

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – DECEMBER 21, 2023

AWARDS

➤ **Leif Erikson Lunar Prize**

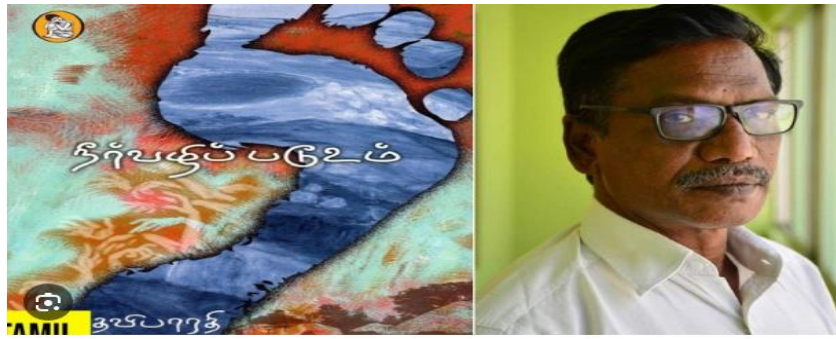
- ✓ Leif Erikson Lunar Prize presented to ISRO for Chandrayaan-3 Mission.
- ✓ The Exploration Museum in Iceland's Husavik has awarded ISRO the 2023 Leif Erikson Chandra Prize for its successful Chandrayaan-3 mission.



- ✓ The award has been given for the first soft landing of a spacecraft near the Moon's south pole and "ISRO's indomitable spirit in advancing the exploration of the Moon and contributing to the understanding of the celestial mysteries."
- ✓ The award is named after Leif Erikson – a Norse explorer who was believed to be the first European to set foot on the continental Americas.

➤ **Sahitya Akademi Award 2023**

- ✓ Sahitya Akademi Award 2023 has been announced by Sahitya Akademi in 24 languages. 9 books of poetry, 6 novels, 5 short story collections, 3 essays and 1 literary study have won the Sahitya Akademi Awards 2023.



- ✓ Tamil author Rajasekaran has won the award for his novel Neervazhi Padoom. Telugu writer Patanjali Sastry has won the award for his short story collection. Malayalam litterateur EV Ramakrishnan has won award for his literary study.
- ✓ The award will be presented in the form of a casket containing an engraved copper plaque, a shawl, and one lakh rupees.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **Noma Added To WHO List Of Neglected Tropical Diseases**
- ✓ Noma, also known as cancrum oris or gangrenous stomatitis, has recently been added to the World Health Organization's (WHO) list of Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs).



- ✓ This move aims to elevate awareness, stimulate research, secure finding and intensify efforts to combat this rare yet severe infection.
- ✓ Noma is a rapid and severe infection that primarily affects the soft and hard tissues of the face and mouth.
- ✓ It starts as a small ulcer, often following illnesses like measles and progresses swiftly, causing extensive tissue damage and potentially leading to death in up to 90% of cases.

IMPORTANT DAYS

➤ **World Basketball Day – December 21**

- ✓ World Basketball Day is an annual celebration held on December 21, commemorating the invention of basketball by Dr. James Naismith in 1891.



- ✓ World Basketball Day recognizes the sport's role in international trade, peace, and diplomacy, fostering an environment of collaboration, physical activity, and interdependence.
- ✓ The annual celebration highlights Naismith's impact on players, fans, and communities worldwide.

