

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – OCTOBER 19, 2022

### TAMIL NADU

- **The report of the Justice A Arumugasamy Inquiry Committee - was tabled by the Tamil Nadu government in the assembly on October 18**
- ✓ The committee probed the circumstances leading to the death of former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and AIADMK leader J Jayalalithaa



- ✓ The commission has recommended a probe against V K Sasikala, her relative Dr K S Sivakumar, former health minister C Vijayabaskar and former health secretary J Radhakrishnan in its 475-page report
- ✓ It had recommended an inquiry into their roles prior to Jayalalithaa's death on December 5, 2016.
- ✓ Meanwhile, the cabinet led by chief minister M K Stalin decided to initiate appropriate action against "certain individuals" after obtaining legal opinion.
- ✓ The department of health and family welfare is pursuing action on the commission's report.
- ✓ Further, the commission called for investigation into the role of Dr Y V C Reddy and Dr Babu Abraham, who treated the late CM all along.
- ✓ The commission also found "criminality" against former chief secretary Rama Mohana Rao and called for a probe.

- ✓ The commission in its report cited eyewitnesses as claiming that the death of Jayalalithaa had taken place on December 4 instead of December 5 when Jaya's death was officially announced
  - ✓ Raising questions on why an angioplasty was not performed on the former CM despite medical suggestions, the report recommended that Apollo Hospitals' Prathap C. Reddy also be probed.
  - ✓ It also noted that Apollo Hospitals chairman Pratap C Reddy did not disclose the details of treatment given to the late chief minister since her hospitalization on September 22, 2016 in his media briefings and asked the government to decide and investigate.
  - ✓ On August 17, 2017, the previous AIADMK regime led by Edappadi K Palaniswami announced to investigate the causes of the former CM's death
  - ✓ A Commission head by Justice Arumughaswamy, a retired judge of the Madras High Court, began its hearing on November 22, 2017.
  - ✓ A total of 151 witnesses deposed before the commission and have put forward their points of view
  - ✓ The panel submitted its report to the government on August 27, 2022 and it was taken up for discussion in the Cabinet meeting held on August 29, 2022.
- **The report of the Justice Aruna Jagadeesan commission – was tabled in the legislative assembly by the state government on October 18**
- ✓ The Justice Aruna Jagadeesan commission inquired into the police firing on anti-Sterlite protesters in Tuticorin on May 22, 2018, leaving 13 dead and 102 people injured



- ✓ The commission has held former Tuticorin collector N Venkatesh, three tahsildars, former south zone IG Shailesh Kumar Yadav, DIG Kapil Kumar C Saratkar, SP P Mahendran and 14 other police personnel responsible for the incidents
- ✓ It had recommended departmental and criminal action against them, noting that the police firing was 'unprovoked'
- ✓ The state government accepted the commission's recommendation for departmental action against those found guilty.
- ✓ However, it has rejected the recommendation for initiating criminal action against them.

- ✓ The report said police fired bullets indiscriminately without following guidelines and any of the protocol before shooting.
  - ✓ The personnel engaged in firing tear-gas shells were inadequately trained, the report said.
  - ✓ It also noted that the administration took no effort to shift the injured and dead to hospitals
  - ✓ Looking at the events that led to the firing, the commission said the peace committee meeting held on May 20, 2018 was not represented by all the stakeholders and hence rendered ineffective.
  - ✓ Despite having adequate intelligence reports about the volatile situation, they were not acted upon, the commission said.
  - ✓ The report also recommended compensation of Rs 50 lakh to be paid to the kin or legal heirs besides deducting the sum of Rs 20 lakh already paid.
  - ✓ For the injured, the committee recommended compensation of Rs 10 lakh each after deducting the amount of Rs 5 lakh already paid to them.
  - ✓ The port town of Thoothukudi — formerly Tuticorin — witnessed unprecedented violence on 22 May, 2018, which was the 100th day of the anti-Sterlite protests
  - ✓ The Commission had submitted its 3000-page report to Chief Minister M K Stalin on May 18, 2022
- **On October 18, the Tamil Nadu government – has introduced six Bills in the assembly**
- ✓ One of the bills seeks to amend Tamil Nadu Business Facilitation Act
    - ✓ It seeks to enable new industrial units, including MSMEs, to establish and operate based on self-certification without inspections and obtaining clearances under various state laws for the initial three years
  - ✓ Another Bill was introduced by finance minister Palanivel Thiaga Rajan to amend Transparency in Tenders Act
    - ✓ It aims to encourage and incentivise the participation of MSMEs owned by persons belonging to SC/STs in public procurement.
  - ✓ The other Bills to amend the existing laws include,
    - ✓ extension of the term of the special officer in respect of Kadambur Town panchayat in Tuticorin upto December,
    - ✓ inclusion of finance secretary as member in the syndicate of ten Universities, and
    - ✓ to omit the clause of disqualification if a member of any of the authorities of the Universities becomes of deaf-mute or suffers from leprosy.
- **On October 18, the Tamil Nadu assembly - passed a resolution against Hindi 'imposition', backed by all parties, barring the BJP.**
- ✓ It had urged the Centre not to implement recommendations of the report of the Parliamentary committee on Official Language



- ✓ The resolution said that the recommendations are “against the state languages including Tamil and also against the interest of the people who speak the languages”



- ✓ The recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee, now presented, are against the two-language policy resolution moved and passed by Perarignar Anna
- ✓ Giving job opportunities only to those who know Hindi, is against the constitution, the CM said.
- ✓ He wanted all languages in the Eighth Schedule to be declared as official languages.
- ✓ The President of India should not accept the recommendations of the parliamentary committee, said the Chief Minister.
- ✓ The 11th volume of the Report of the Official Language Committee, headed by Home Minister Amit Shah, was submitted to President Droupadi Murmu on September 9, 2022

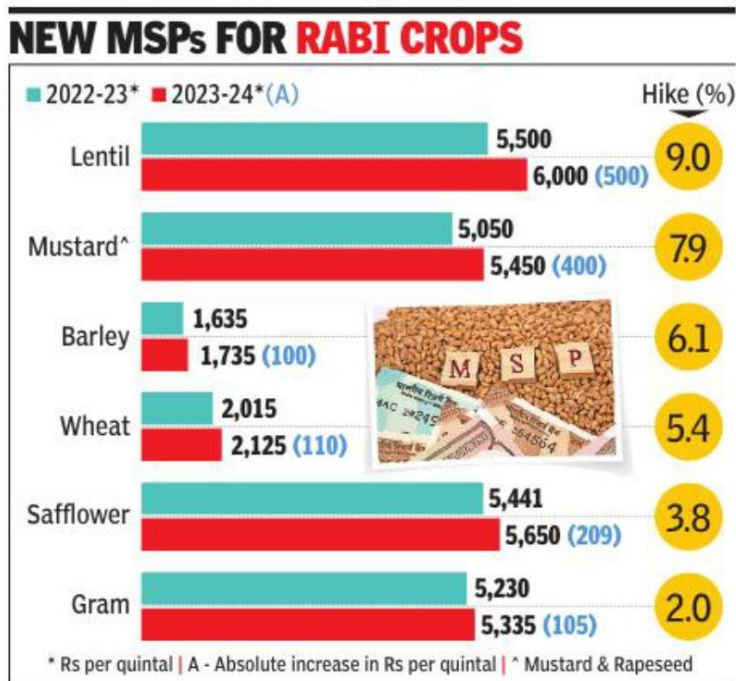
➤ **The Tamil Nadu Assembly - gave its nod for the first Supplementary Estimates of over Rs.3.795 crore for the current financial year**

- ✓ The supplementary budget was presented by Tamil Nadu Finance Minister Palanivel Thiaga Rajan in the assembly on October 18
- ✓ The estimates were meant primarily to meet funds required for strengthening transportation infrastructure and to implement flood mitigation works in and around Chennai.
- ✓ Of the total budget, nearly 38% has been sanctioned for creating assets for transport corporations, settling dues, constructing new bus terminus at Chennai's outskirts and upgrading urban roads.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu Highways Department has been sanctioned Rs.369 crore towards this expenditure.
- ✓ In his speech, the Finance Minister said that 168 crore has been sanctioned for construction of a new mofussil bus terminus at Kuthambakkam near Thirumazhisai in Thiruvallur District.

- ✓ Once completed, this will be the third major bus terminus in the city's suburbs following Kilambakkam and Madhavaram.
- ✓ Besides this, the finance minister has sanctioned funds to implement breakfast scheme for school children, procure equipment for new government medical colleges, establish 28 schools of excellence, and rehabilitate irrigation structures in western Tamil Nadu.

## NATIONAL

- **On October 18, the Union Cabinet - approved minimum support price (MSP) of Rabi (winter) crops for the 2022-23 crop year (July-June) and the 2023-24 marketing season.**
- ✓ The decision to increase the MSPs (minimum support prices) of six rabi crops was taken at a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ✓ The Rabi MSP is typically set for wheat, barley, gram, lentil, mustard and safflower
- ✓ The MSP for lentil has seen the highest increase of Rs 500 per quintal for a support price of Rs 6,000 per quintal, while the MSP for Rapeseed and Mustard has been increased by Rs 400 to Rs 5,450 per quintal
- ✓ The MSP for wheat was raised by Rs 110 per quintal to Rs 2,125 per quintal, barley by Rs 100 to Rs 1,735 per quintal while that for gram has been hiked by Rs 105 to Rs 5,335 per quintal.
- ✓ The MSP for safflower will see an increase of Rs 209 to Rs 5,650 per quintal



- ✓ The maximum rate of return is 104% for rapeseed and mustard, followed by 100% for wheat, 85% for lentils, 66% for gram, 60% for barley, and 50% for safflower.

- ✓ MSP is the rate at which the government buys grain from farmers to shield them from typical price volatilities.
  - ✓ Currently, the government fixes MSPs for 23 crops grown in both Kharif and rabi seasons
  - ✓ Sowing of rabi (winter) crops begins in October, immediately after the harvest of kharif (summer) crops.
  - ✓ Rabi crops accounts for nearly half of India's annual food supplies
  - ✓ Since 2014-15, there has been a renewed focus on increasing the production of oilseeds and pulses.
  - ✓ Oilseeds production has risen from 27.51 million tonnes in 2014-15 to 37.70 mt in 2021-22.
  - ✓ The government decides the MSP based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, and after considering the views of state governments and central ministries.
  - ✓ The increase in MSP for rabi crops for the 2022-23 crop year is in line with the Union Budget 2018-19 announcement of fixing the MSP at a level of at least 1.5 times the all-India weighted average cost of production
- **Seven people - were feared dead after a helicopter carrying them crashed near Kedarnath in Rudraprayag district of Uttarakhand**



- ✓ The tragedy occurred when the chopper crashed at Garud Chatti, nearly 2 km from the Kedarnath Dham shrine.
- ✓ The helicopter carrying six Char Dham yatra pilgrims and a pilot took off from Guptkashi and was on its way to Kedarnath when it burst into flames.
- ✓ The accident happened at Dev Darshini, between Garudchatti and Lincholi.
- ✓ The chopper, operated by Delhi-based Aryan Aviation, was a Bell-407, registered as VT-RPN.
- ✓ The company is among the many players operating heli-services to Kedarnath from various places.
- ✓ While the majority of pilgrims trek the arduous route from Guptkashi to Kedarnath, those who can afford to use various helicopter services go for it.
- ✓ Nine private chopper services are said to be operational in routes to ferry pilgrims from the ghathi to the Kedarnath temple.



- ✓ Guptkashi, Phata and Sirsi are the three areas of Rudraprayag district where pilgrims take helicopter rides from to reach the Kedarnath shrine.

## CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **On October 18, Prime Minister, Narendra Modi - addressed the 90th Interpol General Assembly in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi**



- ✓ During his inaugural speech, the PM has called for global cooperation to deal with terrorism, corruption, drug trafficking, poaching and organized crimes
- ✓ The Prime Minister highlighted that India is one of the top contributors in sending brave men and women to the United Nations Peacekeeping operations.
- ✓ On the occasion, the prime minister inaugurated the National Police Heritage Display and witnessed the Entrance of the Colours - a march past by the ITBP contingent
- ✓ India has 780 active Red Notices as of now, of which 205 are related to criminals wanted by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)
- ✓ The Prime Minister released a commemorative postal stamp and a 100 rupees coin to mark the 90th Interpol General Assembly.
- ✓ The assembly will also see discussions around the organisation's new I-Familia database, which helps identify missing persons using family DNA.
- ✓ It will see elections for the two vacant posts of the vice president for Europe and the delegate for Africa
- ✓ Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Interpol President Ahmed Naser Al Rais, Interpol Secretary General Jurgen Stock, CBI Director Subodh Kumar Jaiswal and other dignitaries were present on the occasion
- ✓ The meeting was attended by delegations from 195 Interpol member countries comprising ministers, police chiefs of countries, heads of national central bureaus and senior police officers

- ✓ The general assembly is Interpol's supreme governing body and meets once a year to take key decisions related to its functioning.
- ✓ Interpol will be celebrating 100 years of its inception in the year 2023
- ✓ India is hosting the event after a gap of 25 years since the last meeting in 1997 and the assembly will conclude on October 21

## DEFENCE

- The country's largest annual defence showcase, DefExpo 2022 - began in Gandhinagar on October 18 with a thrust on "Atmanirbharta", or self-reliance, in defence manufacturing.



- ✓ According to the Ministry of Defence, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will grace the inaugural ceremony on October 19
- ✓ At the inauguration ceremony, PM Modi will lay the foundation stone of 52 Wing Air Force Station Deesa.
- ✓ During the programme, Prime Minister will also launch Mission DefSpace - to develop innovative solutions for the Defence Forces in the Space domain through industry and startups.
- ✓ Further, the PM will unveil HTT-40 - the indigenous trainer aircraft designed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- ✓ This is the 12th edition of the event that has been organised on the theme 'Path to Pride'.
- ✓ This mega defence exhibition, to be held between October 18 and 22, will focus on Land, Air, Naval and Homeland Security systems
- ✓ A total of 451 partnerships worth over Rs. 1.5 lakh crore in terms of MoUs, Transfer of Technology agreements and product launches, almost double than the



last edition, are expected to be signed during the Bandhan ceremony on October 20.

- ✓ DefExpo 2022 will be the first-ever edition exclusively for Indian companies.
- ✓ The DefExpo 2022 will also mark the celebration of one year of the formation of the seven new defence companies, carved out of the erstwhile Ordnance Factory Board.
- ✓ For the first time, States/Union Territories (UTs) have been invited to set up pavilions at the event
- ✓ The India Pavilion - a marque pavilion of the Department of Defence Production - will showcase the maturity of indigenous defence products, start-ups and the latest technology, including Artificial Intelligence in defence, while presenting India's vision for 2047
- ✓ In addition, there will be an exclusive Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) Pavilion to showcase the prowess of the country's start-ups carrying out R&D and innovation in futuristic technologies
- ✓ Leading international and national experts from Defence and Aerospace sector will be the speakers for various seminars.
- ✓ The seminars will be conducted by the leading Industry Associations, Think Tanks, Indian Defence Public Sector Entities, Service Headquarters (SHQs), Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO), Directorate General of Quality Assurance (DGQA), Ministry of Civil Aviation and State Government
- ✓ The event will also include the hosting of the 2nd edition of the India-Africa Defence Dialogue, which will witness the participation of defence ministers of various African countries



- ✓ The theme of the India-Africa Defence Dialogue is “India-Africa: Adopting Strategy for Synergising and strengthening Defence and Security Corporation”.
- ✓ The first ever India-Africa Defence Ministers Conclave was held in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh in 2020, in conjunction with DefExpo.
- ✓ The focus of DefExpo 2022 is to promote defence export to countries in Africa and IOR.

- ✓ Further, a separate Indian Ocean Region (IOR) plus conclave will also be organized during the Expo.

## APPOINTMENTS

- **The Communist Party of India - re-elected D Raja as its general secretary on the concluding day of the party's 24th Party Congress in Vijaywada.**



- ✓ Raja took over as CPI chief in July 2019 after Sudhakar Reddy stepped down citing ill-health
- ✓ The 73-year old leader is the first dalit person to be elected to lead the party for a full term.
- ✓ He will head the 11-member national secretariat of the party elected on October 18
- ✓ The national congress of the CPI also elected a 30-member national executive and a 99-member National Council.

## AWARDS

- **Sri Lankan author Shehan Karunatilaka - has won the prestigious 2022 Booker Prize for his second novel 'The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida'**



- ✓ The novel is an afterlife thriller set against the backdrop of the country's brutal civil war.
  - ✓ Karunatilaka, 47, became only the second Sri Lankan-born novelist to win the £50,000 prize at a London ceremony on October 17, after Michael Ondaatje who won for 'The English Patient' in 1992.
  - ✓ 'The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida' tells the story of the photographer, who wakes up dead in 1990.
  - ✓ Not knowing who killed him, Maali has seven moons to contact the people he loves most and leads them to a hidden cache of photos of civil war atrocities that will rock Sri Lanka.
  - ✓ Karunatilaka was born in Galle in 1975 and grew up in Colombo
  - ✓ His debut novel from 2011, 'Chinaman', won the Commonwealth Prize.
  - ✓ Karunatilaka and other shortlisted authors were all in attendance at the Roundhouse in London.
  - ✓ Camilla made one of her first public appearances since she became Queen Consort and presented the Booker Prize to the winner.
- **IIT, Madras - has been conferred the "National Intellectual Property Awards 2021 and 2022"**
- ✓ The institution has received the awards given by the government of India for being the top academic institution for patents filing, grants and commercialisation.
  - ✓ The award included a trophy, citation and cash prize of 1 lakh.
  - ✓ The institute had filed 188 patent applications in 2021 and 183 applications in 2020.

## SPORTS

- **On October 18, former Indian cricketer Roger Binny - has been appointed as the new president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).**



- ✓ The 67-year-old was elected unopposed during BCCI's annual general meeting (AGM) held at the Taj Hotel in Mumbai.

- ✓ With his appointment, Binny becomes the first-ever former World Cup-winning player to become BCCI's president
  - ✓ The 67-years-old Binny was the only candidate to have filed nomination for the BCCI president's post
  - ✓ He replaces former India captain Sourav Ganguly, whose three-year tenure as the board chief came to end
  - ✓ Ganguly will now contest for the Cricket Association of Bengal top post
  - ✓ Jay Shah has been re-inducted as the secretary of the board, while Ashish Shelar, the former chief of the Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA), took over as the new treasurer
  - ✓ Arun Singh Dhumal vacated his position as the treasurer of the board and was appointed as a member of the Indian Premier League (IPL) Governing Council, replacing Brijesh Patel
  - ✓ Avishek Dalmiya, the president of Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB), was also appointed as an IPL Governing Council member.
  - ✓ Besides confirming the new appointments, the BCCI also approved to conduct the inaugural edition of the Women's IPL in March, 2023
  - ✓ Binny was the first Scottish-origin Anglo-Indian to play for the Indian national team
  - ✓ He has scored 1459 runs and had 124 wickets to his name in international cricket.
  - ✓ Binny was the leading wicket-taker in the 1983 Cricket World Cup with 18 scalps for the Indian team.
  - ✓ Prior to being appointed as the BCCI chief, he was working as the president of the Karnataka State Cricket Association.
  - ✓ Binny has also been associated with BCCI previously, in the role of a member of Sandeep Patil's selection panel
- **French forward Karim Benzema - received the Ballon d'Or award during the 2022 Ballon d'Or France Football award ceremony on October 17**



- ✓ The Real Madrid striker also became the first Frenchman to claim the award since Zinedine Zidane did in 1998 and the fifth after Raymond Kopa, Michel Platini and Jean-Pierre Papin



- ✓ Benzema picked up the prize -- which is awarded by the magazine France Football -- for the first time in his career at a ceremony at the Theatre du Chatelet in Paris.
- ✓ Benzema led Madrid to the Champions League and La Liga titles during a stellar 2021-22 season
- ✓ He is the first Madrid player to receive the award since Luka Modric in 2018
- ✓ Benzema finished ahead of Bayern Munich's Sadio Mane and Manchester City's Kevin de Bruyne, who came in second and third, respectively.
- ✓ He scored 44 goals in 46 matches, including 15 as a top scorer in the Champions League and equaled Raul Gonzalez as the Real Madrid club's second-highest scorer behind Cristiano Ronaldo.
- ✓ He was named UEFA Player of the Year in August this year.
- ✓ Benzema became the oldest winner since the first recipient in 1956, Stanley Matthews.
- ✓ In 13 years at Madrid, Benzema has lifted five Champions League trophies, four LaLiga titles, two Copas del Rey, four UEFA Super Cups and four Spanish Supercopas.
- ✓ The 2019 and 2021 Ballon d'Or winner Lionel Messi wasn't even nominated this time after a disappointing debut season with PSG
- ✓ Cristiano Ronaldo finished a poor 20th, along with Tottenham's Harry Kane (21st).
- ✓ Barcelona's Gavi won the Kopa Trophy, the award presented to the best player under age 21
- ✓ Spain and Barcelona's midfielder Alexia Putellas won the women's trophy for the second straight year following another standout season with Barcelona.
  - ✓ Putellas, who was also named FIFA Best Women's Player earlier this year, was top scorer in the Champions League last season with 11 goals and scored 18 in the Primera Division
- ✓ Robert Lewandowski (Barcelona) won the Gerd Muller award for the best striker of the year, while Thibaut Courtois (Real Madrid) bagged the Yashin Trophy for best goalkeeper.
- ✓ The Best Club award went to Pep Guardiola's Manchester City who won a fourth Premier League title in five years.
- ✓ This year, Ballon d'Or organisers added a humanitarian prize named after the late Brazil midfielder Socrates.
- ✓ The trophy went to Sadio Mane (Liverpool) for his charity work in Senegal, including building a hospital and donating to schools.

