both countries participated in the event, reflecting the strong commitment to economic cooperation. The Saudi Crown Prince had previously announced an investment of approximately \$100 billion in various sectors of the Indian economy.

SCHEMES

➤ SHREYAS Scheme

- ✓ The Scheme for Higher Education Youth in Apprenticeship and Skills (SHREYAS scheme), comprising four central sector sub-schemes, has been instrumental in empowering thousands of students from Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) since its inception in 2014.



- ✓ This umbrella scheme encompasses “Top Class Education for SCs,” “Free Coaching Scheme for SCs and OBCs,” “National Overseas Scheme for SCs,” and “National Fellowship for SCs.”
- ✓ The scheme aims to offer high-quality coaching to economically disadvantaged SC and OBC candidates, enabling them to participate in competitive exams and gain admission to prestigious technical and professional higher education institutions. Families with a total annual income of up to 8 lakhs are eligible for this scheme.

COURT VERDICT

➤ **Void or Voidable Marriage**

- ✓ The Supreme Court ruled that a child born of a void or voidable marriage can inherit the parent's share in a joint Hindu family property. However, such a child would not have the rights in or to the property of any other person in the family.
- ✓ This judgment has been passed by a three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud.
- ✓ A voidable marriage is one that is declared invalid by a decree issued by the husband or wife.
- ✓ Except for West Bengal and Assam, the Mitakshara law of succession for Hindu Undivided Families applies to the whole of India.



CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

➤ G20 Summit 2023

- ✓ The G20 Summit 2023 is scheduled to take place on September 9th and 10th, spanning two days in the capital city, Delhi.
- ✓ The summit will be held at the prestigious 'Bharat Mandappam,' which is located within the ITPO Convention Centre in New Delhi's Pragati Maidan.



- ✓ The theme for the G20 Summit 2023 is "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam," which translates to "One Earth, One Family, One Future."
- ✓ This theme emphasizes global unity and interconnectedness and highlights the importance of environmentally sustainable choices.

➤ Naval Commanders' Conference

- ✓ 2nd edition of the 2023 Naval Commanders' Conference began in New Delhi on 4 September. In this supreme conference held twice a year, Naval Commanders will consider important policy decisions.



- ✓ During the three-day conference, senior Navy officers will review the operations, equipment, training, and administrative activities undertaken during the last six months.
- ✓ At the event, the Naval Commanders will also review ongoing naval projects with a focus on promoting indigenization through 'Make in India' in consonance with the vision of achieving complete 'self-reliance' by 2047.

➤ **Green Hydrogen Pilots in India**

- ✓ In preparation for the 18th G20 Summit, a day-long conference titled “Green Hydrogen Pilots in India” is scheduled to take place in New Delhi on September 5, 2023.



- ✓ The event, hosted by NTPC Ltd., India’s leading integrated power producer, highlighted various green hydrogen pilot projects undertaken by both public and private sector companies across India.
- ✓ The conference aims to showcase green hydrogen pilot projects in India, fostering discussions, sharing achievements, and addressing challenges in the clean energy sector.
- ✓ It is significant as it promotes sustainable energy solutions and aligns with India’s National Green Hydrogen Mission.

➤ **ASEAN-India Summit and 18 East Asia Summit**

- ✓ PM Modi will attend the 20 ASEAN-India Summit and 18 East Asia Summit in Jakarta, Indonesia.



- ✓ The 20th ASEAN-India Summit is the first one after the elevation of the India-ASEAN relationship to a comprehensive strategic partnership in 2022.
- ✓ The theme of this year's summit is ASEAN Matters: Epicentrum of Growth. India is the founding member of the East Asia Summit.
- ✓ During the Summit, the Prime Minister and other leaders will discuss ways to further strengthen the East Asia Summit mechanism.

➤ Global Fintech Fest 2023

- ✓ The Global Fintech Fest (GFF) is set to reclaim its title as the world's largest fintech conference in 2023.



- ✓ This year's event promises to be a spectacular showcase of innovation and collaboration in the fintech industry.
- ✓ The conference was commenced with a prestigious inauguration ceremony graced by Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, the Minister of Finance, Government of India.
- ✓ The Theme of the fest was 'Global Collaboration for a Responsible Financial Ecosystem: 'Inclusive | Resilient | Sustainable''.

➤ Global Biofuel Alliance at G20 Summit

- ✓ On 9 September 2023, India has announced the launch of a Global Biofuel Alliance at G20 Summit in New Delhi.



- ✓ PM Modi has invited all of the countries to join the global biofuel alliance. India, USA and Brazil will work together with interested countries for developed of a Global Biofuel Alliance.
- ✓ India's proposal is to take an initiative at the global level to take ethanol blending in petrol to as high as 20%. PM Modi also said that India has launched National Green Hydrogen Mission to boost green hydrogen production.

➤ **14th World Spice Congress: Celebrating India's Spice Heritage**

- ✓ The 14th edition of the World Spice Congress (WSC) commenced in Vashi, Navi Mumbai.
- ✓ This three-day event is being meticulously organized by the Spices Board India, a subsidiary of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, in collaboration with several trade bodies and export forums.



- ✓ India, often referred to as the 'Spice Bowl' of the world, is known for producing high-quality, rare, and medicinal spices.
- ✓ The World Spice Congress (WSC) aims to create new opportunities for the international trade of Indian spices.

➤ **UNCITRAL South Asia Conference**

- ✓ India recently played host to the inaugural United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) South Asia conference, held from September 14 to 16.



- ✓ This significant event was jointly organized by the Ministry of External Affairs, UNCITRAL, and the organization's national coordination committee for India.
- ✓ This three-day conference marked a continuation of a significant event held in New Delhi in 2016, which celebrated 50 years of UNCITRAL's existence.

- ✓ The primary goal of the conference was to foster closer ties between India and UNCITRAL while encouraging active interaction among UNCITRAL, the judiciary, the bureaucracy, academia, and the legal fraternity.

➤ **International Lawyers Conference**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 'International Lawyers' Conference 2023' at New Delhi's Vigyan Bhawan today.



- ✓ This conference, organized by the Bar Council of India, has brought together legal experts from across the globe to deliberate on the theme 'Emerging Challenges in Justice Delivery System.'
- ✓ The event, scheduled for September 23 and 24, marks the first of its kind in India and aims to facilitate discussions on pressing legal issues of both national and international significance.
- ✓ The primary objective of the International Lawyers' Conference 2023 is to serve as a platform for meaningful dialogue and discussion on various legal topics.

➤ **13th Indo-Pacific Armies Chiefs Conference**

- ✓ The 13th Indo-Pacific Armies Chiefs Conference (IPACC) took place from September 26 to 27, 2023, at the Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi.



- ✓ This biennial event, co-hosted by the Indian Army and the US Army Pacific, brought together army chiefs from 30 Indo-Pacific nations to deliberate on security cooperation, collective strategies, and pressing regional issues.
- ✓ The primary objective of the IPACC was to foster security cooperation among participating nations in the Indo-Pacific region.
- ✓ A crucial focus of the conference was the role of military diplomacy in mitigating crises within the Indo-Pacific region.

➤ **India Energy Summit 2023**

- ✓ Minister of Power, New and Renewable Energy RK Singh has inaugurated the 'India Energy Summit 2023' at FICCI Federation House in New Delhi.



- ✓ Two-day Summit aims to focus on the development of an enabling Green Hydrogen ecosystem in the country.
- ✓ He stressed that India is committed to living behind a healthy and safe plant for the next generation.
- ✓ In the inauguration session of the summit, Ambassador of Kindom of Belgium Didier Vanderhasselt and Germany Ambassador Dr Philipp Ackermann along with senior dignitaries were also present.

➤ **Bharatiya Bhasha Utsav and Technology Summit**

- ✓ Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan to launch Bharatiya Bhasha Utsav and Technology and Bharatiya Bhasha Summit in New Delhi.



- ✓ The two-day summit aims for a technologically enriched future for Bharatiya languages in education.
- ✓ The summit will focus on the integration of technology in promoting Bharatiya Bhasha, including its role in teaching, examination, and translating educational materials.

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DEFENCE

➤ **Trishul**

- ✓ The Indian Air Force (IAF) is conducting a significant training maneuver named 'Trishul,' running in the northern region of India, adjacent to the borders with China and Pakistan.



- ✓ The exercise will be conducted from September 4 to 14 and will be in line with the G20 summit to be held from September 8 to 10 in New Delhi.
- ✓ The Western Command of the Indian Air Force has organized this exercise with the primary objective of evaluating the combat prowess of the force and analyzing various operational aspects.

➤ **Exercise - Bright Star - 23**

- ✓ INS Sumedha arrived at Port Alexandria, Egypt on 06 September 2023 to participate in 'Exercise BRIGHT STAR- 23'.
- ✓ This edition of the multinational Tri-Services military exercise will see participation from 34 countries.



- ✓ It is the largest-ever joint military exercise in the Middle East & North Africa region. Ex Bright Star 23 is scheduled to be conducted in two phases.

- ✓ The Harbour Phase involves wide-ranging activities such as cross-deck visits, professional exchanges, sports fixtures, and interactions for planning and conduct of the Sea Phase.

➤ **NAVAL EXERCISE 'VARUNA' - 2023**

- ✓ The Indian and French Navies, steeped in rich maritime traditions and strategic cooperation, recently concluded the Phase II of the 21st edition of the Varuna naval exercise, Varuna-23.



- ✓ Held in the Arabian Sea, this exercise exemplifies the commitment of both nations to enhance their war-fighting capabilities, improve interoperability, and promote peace, security, and stability in the region.
- ✓ This robust collaboration showcased joint operations, underway replenishment, and various tactical maneuvers designed to sharpen the skills of both navies.

➤ **Indian Coast Guard participates in 19th HACGAM**

- ✓ Indian Coast Guard participated in the 19th Heads of Asian Coast Guard Agencies Meeting (HACGAM) in Istanbul, Turkey.



- ✓ The meeting discussed maritime law enforcement, safety and security of life at sea, marine environment protection, and the illicit trafficking of drugs, weapons, and humans at sea.
- ✓ The Indian Coast Guard is the chair of the Search and Rescue Working Group and is committed to improving maritime security in the region.

➤ **Operation Sajag**

- ✓ Operation Sajag,' a comprehensive drill was conducted by the Indian Coast Guard along the west coast on September 18, 2023. It is a significant event in the realm of coastal security.



- ✓ This operation involves all stakeholders in the coastal security construct and plays a pivotal role in revalidating the coastal security mechanism while enhancing awareness among fishermen operating at sea.
- ✓ During 'Operation Sajag,' an extensive checking and verification process was initiated, targeting the documents and crew passes of all fishing boats, barges, and crafts at sea.

➤ **P-7 Heavy Drop Parachute System**

- ✓ India's defense capabilities receive a significant boost with the development of the P-7 Heavy Drop Parachute System, an indigenous marvel designed to enhance the parachuting capabilities of the country's Armed Forces.



- ✓ This innovative system, entirely developed within India, promises to revolutionize the way military stores are paradropped on the battlefield.
- ✓ P-7 Heavy Drop Parachute System has been developed by the P7 Heavy Drop System which is capable of para-dropping military stores up to 7-ton weight class from IL 76 aircraft.

➤ **Martyr Captain Tushar Mahajan Railway Station**

- ✓ After an order was approved by the Jammu and Kashmir administration regarding the renaming of Udhampur railway station, the Northern Railway has notified the change in the name to 'Martyr Captain Tushar Mahajan Railway Station', in honour of the Army braveheart.



- ✓ It is notified for the information of the general public that with immediate effect, the name of UDHAMPUR (UHP) Railway Station in Firozpur Division of Northern Railway has been changed to "Martyr Captain Tushar Mahajan (MCTM) Railway Station."
- ✓ Captain Tushar Mahajan, a dedicated officer in the Indian Army, gave his life in service to his country.

➤ **SIMBEX 23**

- ✓ The 30th edition of the Singapore India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX) has commenced, marking another milestone in the strong and enduring partnership between the Indian Navy and the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN).



- ✓ This annual naval exercise, which began in 1994, stands as a testament to the deep-rooted maritime cooperation between the two nations.
- ✓ SIMBEX has etched its name in history as the longest continuous naval exercise conducted by the Indian Navy with any other country.
- ✓ It has not only strengthened the ties between the Indian Navy and RSN but has also contributed to regional stability and security in the Indo-Pacific region.

➤ **India-Indonesia-Australia Trilateral Maritime Exercise**

- ✓ INS Sahyadri took part in the first India-Indonesia-Australia trilateral maritime exercise. INS Sahyadri is the Indian Navy's indigenously built warship.



- ✓ It participated in the exercise from 20-21 September 2023. The trilateral exercise offered an opportunity for the three maritime nations to strengthen their partnership.
- ✓ It also offered them an opportunity to improve their collective capability to support a stable, peaceful and secure Indo-Pacific region.

➤ **19th Edition Of YUDH ABHYAS**

- ✓ The 19th edition of YUDH ABHYAS is set to commence in Alaska, USA.

- ✓ This annual exercise is a collaborative effort between the Indian Army and the US Army, aimed at strengthening military cooperation and readiness.



- ✓ The Indian Army contingent, consisting of 350 personnel, will actively take part in this edition of the exercise. The lead battalion representing India hails from the esteemed MARATHA Light Infantry Regiment.
- ✓ The exercise will facilitate the exchange of views and best practices related to a broad spectrum of combat skills.

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ECONOMY

- **India achieves 7.8 per cent GDP growth for April-June quarter**
- ✓ India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew by 7.8% in Quarter 1 2023-24, reaching Rs 40.37 lakh crore.
- ✓ This is a decrease from the 13.1% growth rate in Q1 2022-23.
- ✓ India remains the fastest-growing major economy.

- **Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Gets Navratna Status**
- ✓ The Department of Public Enterprise (DPE) conferred 'Navratna Status' upon Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers (RCF).



- ✓ Navratnas constitute a group of public sector firms endowed with the financial independence to invest up to Rs 1000 crore without necessitating approval from the central government.
 - ✓ Prior to this, the company had attained 'Miniratna Status' from the Department of Public Enterprise.
 - ✓ Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd. (RCF) is an Indian government-owned enterprise headquartered in Mumbai, primarily engaged in the production of chemicals and fertilizers.
-
- **India's August GST Collection Surges to 1.59 Trillion**
 - ✓ In August, India witnessed a notable surge in Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection, amounting to 1.59 trillion, signifying an 11% increase compared to the same period last year.



- ✓ This impressive growth can be attributed to enhanced compliance and anti-evasion measures put in place.
- ✓ The moderation in collection is primarily attributed to subdued growth in integrated GST (IGST) and the cess on imports, which increased by only 3% in August.
- ✓ Importantly, both imports and IGST collections have experienced fluctuations in recent months.
- **UPI Crosses 10 Billion Transactions in a Month for the First Time**
- ✓ UPI, India's instant payment system, has crossed the mark of 10 billion transactions in a month for the first time.



- ✓ The milestone was achieved in August 2023, with a total of 10.5 billion transactions recorded on the platform.
- ✓ The volumes are mainly driven by three players in the segment -- PhonePe, Google Pay and Paytm.
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed the achievement, calling it a testament to the people of India embracing digital progress.

APPOINTMENT

➤ **Geetika Srivastava - India's First Female Charge d'Affaires**

- ✓ Geetika Srivastava, a 2005 batch Indian Foreign Service officer, appointed as India's new chargé d'affaires at its high commission in Islamabad, Pakistan.
- ✓ She breaks the tradition of male-dominated diplomatic appointments to Pakistan, marking a significant step towards gender equality.



- ✓ This historic appointment signifies India's commitment to empowering women in leadership roles and progressive diplomacy.
- ✓ She takes charge as the first woman to lead the Indian High Commission in Pakistan, a notable milestone after 77 years of Independence.

➤ **Tharman Shanmugaratnam**

- ✓ Tharman Shanmugaratnam, an economist of Indian origin, emerged victorious in Singapore's recent Presidential election, marking the country's first competitive presidential race since 2011.



- ✓ In this election, Tharman Shanmugaratnam secured a significant mandate with 70.4% of the votes, defeating his two Chinese-origin opponents, Ng Kok Song and Tan Kin Lian, who garnered 15.7% and 13.88% of the votes, respectively.

➤ **Jaya Verma**

- ✓ Jaya Verma becomes the first woman to head Railway Board

- ✓ The Union government on Thursday appointed Jaya Verma Sinha Chairperson of the Railway Board, the top decision-making body of the Railway Ministry.



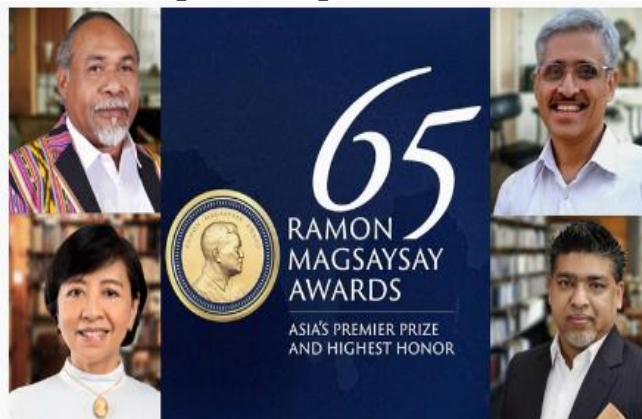
- ✓ She will assume office on or after Friday. She replaces Anil Kumar Lahoti. Ms. Sinha becomes the first woman to head the Board in its 118-year history.

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AWARDS

➤ 65th Ramon Magsaysay Awards 2023

- ✓ The Ramon Magsaysay Award, often called the 'Nobel Prize of Asia', is a notable accolade that represents exceptional spirit and influential leadership.



- ✓ This year, in the ceremony's 65th edition, four Asians were given the Ramon Magsaysay Award.
- ✓ **Korvi Rakshand from Bangladesh** – For providing education to underprivileged children.
- ✓ **Eugenio Lemos from Timor-Leste** – Food security and environmental protection.
- ✓ **Miriam Coronel-Ferrer from Philippines** – Peace negotiator.
- ✓ **Dr Ravi Kannan from India** - A renowned oncologist, who helps underprivileged cancer patients avail medical treatment has been honoured with the Magsaysay Award 2023 for his contribution in the health sector.

➤ World Innovation Award

- ✓ Shanta Thoutam honoured with World Innovation Award at BRICS Innovation Forum



- ✓ Telangana's Chief Innovation Officer (CIO) Shanta Thoutam has been presented with the World Innovation Award at the first BRICS Innovation Forum hosted at Moscow from August 27 to 29.

- ✓ The award is given for outstanding contribution to the Sustainable Development Goal-4 that ensures inclusive and equitable quality education and promotes lifelong opportunities for all.

➤ **Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize**

- ✓ Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) professor Rajnish Kumar has been awarded the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for his exceptional contributions to fundamental understanding of the nucleation and growth of clathrate hydrates, CO₂ sequestration in solid hydrates and methane recovery from marine gas hydrates.



- ✓ Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) bestows the prize on a person who makes outstanding contributions to human knowledge and progress – fundamental and applied – in a particular field of their specialisation.

➤ **Kalaigñar Semmozhi Award**

- ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Tuesday handed over the Kalaigñar M. Karunanidhi Semmozhi Tamil Award to Tamil scholar K. Ramasamy, former Deputy-Director of the Central Institute of Indian Languages.



- ✓ The award, given for the best contribution to classical Tamil studies by a researcher or a research institution in specified areas, carries a cheque for 10 lakh, a citation plaque, and a bronze replica of the donor, Karunanidhi.

➤ **Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Award**

- ✓ The Rotary Club of Madras East and Cavinkare Pvt. Ltd. on Wednesday conferred the Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Award for Environment Protection 2023 to former IAS officer T. Vijay Kumar, who is also executive vice chairman, RySS, and ExOfficio Special Chief Secretary, Agriculture and Cooperation Department, Andhra Pradesh.

➤ **Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar**

- ✓ The Government of India has recently introduced a prestigious set of National Awards in the field of Science, Technology, and Innovation, known as the “Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar” (RVP).



- ✓ These awards serve a vital role in recognizing and honoring the exceptional contributions made by scientists, technologists, and innovators who have significantly impacted various domains of science, technology, and technology-led innovation.
 - ✓ The Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar stands as one of the highest honors within the scientific and technological community in India.
- **Norman Borlaug Award for Innovative Rice Research**
- ✓ Odia scientist Swati Nayakhas been selected for this year’s Norman E Borlaug Award for Field Research and Application, for her innovative approach to adoption of climate-resilient and nutritious rice varieties and engaging farmers in demand-driven rice seed systems.



- ✓ Nayak is the South Asia lead for seed system and product management at International Rice Research Institute (IRRI).
- ✓ She was chosen for the award by the jury of the World Food Prize.
- ✓ Nayak will receive the award during the Borlaug Dialogue, scheduled on October 24 at Des Moines, Iowa, USA.

➤ **Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award**

- ✓ On September 26, 2023, Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Anurag Thakur, announced that the seasoned and accomplished actor, Waheeda Rehman, will be honored with the prestigious Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award, India's highest recognition in the world of cinema.



- ✓ Waheeda Rehman's journey in cinema spans over five glorious decades.
- ✓ She has portrayed her roles with finesse and dedication, earning critical acclaim for her exceptional performances.
- ✓ Additionally, she holds the Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan awards.

➤ **Best Tourism Villages Award**

- ✓ Vettaikaranpudur and Hullada get Centre's best tourism villages award.
- ✓ Two villages in the State – Vettaikaranpudur in Coimbatore district and Hullada in the Nilgiris – received bronze medals for the best tourism villages from the Centre.

➤ **SASTRA Ramanujan Prize in Mathematics**

- ✓ Mathematician Ruixiang Zhang, an Assistant Professor at the University of California, Berkeley, USA, has been selected as the recipient of the prestigious 2023 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize.



- ✓ This award recognizes his remarkable contributions to the field of mathematics.
- ✓ The prize, which includes a cash award of \$10,000, will be presented during an international conference in Number Theory, held in the hometown of the renowned mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujan, at SASTRA University in Kumbakonam during the third week of December.

PERSONALITIES

➤ Mrs. Universe India 2023

- ✓ The 8th Edition of Mrs India She is India 2023 was co-powered by Zulfeyn and held in New Delhi from 27th to 30th August 2023.



- ✓ Madhuri Patle from Nagpur, Maharashtra won the title and will represent India at the forthcoming Mrs Universe pageant in Manila, Philippines.
- ✓ Shivani Bagadia was the 1st Runner Up and Aishwarya Deshmukkh was the 2nd Runner Up.

➤ Nigar Shaji

- ✓ Stalin lauds ISRO scientist over AdityaL1 mission.



- ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin commended ISRO scientist Nigar Shaji, a native of Tamil Nadu, on her historic feat of being the project director of AdityaL1 mission.
- ✓ Nigar Shaji is the Project Director for Aditya-L1 mission, India's mission to the Sun. She was also the Associate Project Director of Resourcesat-2A, which is the Indian Remote Sensing Satellite for National Resource Monitoring and management.

➤ **Miss International India 2023**

- ✓ Praveena Anjana of Udaipur has been crowned Miss International India 2023, gaining her position to represent India at the Miss International pageant in Japan this October.

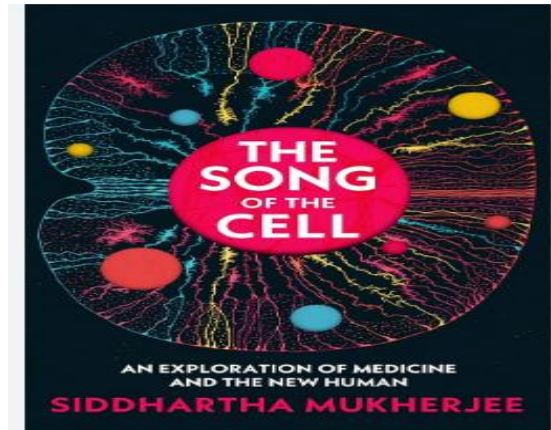


- ✓ Anjana, 23, is a chartered accountant by profession who has been interested in fashion and beauty since she was a kid.
- ✓ She began modelling at an early age and has competed in various beauty pageants, most recently winning the Miss Divine Beauty 2023 pageant in August.

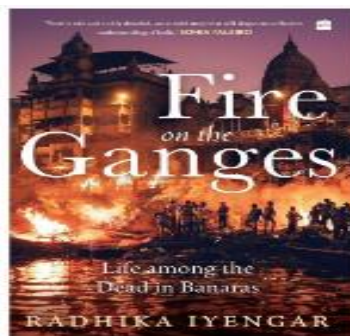
BOOKS & AUTHORS

➤ **The Song of the Cell**

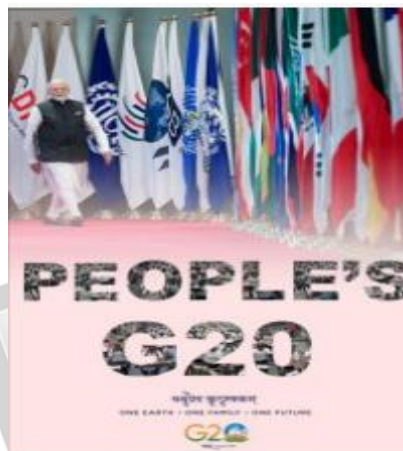
- ✓ Renowned Indian-American cancer physician and researcher Dr. Siddhartha Mukherjee's book 'The Song of the Cell' is longlisted for the prestigious £50,000 Baillie Gifford Prize for Non-Fiction in London.



- ✓ The book explores how cellular research has revolutionized medicine, enabling the treatment of life-altering diseases such as Alzheimer's and AIDS.
 - ✓ The judging panel hails the work as Mukherjee's "most spectacular book yet."
 - ✓ Mukherjee is known for his bestselling book 'The Gene: An Intimate History' and Pulitzer Prize-winning 'The Emperor of All Maladies: A Biography of Cancer.'
- **Fire on the Ganges Life among the Dead in Banaras**
- ✓ **Radhika Iyengar** is the author of the book '**Fire on the Ganges: Life Among the Dead in Banaras**,' released by HarperCollins. The book explores the city of Banaras (also known as Varanasi) in India, particularly its relationship with death and the afterlife.



- ✓ Fire on the Ganges is the first attempt to chronicle the everyday realities of the Doms in Banaras.
 - ✓ Through their tales of struggle and survival, betrayal and love, it tells the at-times-heartbreaking, at-times-exhilarating story of a community struggling to find a place beyond that accorded to it by ancient tradition.
- **People's G20**
- ✓ The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Secretary, Apurva Chandra, recently unveiled an ebook titled "People's G20" in New Delhi, offering a detailed insight into India's G20 Presidency.



- ✓ This ebook serves as a comprehensive documentation of India's significant role in the G20 Summit and its various initiatives during its tenure.
- ✓ The book is divided into three distinct parts, each shedding light on different aspects of India's G20 Presidency.
- ✓ The ebook "People's G20" serves as a valuable resource for those interested in understanding India's role in the G20 and the impact of its Presidency.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

➤ India's Largest Home-Built Nuclear Plant - Starts Operations

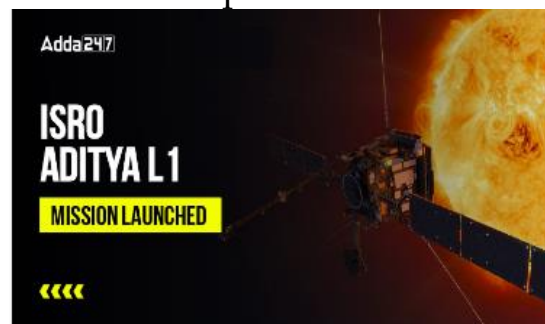
- ✓ In a significant development for India's energy sector, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that the 700 MW nuclear power plant located in Kakrapar, Gujarat, has commenced its operations at maximum capacity.



- ✓ This milestone marks a pivotal moment in India's quest for energy self-sufficiency and underscores the nation's commitment to harnessing indigenous nuclear technology.
- ✓ The **Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP)** initiated its commercial operations on June 30, 2023, but initially operated at only 90 percent of its capacity. On August 31, 2023, the plant finally achieved its full operational potential.

➤ ISRO Aditya L1 Mission Launched

- ✓ ISRO Aditya L1 mission was launched successfully on September 2, 2023 at 11:50 AM IST from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, India.



- ✓ The mission is India's first dedicated solar mission and will study the Sun's atmosphere, including the chromosphere and corona.
- ✓ The Aditya L1 spacecraft is a **1.5-ton satellite** that is equipped with seven payloads.
- ✓ The spacecraft will be placed in a halo orbit around the Sun-Earth Lagrange Point 1 (L1), which is located about **1.5 million kilometers from Earth**.

- ✓ The Aditya L1 mission is expected to last for five years. During this time, it will collect valuable data about the Sun that will help scientists to better understand its behavior and its impact on Earth.

➤ **Indrajaal**

- ✓ Hyderabad Firm Grene Robotics Unveils India's First AI-Powered Anti-Drone System – Indrajaal.



- ✓ Hyderabad-based private sector firm Grene Robotics has introduced Indrajaal, world's only autonomous wide area, counter-unmanned aircraft system (C-UAS).
- ✓ This state-of-the-art system is touted as capable of safeguarding against micro, mini, small, large, and extra-large drones, signaling a significant advancement in Indian defense technology.
- ✓ Indrajaal is built on a foundation of 12 unique layers of technology, a feat powered by artificial intelligence, marking a world-first achievement.

➤ **World's First Portable Hospital - Arogya Maitri Cube**

- ✓ India has unveiled the world's first portable disaster hospital, a groundbreaking facility that can be airlifted and consists of 72 cubes.
- ✓ This extraordinary endeavor is a component of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ambitious "Project BHISHM" (Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog Hita and Maitri), unveiled in February 2022.



- ✓ The heart of this innovative disaster hospital lies in its 72 cubes, each containing an array of essential equipment and supplies.

- ✓ Among these are an operation theatre, a mini-ICU, ventilators, blood test equipment, an X-ray machine, a cooking station, food, water, shelter, a power generator, and more.
- ✓ These cubes are ingeniously designed to provide critical medical care and humanitarian aid in the wake of natural disasters and humanitarian crises.

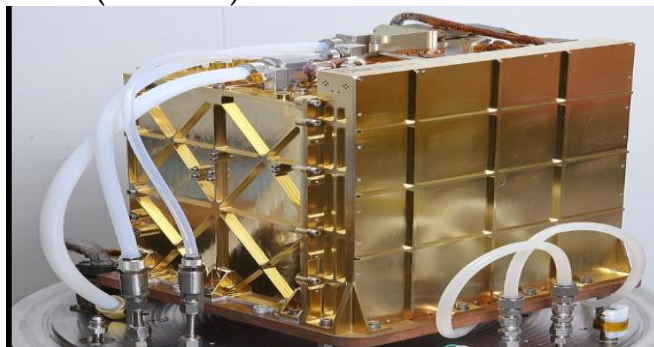
➤ **“One Week One Lab”**



- ✓ The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) is all set to host its annual “One Week One Lab” programme, an exciting event where each of its 37 cutting-edge laboratories situated across the nation will unveil their remarkable research outcomes and accomplishments.
- ✓ During this engaging week-long event, attendees can look forward to a diverse array of activities. Engaging talks by eminent scientists and researchers will delve into the latest advancements and breakthroughs in the field of science.

➤ **NASA’s MOXIE - Generates Oxygen on Mars**

- ✓ NASA announced the successful completion of its Mars Oxygen In-Situ Resource Utilization Experiment (MOXIE) aboard the Perseverance Mars Rover.



- ✓ MOXIE’s success marks a significant step toward enabling astronauts to “live off the land” on Mars by producing their own oxygen and rocket propellant, supporting long-term exploration and sustainability on the Red Planet.

➤ **Storm Daniel**

- ✓ Storm Daniel – the intense Mediterranean hurricane or “medicane” – made landfall in Libya Sunday, wreaking what local authorities there have called a “catastrophic and unprecedented” flood disaster that’s claimed thousands of lives and left many more missing.
- ✓ A devastating flood in eastern Libya has killed at least 5,000 people in the aftermath of Storm Daniel.
- ✓ As per initial reports, the cause of the floods has been attributed to the strong winds from Storm Daniel.

➤ **Scrub Typhus**

- ✓ Scrub typhus, also known as bush typhus, is a bacterial disease caused by *Orientia tsutsugamushi*.
- ✓ It is transmitted to humans through the bites of infected chiggers, which are tiny larvae that develop into mites. In a surprising development, scrub typhus was detected in North Carolina in July 2023.



- ✓ Scrub typhus can affect individuals of all ages and genders equally. However, certain factors increase the risk of contracting the disease.
- ✓ People are more likely to get scrub typhus if they come into contact with areas where chiggers thrive, such as rural or forested environments with specific conditions.

➤ **Nipah Virus In News**

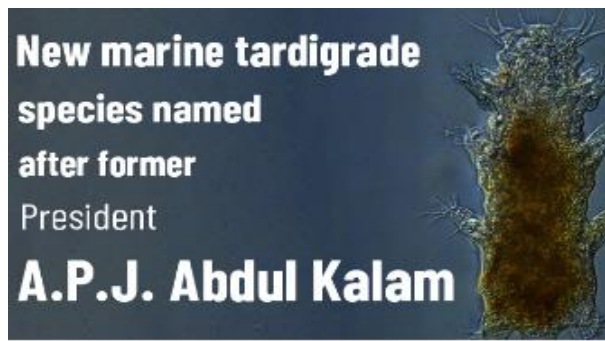
- ✓ India’s southern state of Kerala has once again found itself grappling with the ominous threat of the Nipah virus, a rare and deadly brain-damaging viral disease. In response to the deaths of two individuals from this infection, the state government has taken swift action by shutting down schools and offices and declaring containment zones in certain areas.



- ✓ The Nipah virus, abbreviated as NiV, emerged onto the global stage in 1999 during an alarming epidemic in Malaysia and Singapore. This outbreak left a trail of devastation, with nearly 300 human cases and over 100 fatalities.
- **Pterygotrigla intermedica**
- ✓ Scientists from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) have discovered a new species of deep-water marine fish in Digha Mohana, West Bengal. Named *Pterygotrigla intermedica*, it shares similarities with species like *Pterygotrigla hemisticta*.



- ✓ This discovery marks the fourth species of the *Pterygotrigla* genus reported in India and adds to the total of 178 species in the Triglidae family worldwide. The findings were published in the marine science journal *Thalassas* on September 20, 2023.
- ✓ The newly discovered species belongs to the family Triglidae, commonly known as gurnards or sea-robins.
- **Batillipes Kalami**
- ✓ In a tribute to 'Missile Man' Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, researchers from the Marine Biology department of Cochin University of Science and Technology (Cusat) named a new species of marine tardigrade that they discovered after the former President.



- ✓ Named 'Batillipes kalami', the new species of tardigrades was found by researchers in the intertidal beach sediments of Mandapam coast, close to Kalam's birthplace in Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu.
 - ✓ The researchers' move aims to honour Dr Kalam's legacy, his unwavering commitment to science and technology, and his inspirational role in fostering scientific curiosity among young Indians.
- **Disease X Looms As A Potential Global Threat**
- ✓ Health experts from around the world are sounding the alarm about a potential global pandemic referred to as "Disease X," which could surpass the lethality of COVID-19 and claim over 50 million lives.



- ✓ They warn that COVID-19 might be just a precursor to more devastating pandemics in the future.
 - ✓ In response to the threat of Disease X, UK scientists have initiated vaccine development efforts targeting this unidentified but potentially deadly pathogen.
 - ✓ More than 200 scientists are involved in this research, conducted at the high-security Porton Down laboratory complex in Wiltshire.
- **'8th Continent' Zealandia**
- ✓ A dedicated team of international geologists and seismologists has embarked on a mission to chart the depths of Zealandia, a relatively unknown landmass submerged beneath the Pacific Ocean.



- ✓ Zealandia, often referred to as the eighth continent, remains shrouded in oceanic mystery, with a staggering 94% of its expanse concealed beneath the sea's surface. The remaining 6% peeks above the waves, encompassing islands such as New Zealand and its neighboring isles.
- ✓ The geological history of Zealandia dates back approximately 83 million years when volcanic forces played a pivotal role in the separation of the supercontinent Gondwana, giving rise to the continents we recognize today.

SPORTS

➤ **Danielle McGahey**

- ✓ Danielle McGahey of Canada will become the first transgender to participate in an international match.



- ✓ She will play the match during a regional qualifying tournament for the 2024 Women's T20 World Cup in Bangladesh.
 - ✓ She has been selected in Canada's women's team for the qualifying tournament. She has fulfilled the eligibility criteria of the International Cricket Council (ICC) for male-to-female transgender players.
 - ✓ According to the rules of ICC, trans women wishing to play women's international cricket must have the concentration of testosterone in their serum less than 5 nmol/l (nanomole per litre) continuously for least 12 months.
- **Amul Official Sponsor - Hangzhou Asian Games**



- ✓ Amul is named as the official sponsor of the Indian Contingent for the 19th Asian Games 2022 to be held in Hangzhou, China from September 23 to October 8, 2023.
- ✓ As part of this association, Amul will use the integrated logo in its communication to celebrate the efforts of the sportsperson.
- ✓ Amul has partnered with Indian sportspersons through the Indian Olympic Association since the London 2012 Olympics.

➤ **'Street 20' Cricket World Cup for Underprivileged Children**



- ✓ Chennai welcomes "Street 20," a heartwarming cricket tournament for underprivileged children, running from September 22nd to October 1st.
- ✓ Street 20 unites street children from 15 countries, including the UK, Brazil, Hungary, and more, preceding the ICC World Cup Cricket in India. Team India, defending champions from the inaugural Street Child Cricket World Cup, will be the star attraction.

➤ **US Open Tennis - Women's Singles**

- ✓ American teenager Coco Gauff has won the US Open on Saturday, clinching her first Grand Slam title with a battling win over Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus.



- ✓ Gauff, 19, produced a gutsy performance on the Arthur Ashe Stadium court to win 2-6, 6-3, 6-2 in 2hr and 6min.
- **US Open Tennis - Men's Singles**
- ✓ Novak Djokovic on Sunday, in front of a packed Arthur Ashe Stadium, cemented his status as the Greatest of all time in tennis history as he beat Daniil Medvedev in the 2023 US Open final to clinch an unprecedented 24th Grand Slam title.



- ✓ **36 years and 3 months** Djokovic is now the oldest player to lift the coveted US Open title in Open Era, going past Ken Rosewall who won the 1970 edition at the age of 35 years and 10 months.
- **19th Asian Games - 2023**
- ✓ The 19th Asian Games opens on Saturday, September 23, in Hangzhou, capital city of east China's Zhejiang Province. It will see about 12,500 athletes from 45 countries and regions competing in 40 sports for 481 gold medals over 15 days, between September 23 and October 8.



- ✓ **Flag-bearers Lovlina Borgohain and Harmanpreet Singh** lead the Indian contingent during the opening ceremony.
- ✓ There are three mascots, all robots, have been collectively named 'Memories of Jiangnan'.
- ✓ **Mascots** - The robots; Chenchen, Congcong, and Lianlian, represent the host city's vibrant culture and heritage.



- ✓ **Theme** - In keeping with the main theme of 'Tides Surging in Asia', the ceremony was about the intermingling of China, Asia and the world in the new era, as well as the unity, love and friendship of the Asian people.
- ✓ The water element through the surging tide of Qiantang river -- which flows through Hangzhou -- was the underlying theme of the grand evening which lasted nearly two hours.
- **Asian Games 2023 - India Clinched 5 Medals On Day One**
- ✓ India wrapped up the first official day of the Asian Games 2023 with five medals – three silver and two bronze.



- ✓ The women's 10m air rifle team, comprising Ashi Chouksey, Mehuli Ghosh, and Ramita, set the tone for India by clinching a silver medal, the country's first medal at the Asian Games 2023.
- ✓ Ramita, displaying exceptional skill, went on to win an individual bronze in the same category.
- ✓ India's impressive medal streak in rowing continued as Arjun Lal Jat and Arvind Singh, competing in the men's lightweight double sculls, secured a silver medal.
- ✓ Additionally, the men's eight teams also performed remarkably and secured a silver medal, further contributing to India's success.
- ✓ Additionally, the men's pair represented by Babu Lal Yadav and Lekh Ram secured a bronze, further adding to India's medal tally in this discipline.

➤ **Asian Games 2023, Sift Kaur Samra Shoots Gold**

- ✓ Indian shooter Sift Kaur Samra made history with a spectacular performance, clinching gold in the women's 50m rifle 3 position event.



- ✓ She not only won the gold but also shattered world, Asian, and Games records along the way. This remarkable achievement marks a significant moment in her shooting career.
 - ✓ Samra achieved a world and Games record score of 469.6 points. She shattered the previous world record held by Seonaid McIntosh, surpassing it by 2.6 points.
- **India won gold after 41 years in equestrian in Asian Games 2023**
- ✓ India's dressage team cantered to its first-ever Asian Games 2023 gold and only second medal in the history of the sports.



- ✓ The participants were Sudipti Hajela, Divyakriti Singh, Vipul Hriday Chheda and Anush Agarwalla living up to expectations.
 - ✓ They grabbed the top place on the podium leaving behind China and Hong Kong. The last time the sport of equestrian contributed to India's Asian Games tally was in 1986 when the country won a dressage bronze.
- **Asian Games 2023, India Team Take Gold In 10m Air Pistol Men's Team Event**
- ✓ Indian shooters have continued to make their mark at the Asian Games, clinching their 6th gold medal in the Men's 10m Air Pistol Team event.



- ✓ Sarabjot Singh, Shiva Narwal, and Arjun Singh Cheema displayed exceptional prowess, securing victory by a single point over the home Chinese team.
- ✓ This remarkable achievement not only added another gold to India's tally but also secured individual final berths for Sarabjot and Arjun in the 10m Air Pistol category.

➤ **Asian Games 2023, Palak Gulia Wins Gold In Women's 10m Air Pistol**

- ✓ During the sixth day of competition at the ongoing Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, the young Indian shooters Palak Gulia and Esha Singh showcased their skills in the women's 10m air pistol individual event, earning gold and silver medals, respectively.



- ✓ Palak, a 17-year-old talent impressed everyone with her poise and composure. She quickly climbed to the top of the leaderboard during the final round.
- ✓ Ultimately, she secured an individual gold medal at the Asian Games, setting a new record for the event with 242.1 points.

➤ **7th Gold For India - 50m Rifle 3 Positions Team event**

- ✓ The Indian men's shooting trio comprising Aishwarya Pratap Singh Tomar, Swapnil Suresh Kusale, and Akhil Sheoran secured a gold medal in the 50m Rifle 3 Positions Team event.



- ✓ Their remarkable achievement didn't stop there; they broke the world record with an extraordinary score of 1769 points.
- ✓ As a result of this exceptional performance, India has climbed to the fourth position in the points table at the Asian Games 2023.
- **India Wins Gold in Tennis Mixed Doubles**
- ✓ The Indian tennis duo Rohan Bopanna and Rutuja Bhosale bagged the gold medal in the tennis mixed doubles at the 19th Asian Games in Hangzhou.



- ✓ The Rohan-Rutuja duo struggled in the initial set of the match and lost the first set against Chinese Taipei's En-shuo Liang and Tsung-hao Huang by 6-2.
- ✓ The Indian pair made a stellar comeback and later dominated the game to beat their opponents.
- **India beats Pakistan to bag gold medal in men's squash team event**
- ✓ India's Abhay Singh put up a spectacular show of sportsmanship after he beat Pakistan's Noor Zaman by 2-1 in the men's squash final thus giving India another gold on the seventh day of the ongoing Asian Games 2023.



- ✓ The Indian men's squash team of Saurav Ghoshal, Abhay Singh, and Mahesh Mangaonkar staged a spectacular comeback to win India's second Asian Games squash gold medal.

APPLO
STUDY CENTRE

OBITUARY

➤ N Valarmathi - ISRO Scientist

- ✓ N Valarmathi, an Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) scientist, who lent her voice to countdowns for rocket launches in Sriharikota, died after a cardiac arrest.



- ✓ She was last heard during the countdown announcement for the launch of Chandrayaan-3 that made a historic landing on the Moon.
- ✓ Valarmathi was a scientist at the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for over 30 years.
- ✓ She was the voice behind the countdowns for many ISRO launches.

➤ Dennis Austin

- ✓ Dennis Austin, one of the two creators of Microsoft PowerPoint, passed away at the age of 76. Austin created PowerPoint with Robert Gaskins and released it in 1987.



- ✓ The pair of software developers were part of the software company Forethought, which was acquired by Microsoft for \$14m months after PowerPoint, then called Presenter was launched.
- ✓ Dennis R. Austin was the principal software developer for PowerPoint from 1985 to 1996, particularly its versions for Apple Macintosh computers. Austin first

encountered computers in high school at a summer program at the Carnegie Institute of Technology.

- **Father Of India's 'Green Revolution,' M.S. Swaminathan Passes Away At 98**
- ✓ Mankombu Sambasivan Swaminathan, fondly known as M.S. Swaminathan, a legendary figure in the field of agriculture and a true humanitarian, passed away at the age of 98. Born on August 7, 1925, in Tamil Nadu's Thanjavur district.
- ✓ He dedicated his life to improving the lives of India's low-income farmers and revolutionizing the nation's agricultural landscape.



- ✓ During a critical juncture in India's history, when the country was on the brink of a mass famine and faced severe food shortages, Swaminathan collaborated with fellow scientist Norman Borlaug and others to develop high-yielding varieties of wheat and rice. This marked the inception of the 'Green Revolution.'
- ✓ In 1987, he was honored with the first-ever World Food Prize for his role in introducing high-yielding wheat and rice varieties to India.

REPORT

➤ The World Best Countries Report 2023

- ✓ Switzerland has once again claimed the title of the world's best country, according to the latest U.S. News & World Report's annual Best Countries rankings.



- ✓ This marks Switzerland's second consecutive year at the pinnacle and its sixth time overall as the No. 1 nation on the list.
- ✓ India secured the 30th spot with an overall score of 40.8. In the previous year, in 2022, India held the 31st position out of 85.
- ✓ India achieved its most remarkable performance in the "Movers" category, securing the 5th position. This category evaluates countries based on their potential for future growth and their readiness to face challenges presented by the global economy.

➤ Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan 2023 Clean Air Survey

- ✓ The recently released Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan 2023 (Clean Air Survey) report, conducted by the Central Pollution Control Board, reveals that Indore, Amravati, and Parwanoo boast the cleanest air in India.



- ✓ In cities with a population exceeding one million, Indore secured the top spot, followed by Agra and Thane. Bhopal, a notable performer, stood fifth, while the national capital, Delhi, claimed the ninth spot.
- ✓ However, Madurai, Jammu, and Kohima face significant challenges in terms of air quality. According to the report, these cities rank the lowest, highlighting the urgent need for targeted interventions to address their air pollution issues.

➤ **India Has 150 Elephant Corridors**

- ✓ A recent report by the Union Environment Ministry has shed light on the state of elephant corridors in India. According to this comprehensive report titled “Elephant Corridors of India,” the country boasts at least 150 elephant corridors, spread across 15 range-states, and encompassing four major elephant-bearing regions.



- ✓ This is a significant increase from the 88 corridors identified in the 2010 Elephant Task Force report, known as the “Gajah report.” This expanded understanding of elephant corridors signifies the evolving challenges and the growing awareness of the importance of conserving these vital pathways.
- ✓ West Bengal emerges as the frontrunner in this report, with a staggering 26 elephant corridors, accounting for over 17 percent of the total corridors in India.

➤ **World’s Freest Economy**

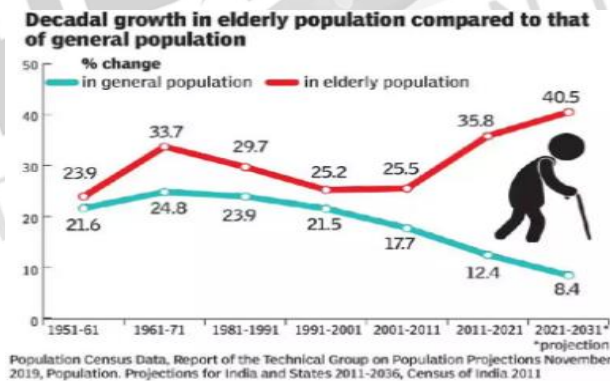
- ✓ In a significant shift, Singapore has surpassed Hong Kong to claim the title of the world’s freest economy, marking the end of Hong Kong’s 53-year reign at the top.



- ✓ This shift is according to a report released by the Canadian think tank Fraser Institute.
- ✓ The Economic Freedom of the World Index, which has been tracking economic freedom since 1970, placed Hong Kong in second place for the first time.
- ✓ The report highlights how Hong Kong's recent shift is closely linked to civil and political freedom.

➤ India Ageing Report 2023

- ✓ India is set to experience a rapid aging of its population in the coming decades, with the elderly projected to comprise over 20% of the total population by the year 2050.



- ✓ This significant demographic shift is highlighted in the India Ageing Report 2023, jointly released by the International Institute for Population Sciences and the United Nations Population Fund.
- ✓ This report sheds light on various aspects of this aging trend, including the changing ratio of elderly to working-age individuals, gender disparities in life expectancy, and its implications for social and economic policies.
- ✓ The report reveals that India's elderly population has been steadily increasing over the years, with a medium-to-high rate of growth since 1961. While the pace of this increase was relatively slow until 2001, it is expected to accelerate significantly in the coming decades.

RANKING

➤ **Santiniketan On UNESCO World Heritage List**

- ✓ Santiniketan, the cultural and educational hub founded by Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore, has earned a coveted spot on UNESCO's World Heritage List.
- ✓ The decision to include Santiniketan in the prestigious list was made during the 45th session of the World Heritage Committee, held in Saudi Arabia, reaffirming its importance on the global stage.



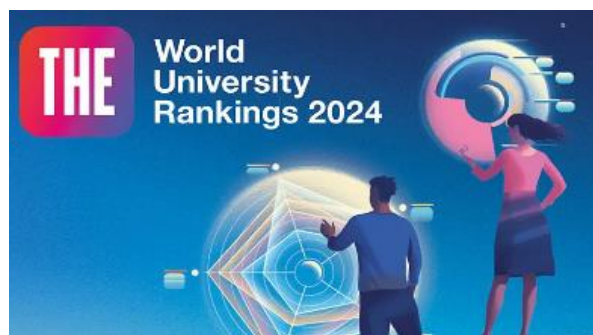
- ✓ With this latest addition, India now ranks sixth on the World Heritage List, further highlighting the nation's commitment to safeguarding its cultural and natural treasures.
- ✓ The inclusion of Santiniketan reinforces India's status as a custodian of world heritage. Santiniketan now stands as India's 41st World Heritage site, solidifying its place in the nation's rich cultural heritage.

➤ **Digital Quality of Life Index**

- ✓ India ranked 52 Out of 121 countries in the Digital Quality of Life Index survey. India jumped seven places in the Digital Quality of Life Index survey.
- ✓ Last year, India's rank was 59th.
- ✓ The survey has been carried out by cybersecurity firm Surfshark.
- ✓ India's rank has improved due to the improvement in internet quality in the country.
- ✓ Internet in India is not the fastest but it is highly stable. The survey shows that India has better internet affordability.

➤ **World University Rankings 2024**

- ✓ The 20th edition of the World's Best Universities by the Times Higher Education (THE) rankings has been unveiled, showcasing the top higher education institutions globally.



- ✓ The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore has made history by securing the top position among Indian universities.
 - ✓ This achievement marks the first time since 2017 that IISc has claimed the top spot, underscoring its dedication to research and academic prowess.
 - ✓ Oxford University in the United Kingdom has clinched the coveted first place for an unprecedented eighth consecutive year, with Stanford University in the United States securing second place.
 - ✓ The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) is third in the rankings. The 2024 edition is the largest to date, featuring 1,904 universities from 108 countries and regions, evaluated across 18 performance indicators reflecting their core missions.
- **India Ranks 40th In Global Innovation Index 2023**
- ✓ India retains 40th rank out of 132 economies in the Global Innovation Index 2023 rankings published by the World Intellectual Property Organization.



- ✓ India has been on a rising trajectory, over the past several years in the Global Innovation Index (GII), from a rank of 81 in 2015 to 40 in 2023.
- ✓ This year, the NITI Aayog, in partnership with the CII and the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), is hosting, virtually, the India Launch of the (Global Innovation Index) GII 2023 on 29th September 2023.

- ✓ For the 13th year in a row, Switzerland is the most innovative economy in 2023 followed by Sweden, the United States, the United Kingdom and Singapore. Discover how other economies are performing in the Global Innovation Index 2023 rankings.



IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme
September 1-7	National Nutrition Week	Theme: "Healthy Diet Going Affordable for All"
September 1-30	Rashtriya Poshan Maah	The campaign will focus on key themes such as exclusive breastfeeding and complementary feeding
September 2	World Coconut Day	Theme for World Coconut Day 2023 is 'Coconuts: Transforming Lives'.
September 5	National Teachers' Day	It is a day to honour and celebrate the contributions of teachers to society
September 5	International Day of Charity	The day aims to raise awareness and provide a common platform for charity related activities all over the world
September 7	International Day of Police Cooperation	It was created to commemorate the founding of Interpol and highlight the role of law enforcement from around the globe in maintaining peace, security, and justice
September 7	International Day of Clean Air	Theme: 'Together for Clean Air'
September 8	International Literacy Day	Theme: 'Promoting literacy for a world in transition: Building the foundation for sustainable and peaceful societies'
September 8	World Physiotherapy Day	"Prevention and Management of Osteoarthritis" is the theme for World Physiotherapy Day 2023
September 9	World First Aid Day	The theme for this year is "First Aid in the Digital World"
September 9	International Day	It was established in response

	To Protect Education From Attack	to the growing number of attacks on schools and educational institutions around the world
September 9	World EV(Electric Vehicles) Day	It is a message of sustainable transportation and a cleaner future, free of carbon emissions
September 10	World Suicide Prevention Day	"Creating hope through action" is the triennial theme for World Suicide Prevention Day from 2021 - 2023
September 12	United Nations Day For South-South Cooperation	The theme for this year is "Solidarity, Equity and Partnership: Unlocking South-South Cooperation to Achieve the SDGs"
September 14	Hindi Diwas	Hindi Diwas is celebrated on 14 September every year to promote and preserve the Hindi language
September 15	International Day Of Democracy	The theme for the International Day of Democracy in 2023 is "Empowering the next generation."
September 15	National Engineer Day	In 2023, the theme is 'Engineering for a Sustainable Future.'
September 15	World Lymphoma Awareness Day	It is dedicated to increasing awareness about lymphoma, a group of blood cancers that affect the lymphatic system, a crucial part of our immune system
September 16	International Day For Interventional Cardiology	A significant occasion dedicated to recognizing the crucial field of interventional cardiology and its impact on

		heart health worldwide
September 16	World Ozone Day	The theme for World Ozone Day 2023 is "Montreal Protocol: Fixing the Ozone Layer and Reducing Climate Change."
September 17	World Patient Safety Day	The theme for World Patient Safety Day 2023 is "Engaging patients for patient safety."
September 18	World Bamboo Day	Theme: 'Bamboo, Our Natural Heritage for a Sustainable Future'
September 18	International Equal Pay Day	Theme: Creating a Fairer Society
September 21	International Day of Peace	"Actions for Peace: Our Ambition for the #GlobalGoals"
September 21	World Alzheimer's Day	Theme: is "Never too early, never too late."
September 22	World Rose Day	It is a day dedicated to honouring and supporting individuals worldwide who are courageously battling cancer
September 22	World Rhino Day	Global initiative aimed at raising awareness about the critical plight of the rhinoceros species and advocating for their protection
September 23	International Day Of Sign Languages	The theme for this year is "A World Where Deaf People Everywhere Can Sign Anywhere!"
September 24	World Rivers Day	The 2023 theme for World Rivers Day is once again "waterways in our communities."
September 25	World Pharmacists Day	The theme for World Pharmacists Day in 2023 is "Pharmacy Strengthening

		Health Systems."
September 26	International Day For The Total Elimination Of Nuclear Weapons	The aims of the day are to enhance public awareness about the threat posed to humanity by nuclear weapons and the necessity for their total elimination
September 26	World Environmental Health Day	The theme for this year's World Environmental Health Day is "Global Environmental Public Health: Standing up to protect everyone's Health each and every day"
September 27	World Tourism Day	Theme: "Tourism and green investment"
September 28	International Day For Universal Access To Information	This day emphasizes the significance of an informed citizenry and highlights the theme of the online space's pivotal role in ensuring access to information
September 28	World Maritime Day	This year's World Maritime theme is "MARPOL at 50 - Our commitment goes on"
September 28	World Rabies Day	This year's World Rabies Day theme is: "All for 1, One Health for All"
September 29	World Heart Day	In 2023, the theme "Use Heart, Know Heart"
September 29	International Day Of Awareness Of Food Loss And Waste	Theme: "Reducing food loss and waste: Taking Action to Transform Food Systems."
September 30	International Translation Day	The day serves as a global celebration of the invaluable contributions made by translators and language professionals

MISCELLANEOUS

- **'2018' Is India's Official Entry In Oscars 2024**
- ✓ The Film Federation of India has announced that the Malayalam movie "2018: Everyone is a Hero," based on the Kerala floods, will represent India as its official entry at the Academy Awards or Oscars in 2024.



- ✓ The film, directed by Jude Anthany Joseph, delves into the harrowing tales of survival during the devastating floods that struck the state.
- ✓ Its selection was attributed to its poignant portrayal of climate change issues and the societal misconceptions about development.
- ✓ Its selection among fierce competition highlights its potential to leave a lasting impact on the global stage.

**CURRENT AFFAIRS - TNPSC ORIGINAL QUESTIONS & ANSWERS – EXAMS
CONDUCTED IN AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2023**

**COMBINED GEOLOGY SUBORDINATE SERVICE IN EXAMINATION -
18/08/2023**

CURRENT EVENTS

Books and authors

1. Autobiography of “Fall of Sparrow” was written by
a. Vineetha Menon b. Balachandran c. Laxmikanth
d. **Salim Ali** e. Answer not known
“சிட்டுக்குருவியின் வீழ்ச்சி” என்ற சுயசரிதையை எழுதியவர்
a. வினிதா மேனன் b. பாலசந்திரன் c. லக்ஷ்மிகாந்த்
d. சலீம் அலி e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Latest diary of events

2. Goa celebrated its 60th Liberation Day on
a. December 2018 b. December 2019 c. **December 2020**
d. December 2022 e. Answer not known
கோவா தனது '60-வது விடுதலை நாளை' எப்போது கொண்டாடியது?
a. டிசம்பர் 2018 b. டிசம்பர் 2019 c. டிசம்பர் 2020
d. டிசம்பர் 2022 e. விடை தெரியவில்லை
3. In which year was the word “Corona virus” used in the scientific journal
“Nature”?
a. 1978 b. 1986 c. **1968** d. 1966 e. Answer not known
கரோனா வைரஸ் என்ற சொல் முதன் முதலில் “நேச்சர்” அறிவியல் ஆய்விதழில்
வெளியிட்ட ஆண்டு எது?
a. 1978 b. 1986 c. **1968** d. 1966 e. விடை தெரியவில்லை
4. India launched its 41st Scientific Expedition to Antarctica in the year
a. 2019 b. 2020 c. **2021** d. 2022 e. Answer not known
அண்டார்டிக் காவிற்கான 41வது அறிவியல் சார்ந்த பயணத்தை இந்தியா _____ ல்
துவக்கியது.
a. 2019 b. 2020 c. **2021** d. 2022 e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

5. An amount of Rs. 1,000/- will be deposited in the bank accounts of girl students enrolled and studied in government school announced on

a. March 16, 2022

b. March 17, 2022

c. March 18, 2022

d. March 19, 2022

e. Answer not known

அரசுப் பள்ளியில் சேர்ந்து படிக்கும் மாணவிகளின் வங்கிக் கணக்கில் ரூ.1000 டெபாசிட் செய்யப்படும் என அறிவிக்கப்பட்ட நாள்

a. மார்ச் 16, 2022

b. மார்ச் 17, 2022

c. மார்ச் 18, 2022

d. மார்ச் 19, 2022

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Eminent personalities and places in news

6. National Fossil Wood Park in Tamilnadu is located in

a. Villupuram

b. Madurai

c. Tirunelveli

d. Tuticorin

e. Answer not known

தமிழ்நாட்டில் தேசிய தொல்லுயிர்படிம மர பூங்கா இங்கு அமைந்துள்ளது.

a. விழுப்புரம்

b. மதுரை

c. திருநெல்வேலி

d. தூத்துக்குடி

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

COMBINED RESEARCH ASSISTANT IN VARIOUS SUBORDINATE SERVICES IN TAMIL NADU TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING AND GENERAL SUBORDINATE SERVICE - 09/09/2023

CURRENT EVENTS

Eminent personalities and places in news

1. Armand Duplantis the new world record holder in the pole vault at the world Athletics championship belongs to which country?

a. Sweden

b. Switzerland

c. Scotland

d. San Marino

e. Answer not known

உலக தடகளப் போட்டியில் கோலூன்றி உயரம் தாண்டுதலில் உலக சாதனை படைத்துள்ள அர்மாண்ட் டூப்ளான்டிஸ் எந்த நாட்டைச் சார்ந்தவர்?

a. ஸ்வீடன்

b. ஸ்விட்சர்லாந்து

c. ஸ்காட்லாந்து

d. சான் மாரினோ

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

2. The recent revelation of the study conducted by oxford Economics marked several Indian cities in top ten categories of fastest growing cities of the world. In India, the sixth fastest growing city is

a. Thiruchirappalli b. Tiruppur c. Chennai
d. Madurai e. Answer not known

ஆக்ஸ்போர்டு பொருளாதாரம் நடத்திய அண்மைக்கால ஆய்வுகளிலிருந்து உலகின் மிக வேகமாக வளர்ந்து வரும் மாநகரங்களில் இந்திய மாநகரங்கள் முதல் பத்து இடங்களைப் பிடித்துள்ளன. இந்தியாவின் மிக வேகமாக வளர்ந்து வரும் மாநகரங்களில் 6-வது இடத்தை பிடித்துள்ள நகரம்.

a. திருச்சிராப்பள்ளி b. திருப்பூர் c. சென்னை
d. மதுரை e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Latest inventions in Science and Technology

3. Which is India's first home-built aircraft carrier?

a. INS Godavari b. INS Vikranth c. INS Talwar
d. INS Brahmaputra e. Answer not known

இந்தியாவின் உள்நாட்டிலேயே தயாரிக்கப்பட்ட முதல் விமானம் தாங்கிக் கப்பல் எது?

a. INS கோதாவரி b. INS விக்ரந்த் c. INS தல்வார்
d. INS பிரம்மபுத்ரா e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

4. According to the research study published in Journal Environmental Science and Technology rainwater is no longer potable as it is contaminated with forever chemicals. Find out the forever chemical from the following.

a. Polyfluoroalkyl substances b. Polyamines
c. Alkyl substances d. Polyhydroxy butyrate substances
e. Answer not known

சுற்றுச்சூழல் அறிவியல் மற்றும் தொழில்நுட்ப இதழ் வெளியிட்ட ஆராய்ச்சி ஆய்வின்படி, மழைநீர் எப்போதும் ரசாயனங்களால் மாசுபட்டுள்ளதால் இனி குடிக்க முடியாது. பின்வருவனவற்றுள் எப்பொழுதும் மாசுபடுத்தும் ரசாயனத்தை கண்டுபிடி.

a. பாலிஃப்ளூரோ அல்கைல் பொருட்கள் b. பாலி அமைன் பொருட்கள்
c. அல்கைல் பொருட்கள் d. பாலிஹைட்ராக்சி பியூட்டரேட்டாடு பொருட்கள்
e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Awards & Honours

5. “National Lokmanya Tilak Award” for the year 2022 was awarded to
a. **Tessy Thomas** b. Sundrelal Bahuguna c. Andrew Pollard
d. Suprabhat Mukerjee e. Answer not known

2022-ஆம் ஆண்டிற்கான “தேசிய லோகமான்ய திலக் விருதினைப்” பெற்றவர்
a. டெஸி தாமஸ் b. சுந்தர்லால் பஹீகுனா c. ஆன்ட்ரூ பொல்லார்டு
d. சுப்ரபாத் முகர்ஜி e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Books and authors

6. Who was the Author of Book “Indo-Sumerian Seals Deciphered”?
a. Sir John Marshall b. Dr. A.P. Agarwal c. Robert H. Brunswig
d. **Laurence Waddell** e. Answer not known

“The Indo-Sumerian Seals Deciphered” என்ற நூலின் ஆசிரியர் யார்?

a. சர் ஜான் மார்ஷல் b. முனைவர் A.P. அகர்வால் c. இராபர்ட் H. பிரன்ஸ்விக்
d. லாரன்ஸ் வாடல் e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

