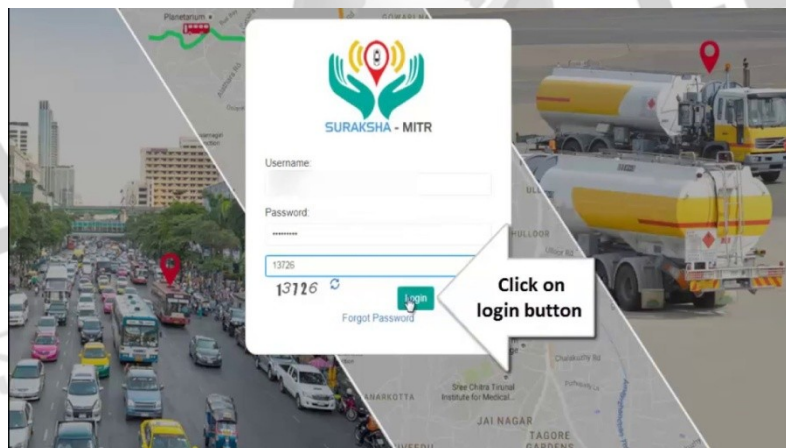




EVE **RYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-june** **STATES**

- **Kerala government – has operationalised the ‘Suraksha - Mitr’ project in the state**
- ✓ It is a vehicle monitoring system that sends distress messages to the owners’ mobile phones in case of any accident during travel



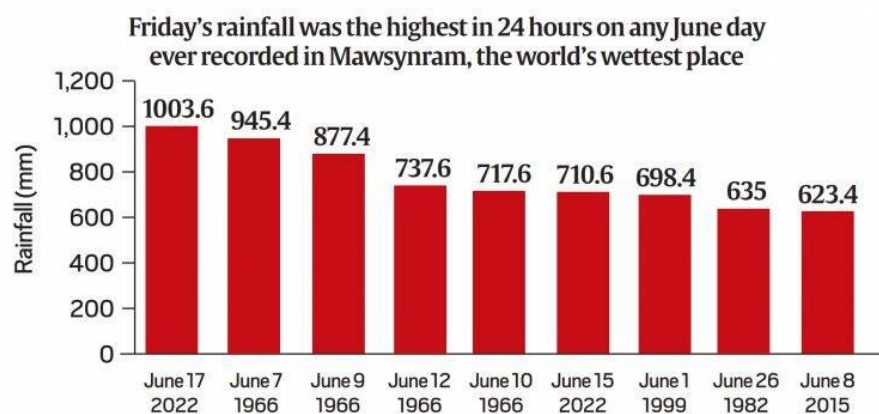
- ✓ The project was launched by the State Motor Vehicle Department under the Centrally-funded Nirbhaya scheme
- ✓ The state government has allotted around Rs 6 crore for this project.
- ✓ Under the initiative, owners will receive SMS alerts from the Vehicle Location Tracking Device (VLTD) attached to the vehicles
- ✓ The alerts would be sent immediately via SMS and e-mail to the relevant mobile number provided at the time of installing the device.
- ✓ As part of the project, the device has been installed in 2.38 lakh vehicles across the state
- ✓ In another related development, the Kerala Transport Department has recently launched a new App ‘Vidyavahini’ to track school buses
- ✓ The route of the school bus and the duration in which the bus will reach the respective stops would be updated in the new App

- ✓ The school buses are connected to the servers of the transport department using GPS

NATIONAL

- **Meghalaya's Mawsynram — the world's wettest place – recorded the highest ever single-day rainfall on June 17**
- ✓ The amount of rain recorded at Mawsynram from 8.30am on June 16 to 8.30am on June 17 is 16 times higher than the average weighted rainfall in India in June so far.
- ✓ The 24-hour rainfall recorded at Mawsynram was a massive 1003.6mm, surpassing the previous record of 945.4mm on June 7, 1966.

RECORD IN WORLD'S WETTEST PLACE



- ✓ Cherrapunjee, the second-wettest place on earth, got 972mm, its third-highest single-day rainfall on the same day
- ✓ Mawsynram and Cherrapunjee (locally known as Sohra) are in the southern part of Meghalaya's East Khasi Hills district and overlook the plains of Bangladesh.
- ✓ The typical shape of the catchment area, together with its orography (topographic relief of mountains), contributes to the enhancement of convergence of moisture coming from the Bay of Bengal, resulting in such extremely heavy rainfall in these two places.
- ✓ With a cumulative average rainfall of 220.3mm in the last 17 days, this is the only region getting excess rainfall during the current monsoon season
- ✓ The rainfall deficit in the current southwest monsoon is 63% in the northwest region, 57% in central India and 24% in the southern peninsula region.
- ✓ The SW monsoon hit the country in Kerala on May 29 and entered the northeastern region on June 2, three days before the regular onset date.
- ✓ According to the Guwahati regional weather forecasting centre, Cherrapunjee's wettest day was recorded on June 16, 1995, when it received 1563.3mm of rainfall.

- ✓ As per the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Cherrapunjee holds the world record for the maximum two-day (48-hour) rainfall at any station, with 2,493mm recorded on June 15-16, 1995.
- ✓ Based on the average annual rainfall it receives, Mawsynram (11,873mm) is known to be the wettest place in the world, while the second rainiest place is Cherrapunjee with an average annual rainfall of 11,430mm.
- **On June 17, the government – brought all petrol pumps under the USO (universal service obligation), mandating licensed entities to maintain petrol and diesel sales at all petrol pumps, including in remote areas.**
- ✓ As per the USO, pumps must keep provides of petrol and diesel all through the “specified working hours and of specified high quality and amount” without discrimination
- ✓ They will have to maintain minimum inventory levels specified by the Centre and ensure availability of fuel to the customers at reasonable prices.
- ✓ The move follows some petrol pumps operated by PSU firms in states like Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Gujarat going out of stock following a sudden surge in demand.
- ✓ This demand followed the curtailment of operations by private fuel retailers who could not compete with the heavily under-priced rates of public sector companies.
- ✓ The state-run retailers have extended working hours and introduced night shifts at their depots and terminals to raise the number of tanker despatches.
- ✓ State fuel retailers haven't changed retail prices since April 6 despite crude oil rates spiking to a decade high.
- **The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) - has launched a new application ‘Children in Street Situation’ (CiSS) to carry out rescue and rehabilitation of children in streets**



- ✓ The initiative is undertaken following the directions of the Supreme Court, the Women and Child Development Ministry
 - ✓ 'Children in Street Situation' (CiSS) application is part of the NCPCR's Baal Swaraj portal
 - ✓ Baal Swaraj is a portal launched for online tracking and digital real-time monitoring mechanism of children in need of care and protection
 - ✓ The portal has two functions- Covid care and CiSS
 - ✓ Covid care caters to the children who have lost either or both parents due to COVID-19 or otherwise post March 2020.
 - ✓ Using the new App, any person/organisation can report a street child through the citizen portal on NCPCR website.
 - ✓ Once the details are registered, the District Child Protection Officer will get information on such child for rescue and rehabilitation
 - ✓ NCPCR is an Indian statutory body established by an Act of Parliament, the Commission for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005.
- **On June 11, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman - inaugurated the National Museum of Customs and GST 'Dharohar' in Goa**
- ✓ The inauguration was held as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Iconic week of the Ministry of Finance, celebrated from June 6 to 12.
 - ✓ According to the Ministry of Finance, the dedication ceremony was performed in a unique manner, with the Finance Minister removing the golden sand from single piece of rock art installed at the centuries-old heritage building in which the museum is housed



- ✓ 'Dharohar' is housed in Panaji's famous Blue Building on the banks of the Mandovi River.
- ✓ The two storey building, which was earlier known as Alfandega during Portuguese rule, is 400 years old
- ✓ Dharohar is one of its kind museum in the country that showcases not only the artefacts seized by Indian Customs but also depicts various aspects of work performed by the Customs Department while safeguarding the country
- ✓ The newly inaugurated museum houses 8 galleries - Introductory gallery, History of Taxation Gallery, Guardians of our economic frontiers gallery, Guardians of our

Art & Heritage, Guardians of Flora & Fauna, Custodians of our social well-being, Journey of Indirect taxes –Salt Tax to GST and the GST gallery.

- ✓ Notable among its displays are the manuscript of Ain-i-Akbari intercepted by the Indian Customs at the Indo-Nepal border at Raxaul, a replica of Amin pillars from Kaurkshetra, medieval period astronomical instruments, seized metal and stone artefacts, ivory items and wildlife items.
- ✓ It also contains chronicled seizures of antique coins, statues, endangered wildlife, weapons and narcotics.
- ✓ A first-of-its-kind initiative in the country, the GST Gallery portrays the long journey to GST spanning two decades
- ✓ Beginning with the AB Vajpayee Government initiating discussions on GST in 2000, the Gallery chronicles various stages and processes that led to the introduction of GST on July 1, 2017

INTERNATIONAL

- **On June 17, US regulators - authorised the first Covid-19 shots for infants and preschoolers as young as six months**
 - ✓ The Food and Drug Administration's action follows its advisory panel's unanimous recommendation for the shots from Moderna and Pfizer.
 - ✓ Accordingly, US kids under 5 — roughly 18 million youngsters — are eligible for the shots, with the vaccination programme to start next week.
 - ✓ The FDA also authorised Moderna's vaccine for school-aged children and teens.
 - ✓ Pfizer's shots had previously been the only ones available for those ages.
 - ✓ Pfizer's vaccine for kids younger than 5 is one-tenth of the adult dose.
 - ✓ It is given in a three-shot regime, with the first two given three weeks apart and the last at least two months later.
 - ✓ Moderna's is two shots, each a quarter of its adult dose, given about four weeks apart for kids under 6.
- **On June 17, China - launched its third aircraft carrier, 'Fujian', the country's most advanced at a ceremony in Shanghai**



- ✓ It is China's first domestically designed and built aircraft carrier by China State Shipbuilding Corporation Ltd
 - ✓ The aircraft carrier has the name of China's eastern coastal province of Fujian.
 - ✓ It is significantly more advanced than China's two other carriers, with electromagnetic catapults to launch aircraft off its deck.
 - ✓ The other carriers use a ski-jump-style ramp for takeoffs, which are comparatively slower
 - ✓ With a displacement of over 80,000 tonnes, Fujian is comparable in size to supercarriers of the US navy.
 - ✓ Also, only the US, with 11 aircraft carriers, has more of these vessels.
 - ✓ Fujian was due to be launched on April 23 around the 73rd anniversary of the People's Liberation Army Navy, but the launch was delayed due to the pandemic
 - ✓ China's first aircraft carrier, the Liaoning, was a refit of a Soviet-era ship commissioned in 2012, followed by the indigenously built second aircraft carrier Shandong in 2019
 - ✓ The next aircraft carrier China plans to build is expected to be nuclear-powered
- **Pakistan - continued to remain in the 'grey list' of the Paris-based Financial Action Task Force (FATF)**
- ✓ However, the FATF will now undertake on-site visits in Pakistan to assess first hand on the measures taken by Pakistan to exit the grey list
 - ✓ During the international policy making body's four-day plenary in Berlin, the FATF praised Pakistan's efforts to reform its financial system and prevent money laundering and terror financing
 - ✓ The FATF will now conduct an on-site visit to "check" that the reforms undertaken by Islamabad are "in place" and "can be sustained into the future."
 - ✓ The on-site inspection will be completed before the October plenary that will take place in Paris.
 - ✓ At its current June 2022 plenary, the FATF made the initial determination that Pakistan has substantially completed its two action plans, covering 34 items.
 - ✓ Pakistan was placed in the grey list, or list of countries under increased monitoring, in June 2018 and given a 27-point action plan by FATF to curb terror financing
 - ✓ The country was given another seven-point action plan to counter money laundering last October, after it implemented 26 of the 27 points in the original action plan.
 - ✓ FATF concluded during the plenary meet in March that Pakistan implemented 32 of the 34 items in the two action plans.
- **Australia's newly elected Prime Minister Anthony Albanese – appointed Sydney MP Matt Thistlethwaite as an "assistant minister for the republic", despite the country being a constitutional monarchy.**



- ✓ The recent move, aimed at ending Queen Elizabeth II's leadership, indicates that the British monarch might no longer be considered the head of the state.
- ✓ The move also came after Albanese called Australia becoming a republic "inevitable".
- ✓ Australian PM had also promised a referendum on giving Aboriginal Australians an institutional role in policymaking, but not on becoming a republic
- ✓ It has to be recalled that United Kingdom's 96-year-old Queen Elizabeth II recently celebrated her platinum jubilee of completing 70 years on the throne on June 2.
- ✓ The present decision also comes in the backdrop of a 1999 referendum vote when Australia had voted against breaking away from the Commonwealth

INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

- **India - hosted the foreign ministers of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) nations during June 16 and 17 to mark the 30th anniversary of its relations with the 10-nation grouping.**



- ✓ External affairs minister S Jaishankar and his Singaporean counterpart Vivian Balakrishnan co-chaired the "Special ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers' Meeting".
- ✓ The meeting also marked the 10th anniversary of the country's strategic partnership with ASEAN.
- ✓ The foreign minister of Singapore was India's country coordinator in ASEAN.

- ✓ Foreign ministers of other ASEAN member states and the ASEAN secretary-general Lim Jock Hoi participated in the meeting.
- ✓ Further, the ASEAN Foreign Ministers, ASEAN Secretary-General and Representatives of Foreign Ministers along with Dr Jaishankar addressed the Ministerial Session of the 12th edition of Delhi Dialogue (DDXII) on June 17 with the theme 'Building Bridges in the Indo-Pacific'.
 - ✓ Launched in 2009, Delhi Dialogue is India's premier annual Track 1.5 Dialogue, which aims to strengthen ASEAN-India relations in the context of the contemporary global and regional scenario.
- ✓ Later, India and Indonesia renewed the agreement on visa waiver on diplomatic and official passports during the 7th India-Indonesia Joint Commission Meeting held in New Delhi.
- ✓ The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a grouping of 10 member countries – Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and India.
- ✓ The ASEAN-India dialogue relations started with the establishment of sectoral partnership in 1992 which elevated to full dialogue partnership in December 1995, summit level partnership in 2002 and strategic partnership in 2012
- ✓ During the last QUAD meeting, US President Joe Biden had announced the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) to increase engagement in the Asian region
- ✓ Apart from the QUAD members (India, the US, Australia and Japan), the treaty was signed by seven ASEAN members including Brunei, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Philippines and Vietnam.

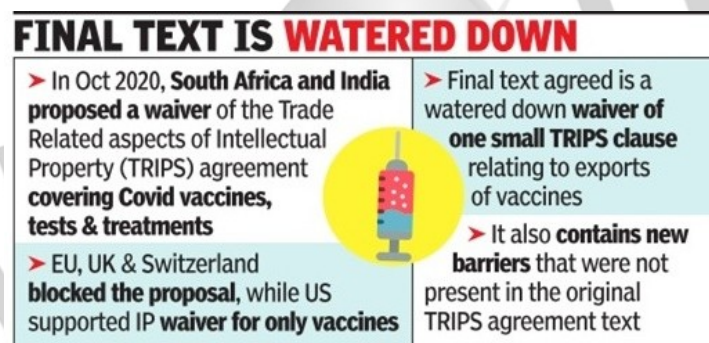
CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- On June 17, the members of 164-nation World Trade Organisation (WTO) - agreed to a first deal in nearly seven years, including a limited patent waiver for Covid-19 vaccines and an agreement to discipline fisheries subsidy



- ✓ The agreement follows more than five days of intense negotiations between ministers and ambassadors from more than 100 countries.

- ✓ Commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal represented the country at the 12th Ministerial Conference (MC12) of the WTO in Geneva, Switzerland
- ✓ The four-day conference which kicked off on June 12 was extended by a day till June 16, to facilitate more deliberations to arrive at consensus on key issues
- ✓ The agreement on fisheries subsidies is the first new treaty agreed by trade ministers in almost nine years
- ✓ It is a compromise deal, dropping several provisions that were not acceptable to several countries, including that of India which did not want its subsidies to be curtailed in any manner.
- ✓ WTO has also agreed to check illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and proposed “very strict controls” on overfishing so that fish stocks are restored
- ✓ Additionally, no subsidies to be provided for fishing in areas outside EEZ (exclusive economic zone) or RFMOs (regional fisheries management organisations)
- ✓ Regarding a patent waiver for Covid-19 vaccines, the countries finally agreed to provide partial relief to countries that are still facing supply challenges, who can now authorise a waiver.



- ✓ After nearly two years of negotiations, the TRIPS (Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) agreement decision bears little resemblance to the original proposal, made by India and South Africa in October 2020 and backed by over 100 governments
- ✓ The original proposal seeks to suspend intellectual property (IP) on all Covid vaccines, tests and treatments in response to the pandemic
- ✓ India had called for a TRIPS waiver for vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics to fight Covid-19 and future pandemics, whereas the final agreement was reached only with respect to vaccines
- ✓ In case of drugs and diagnostics, WTO members will decide on extending the benefits after six months
- ✓ Further, the developed countries assured that there will be no export restrictions for supplies to the World Food Programme, which has been agreed also by India
- ✓ And, India agreed to extend the moratorium on e-commerce, which helps companies avoid paying customs duty on electronic transmission of goods and services, until March 2024, in what may be the last such exercise.

- ✓ The moratorium, applicable from streaming services to financial transactions and corporate data flows, has been in place since 1998
 - ✓ WTO members agreed in a declaration that they would take concrete steps to facilitate trade of food and agriculture, including cereals, fertilisers and other agricultural inputs and limit the export restrictions
 - ✓ The agreement at Geneva makes it the first trade deal since the 2013 Bali Ministerial, where members signed the WTO's first trade deal on a peace clause on public stockholding for food security purposes and a trade facilitation agreement
 - ✓ WTO Ministerial Conference, held in every two years, is the highest decision-making body of the WTO.
- **The 19th Shangri-La Dialogue – concluded on June 12 in Singapore, amidst the absence of Indian defence ministerial delegation**
- ✓ Asia's premier defence summit, Shangri-La Dialogue, was hosted by British think tank International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) after a two year gap due to the pandemic
 - ✓ During the summit, about 575 delegates from 42 countries discussed the region's security challenges to evolve fresh solutions
 - ✓ The Shangri-La Dialogue, officially known as the Asia Security Summit, has been held annually since its launch in 2002, except for 2020 and 2021, with the support of Singapore government
 - ✓ Asia's link to the war in Ukraine, US-China tensions and maritime security were the highlights of the summit
 - ✓ Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida gave the opening keynote address on June 10 outlining Japan's vision for regional security
 - ✓ He is the first Japanese Prime Minister to speak at the summit since 2014.



- ✓ Among other leaders, Chinese Defence Minister Wei Fenghe addressed a plenary session and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky addressed through a video link for the first time ever
- ✓ On the sidelines, a trilateral between US Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin, Japanese Defence Minister Kishi Nobuo and South Korean Defence Minister Lee Jong-sup was also held
- ✓ During the dialogue, the US and Chinese defence ministers met 'in person' for the first time

- ✓ There were no Russian participants at this year's Shangri-La dialogue, named after the Singapore hotel - Shangri-La - at which it is held

SPORTS

- **England - broke their own record for the highest-ever score in a one-day international by making 498/4 against The Netherlands in Amstelveen on June 17.**
- ✓ The total surpassed the 481/6 made by England against Australia at Trent Bridge in June 2018
- ✓ In reply, The Netherlands were all out for 266 in 49. 4 overs, giving England a 232-run win.



- ✓ Three players from England - Jos Buttler, Dawid Malan and Phil Salt all hit centuries during the game.
- ✓ Buttler reached three figures in 47 balls for the second-fastest hundred for England.
- ✓ Buttler now has the three quickest ODI centuries for the national team, off 46 balls, 47 balls and 50 balls
- ✓ Salt made 122 off 93 balls and Malan 125 off 109 balls, while Liam Livingstone blasted a 22-ball 66 not out.
- ✓ Livingstone reached the 50 mark in 17 balls for the fastest half-century by an English batter in the game's history.

